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Conference of Ministers
Second Meeting

Accra, 19-23 February 1973

REPORT OF THE EIGHTH MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
(Addis Ababa, 13-17 November 1972)

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PART I

ORGANIZATION OF THE MEETING

Opening and duration of the meeting

1. The eighth meeting of the Executive Committee was called to order on November 13, by H.E. Mr. Olu Sanu, the Second Vice-Chairman of the seventh meeting of the Executive Committee in the absence of H.E. Tijani Chelli, the current Chairman, who was unable to attend.
2. The Meeting took place in Addis Ababa from 13 to 17 November 1972 under the Chairmanship of H.E. Mr. Olu Sanu, representative of Nigeria on the Committee.

Election of officers

3. The Meeting elected H.E. Mr. Olu Sanu (Nigeria) as First Vice-Chairman, Mr. Afework Zeleke (Ethiopia) as Second Vice-Chairman and Mr. Essomba Laurent (Cameroon) as Rapporteur.

Attendance

4. The Meeting was attended by representatives of thirteen member States as follows: Algeria, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Egypt, Ethiopia, Ghana, Madagascar, Morocco, Nigeria, Senegal, Somalia, Tunisia, Uganda and Zaïre. The following countries did not participate : Chad and Niger.
5. Observers from Equatorial Guinea, UNICEF, UNDP, ILO, FAO, UNESCO, WHO were also present.

Agenda

6. The Committee adopted the following agenda:
 1. Opening of the meeting
 2. Adoption of agenda and organization of work
 3. Election of officers
 4. Matters arising from the seventh meeting of the Executive Committee
 5. Co-operation with international and bilateral assistance organizations
 6. Working languages of the Economic Commission for Africa
 7. Matters arising from the fifty-second and fifty-third sessions of the Economic and Social Council
 8. Report on the state of science and technology in Africa
 9. Report on the third session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and guidelines for an action programme
 10. Review and appraisal of Africa's Strategy for Development in the 1970s
 11. United Nations Multinational and Inter-disciplinary Development Advisory Teams

12. Study on African Economic Co-operation Efforts and the Significance of the enlarged European Economic Community for African Economies (progress report)
13. Report of the third meeting of the Technical Committee of Experts
14. Any other business
15. Adoption of the report.

DISCUSSION OF THE AGENDA ITEMS

Matters arising from the seventh meeting of the Executive Committee

7. A member of the secretariat, in response to the Chairman's call for some explanation as to the necessity for this item on the agenda since most of the agenda dealt with "matters arising" from the seventh meeting, explained that this was a standard item on the agenda of the Committee and was intended to give members an opportunity to raise matters discussed in previous sessions that had not been singled out for detailed discussion in the agenda. He introduced the item with document E/CN.14/ECO/51 "Progress Report on Matters Raised at the Seventh Meeting of the Executive Committee".

8. Members of the Committee took note of this presentation and agreed that various matters raised in this document and by the representative of the secretariat would be discussed under the appropriate items of the agenda or at a later stage in the proceedings. Regarding the forth coming meeting of UNDP in Nicosia, the Committee urged the Executive Secretary and the representative of UNDP to make an effort to seek funds to enable ECA participation in the meeting.

Co-operation with international and bilateral assistance organizations

9. The secretariat reported on ECA's relations with United Nations agencies and international and intergovernmental organizations for the period 1971/1972 (E/CN.14/ECO/50). The report covered co-operation with the various United Nations agencies through joint divisions or similar arrangement with other United Nations bodies, and also with other international or intergovernmental organizations by sectors.

10. Also presented was a report on resources allocated to ECA in 1971 and 1972 under technical assistance programmes (E/CN.14/577). In executing its work programme, the secretariat reported that it had, in addition to the administrative budget, other financial resources made available under multilateral or bilateral technical assistance programmes. The main components of these additional resources came from (a) the United Nations Regional Regular Programme of Technical Assistance, (b) UNDP Africa's Regional Programme of Technical Assistance, (c) United Nations Funds for Population Activities, (d) Extra-budgetary Resources, and (e) Bilateral Technical Assistance Programmes.

11. Current resources available to the secretariat under the UN Regional Regular Programme of Technical Assistance - mostly for advisory and technical assistance to member countries - was US \$485,000 in convertible currency. This reflected quite a drop within the last two years from the previous figure of US \$740,000. On the other hand, bilateral technical assistance contributions had risen from US \$849,505 in 1971 to US \$1,053,044 in 1972. This assistance did not include additional support in fellowships, etc.

12. Members of the Committee expressed the need for greater co-operation between ECA and the other United Nations agencies and the establishment of more permanent organic links with them in order to eliminate duplication and maximize United Nations resources available to Africa. Satisfaction was expressed with the existing joint divisions between ECA and FAO as well as UNIDO; and the Executive Secretary was urged to explore further the Committee's wish for the establishment of similar modes of operation with UNESCO, UNCTAD, etc. Some members urged the secretariat to take more direct interest in the programmes of the other agencies, and to play a more dynamic role in the implementation of specific projects. This would help to ensure that United Nations resolutions and strategy for development were implemented to the benefit of African countries.

13. Members of the Committee further urged the secretariat to co-operate more closely with other African institutions such as the Organization of African Unity, the African Development Bank, the African Development Fund and CAFRAD in developing and promoting programmes in African development.

14. It was pointed out by members of the Committee that the secretariat's report on resources allocated to it under Technical Assistance Programmes - particularly concerning the UNDP contribution (document E/CN.14/577, paragraph 17) was not clear enough. It was obvious from the report that all the funds made available to ECA were only being used in promoting group activities such as meetings, conferences and training programmes without due emphasis on action oriented projects. It was suggested that an adequate balance be maintained between meetings and other activities. In reply the secretariat stated that organic links established with specialized, and other United Nations agencies were being strengthened. Recently such co-operative efforts were the ITU/OAU/ECA telecommunications conference - which the major part of the work was done by the ITU, with the OAU playing a major role also. A uniform programme had been established with UNIDO; the FAO had assisted with the West African rice development project and was supporting the Commission's strategy of trade in food and food products that was intended to increase the purchasing power of rural people, but was also directly involved in the livestock programme of the Commission. IMCO had also participated actively in the recent meeting on ports and harbours and were assisting with the establishment of training centres of marine and port managers.

15. In respect of CAFRAD, the secretariat indicated that while ECA had adopted a new philosophy and had found it necessary to reorganize its public administration programme seeking more relevant ways of meeting the genuine and practical needs of African countries through training in specific areas such as accountancy, secretaryship, etc., CAFRAD was continuing along the traditional path. Lines of co-operation had not yet been found, but efforts would continue to seek a basis for such co-operation.

16. The secretariat also reported that document E/CN.14/577 dealt with programmes funded under UNDP technical assistance. The Commission, with the approval of UNDP had secured the support of OTC for embarking upon the regional project involving Liptako-Gourma. This was proving to be a test case of the effective way in which ECA could be an executing agency. The secretariat, after some years of trial and error, was coming close to realizing its potential in this area. The representative of UNDP, in commenting on this point

also indicated that figures given in the document referred to the year 1971 and dealt with Technical Assistance Programmes as distinct from programmes that formerly came under the special fund. These showed activities which UNDP financed in Africa through ECA and did not represent the total UNDP Africa regional commitment. He was of the opinion, however, that a disproportionate amount of UNDP assistance was being spent on group activities such as was described in the document not only in Africa but throughout the world. This situation, he expected, would soon change.

17. At the invitation of the Chairman of the Committee, representatives of observers agencies made statements on their relations with the ECA. The representative of FAO reported on the excellent co-operation that continued to exist between his agency and ECA. This co-operation had taken place within the context of the Single United Nations Agriculture Development Programme for Africa, through the ECA/FAO Joint Division. He reported on the recent 1972 Seventh FAO Regional Conference for Africa held in Libreville and attended by 34 African member States at ministerial level at which the following issues were discussed: International aspects of agricultural adjustment, Intra-regional Trade and economic co-operation in agriculture, livestock development, forest resources development, land and water resources development, food and nutrition development policy, rural employment problems, agricultural education and research. This Conference strongly supported intra-African trade and economic co-operation in the field of agriculture and recommended to both FAO and ECA that steps be taken to establish, under the aegis of the OAU, an African Common Market Commission in order to provide both the framework for the promotion of intra-African trade and the forum for negotiations for the achievement of this objective. With ECA, co-operation was also continuing in Forest Industries Development and Regional Food Industries Development. He also mentioned the establishment in FAO of an Internal Working Group for the "least developed" of the developing countries of which 16 were in Africa. The final report of the Seventh FAO Conference for Africa would be submitted as a document to the Second Conference of Ministers of ECA due to convene in Accra in February 1973.

18. The representative of WHO reported on the close co-operation that had existed between his organization and ECA. WHO had not only played a mere supporting role in the many activities listed by the secretariat in its document but had often actively participated in their execution or implementation, and co-sponsored some of these. Some of these activities had not even been listed in the document stated the representative. Nevertheless, WHO continued to co-operate with ECA and it was hoped that future presentations would show the nature and extent of this co-operation.

19. The ILO representative thanked ECA on behalf of his organization for its positive contribution to the African Advisory Committee which met recently in Addis Ababa. At the meeting of the Director-General of the ILO and the Executive Secretary of ECA an agreement had been reached concerning the holding of periodic meetings between the two organizations, and the means of fostering closer co-operation had been established. ILO gave special attention to those activities concerning vocational and pre-vocational training, the provision of training and advanced training for managerial staff, labour administration, co-operatives, etc. The Advisory Committee had placed special emphasis on the importance of the social aspects of development and the need for giving them sufficiently high priority in the programming of projects for financing.

20. The representative of UNICEF expressed appreciation of the willing and helpful co-operation which had always existed between his agency and ECA - especially with the Human Resources and Statistics Division and with the Population Programme Centre. He pointed out that the Executive Secretary had also made a distinguished contribution to the UNICEF Executive Board which met in April this year. He reported on the study of the development goals and priorities for children and adolescents in the 1970s which was to be presented to the Executive Board in April 1973, and on the recently concluded study of UNICEF education policy and future assistance to formal education at the primary level, and for the deprived child.

21. The representative of UNESCO expressed his satisfaction with the state of co-operation which existed between his organization and ECA and with the level of participation of specialized agencies at ECA meetings. He was in agreement with the report presented by ECA on the subject and listed some of the many meetings, studies and missions in which UNESCO had collaborated or participated since the seventh session of the Executive Committee. These included the African Planners Conference, the Technical Committee of Experts, the meetings on population programme, on cartography, on cultural statistics and on educational building facilities, etc., the African Group of UNACAST, finally a joint mission for the utilization of satellites in education. He also expressed satisfaction with ECA comments on the UNESCO work programme for 1973-1974 and the draft mid-term outline plan for 1973-1978 which his agency has found pertinent and most valuable for future co-operation.

22. The representative of UNDP expressed the desire of his agency and of the Administrator of the Programme to promote and further intensify co-operation between UNDP and ECA. In this respect, it was the Administrator's plan to strengthen the UNDP office in Addis Ababa in order to promote this co-operation. This was also demonstrated by the fact that both the Resident Representative of UNDP for Kenya and Ethiopia were attending the meeting on behalf of their organization.

23. The Chairman expressed thanks of the Committee for the constructive and effective participation of the United Nations agencies in the deliberations of the Committee, and said that he was glad to hear that the level of co-operation between them and ECA had risen over the years. The Committee hoped, however, that in future presentation of the report on its co-operation with United Nations and international organizations, the secretariat would adopt a different format than the "catalogue" form of listing activities, and deal with substantive aspects of the co-operation with emphasis on policy matters. He would also like to see the establishment of more joint-divisions and programmes along the lines of ECA/FAO and ECA/UNIDO approach.

Working languages of the Economic Commission for Africa

24. A member of the secretariat introduced this item of the agenda. In a note verbale of 27 March 1972 from the Embassy of the Republic of Equatorial Guinea addressed to the secretariat of the Economic Commission for Africa, the Embassy asked the Commission to provide simultaneous interpretation in the Spanish language at all ECA programmes, meetings, seminars and special courses, etc. The secretariat therefore submitted a paper on the administrative and financial implications of the proposal for the consideration of the Committee under the following assumptions:

- (a) Translation from and into Spanish of all ECA working papers and documents;
- (b) Reproduction of all ECA working papers and documents in Spanish in addition to English and French; and
- (c) Interpretation from and into Spanish at all ECA conferences, meetings, seminars, etc., where formerly only interpretation from and into English and French were required.

According to the secretariat the recurrent expenditure would be of the order of US \$ 390,000 and non-current expenditure, US \$10,000 - a total of about US \$ 400,000 per year as follows:

(a) Recurrent expenditure

(i) Recruitment on a permanent basis of	US \$
5 Translators, 1 reviser	184,000
6 Secretaries, typists, proof-readers	102,000
7 Reproduction clerks	14,000
(ii) Stationery and reproduction supplies	30,000
(iii) Recruitment on a temporary basis of	
2 or 4 Spanish interpreters for some	
20 meetings a year	60,000

(b) Non-current expenditure

Spanish keyboard typewriters, additional desks, chairs, reproduction machines, etc.	<u>10,000</u>
Total	<u>400,000</u>

25. The representative of the secretariat referred the relevant rules of the Commission to the Committee for their guidance in the matter. Rule 31 of the rule of operation of the Commission stated "English and French shall be the working languages of the Commission". Under rule 33 "Any representative may make a speech in a language other than the working language. In this case, he shall himself provide for the interpretation into one of the working languages. The interpretation into the other working language by an interpreter of the secretariat may be based on the interpretation given in a working language". If the Commission must provide this interpretation then the rules of procedure would need to be amended. According to rule 80, "These rules may not be amended until the Commission has received the report on the proposed amendments from a committee of the Commission".

26. After much discussion on the topic, the Committee recommended that the question be referred to the Conference of Ministers for a decision and appropriate action. The matter of using Spanish as a working language of ECA might have to be referred to the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council.

Matters arising from the fifty-second and fifty-third sessions of the Economic and Social Council

27. A representative of the secretariat reported on the fifty-second and fifty-third sessions of ECOSOC. The Council in its resolution 1724(LIII) decided that its President should hold periodic meetings of the Bureau of the Council with the Chairmen of the regional economic commissions or their representatives so that it could assist the commissions and UNESOC in the discharge of their functions within the framework of the Second United Nations Development Decade. A resolution was also passed in respect of voluntary repatriation, rehabilitation and resettlement of the Sudanese refugees from abroad. The Council condemned the exploitation of and profiteering on African labour, and clandestine trafficking. It also urged Governments to consider agrarian reform as an important and integral part of national strategies. It recommended that Governments of developing countries define the magnitude and causes of poverty and unemployment prevailing in their economies, and devise strategies to eradicate these conditions, and called, in its resolution 1721(LIII), for the Secretary-General to appoint a study group of 14 to 20 eminent persons to study the role of multinational corporations and their impact on the process of development especially in developing countries.

28. In answer to a question from a member of the Committee as to whether recommendations made by ECOSOC had been incorporated in the work of the Commission, the Executive Secretary reported that many of these were, in fact, part of the current work programme of the Commission and the others had been anticipated in the projected programme. The Committee therefore took note of the secretariat's document E/CN.14/534/Add.4.

Report on the state of science and technology in Africa

29. At the request of the Committee, the Executive Secretary presented a report on the Commission's activities in the field of science and technology. The Executive Secretary reported that although a note on the Revision of the African Strategy for Science and Technology (document E/CN.14/ECO/42) and another on the African Regional Proposals for the World Plan of Action (WPA) were dispatched to all member States in March 1972, with a request for comments and suggestions, only four countries replied: two commented on both documents; the other two commented on only one of the papers each.

30. At its meeting in Geneva in October/November 1972 UNACAST reviewed and approved the regional plans for Africa, Asia, the Far East, and Latin America. This meeting requested that regional commissions should: (a) publish the approved plans as amended, (b) place the plans on the agenda of the next Conference of Ministers, (c) widely circulate to Governments, leaders of research scientific associations, industrialists and business men, and other influential persons and institutions; and (d) organize meetings on the WPA and the regional plans in individual countries. These should be done in co-operation with the specialized agencies. The developments which the secretariat encouraged, had enabled some member States to advance beyond the conclusions reached by UNACAST. Activities in eleven African countries would be annexed to the document later to be distributed to the Committee.

31. The secretariat had continued its efforts to draw on the resources and experiences of countries outside the region engaged in scientific and technical work. The Abidjan meeting which had had to be postponed had been organized in co-operation with the principal research institutes in France (especially in the biological sciences), and the British Ministry of Overseas Administration. The secretariat had participated in meetings of medical and scientific bodies and of universities. It also played a significant role in the founding of AAASA and had followed this with the creation of WARDA. In co-operation with the University of Ife in Nigeria, an ECA regional centre for photogrammetry (aerial survey) had come into existence. The programme of work for 1973 and subsequent years would concentrate on the creation of policy-making bodies and national and regional research centres in Africa, the establishment of research programmes, the promotion of co-operation between research centres, as well as the fostering of links with institutions of world repute.

32. The Committee took note of the statement by the Executive Secretary, expressed its thanks to him and suggested that the discussions, on this item of the agenda be deferred until the document on the item was made available to the Committee. When discussions resumed, a member of the Committee observed that several countries had set up boards, committees, institutes and organizations for scientific and technical research and wished to know whether the ECA was co-ordinating them, and if so, how. This information, he felt, was useful in order that his country might know about what the others were doing in this field. It was explained that the Executive Secretary's statement reproduced in document E/CN.14/ECO/52 contained an appendix giving the names and in some cases, addresses of these institutes and organizations, and that direct communication with them might yield more rewarding results.

33. The observer from UNESCO stressed that in answer to the request of the Executive Committee in respect of the discussion of the African Regional Plan by CASTAFRICA, it had been agreed to limit the discussion to the chapters which fell within the competence of the Conference - the general development of scientific and technological capacity, and science and technology education - two chapters out of the ten provided in the Plan. He further pointed out that the ECA representative at CASTAFRICA could introduce the African Regional Plan as a whole in an introductory statement which would precede the detailed discussion of the chapters referred to above.

34. Some members of the Committee felt that a discussion of only two chapters of the African Regional Plan would not suffice and that, in fact, the Commission should proceed with its own plans to hold a meeting of Ministers of Science and Technology during 1973. The Executive Secretary, in answer to a question from the floor as to whether such a meeting could not be arranged, replied that it had been the intention of the secretariat to launch the African Regional Plan of the World Plan of Action with a high level meeting of Ministers of Science and Technology to which could be invited even Heads of State in order to give science and technology the importance it deserved. While portions of this Plan could be discussed at various meetings he was afraid that the calculated impact might be lost if it was discussed in this way. He recognized, on the other hand, that it was not easy to arrange a meeting of Ministers at short notice and that two meetings of Ministers of Science and Technology in one year might not be practical or adequately attended. He was prepared to try and to arrange the meeting of Ministers of Science and Technology during 1973 and if his attempts were not successful he would report this to ECOSOC and to the organs of the Commission.

Report on the third session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and Guidelines for an Action Programme

35. The Executive Secretary recalled that the Executive Committee at its Seventh session in Addis Ababa called upon ECA and OAU to render all possible assistance to the African countries attending the third session of UNCTAD in Santiago. The secretariat had given some assistance and considered that the Conference had achieved something constructive. Notable among these was the consensus reached that the developing countries should participate more fully in international decision-making body on monetary and trade questions. A major step forward was commitments to special measures for the least developed and the land-locked countries. Important progress was also made in working out a "code of conduct" for maritime transport; and the resolution on transfer of technology provided the basis for expanded activities in this field. On the other hand, hardly any progress had been made in the initially important fields of primary commodities and financing.

36. The main lesson drawn from the third session of UNCTAD was that the destiny of African countries lay mainly in their own hands. It had established that in spite of the fact that basic development problems demanded long-range solutions, global agreements on international development issues depended on world economic and political factors not directly relevant to the development efforts of the developing countries.

37. The Executive Secretary reported on the ECA/OAU Joint Meeting on Trade and Development and sought the guidance of the Committee:

- (a) For the secretariat to have consultations with the OAU, Association of African Central Banks and the ADB on the substantive and organizational modalities for the convening of the Ministerial Conference suggested by the African Heads of State and Government;
- (b) For the secretariat to consult with GATT and UNCTAD to formulate and implement a project for assisting African countries in the forthcoming multilateral trade negotiations;
- (c) For consultations with UNCTAD to assist African countries in the forthcoming inter-governmental commodity consultations within UNCTAD.

38. To carry out these projects, the secretariat required more resources than were available from its regular budget and UNDP might be approached to consider making additional grants to it to enable full, continuous and effective participation of the Commission in these negotiations in all their stages. This was in line with the resolution 82(III) of the third session of UNCTAD in which UNDP was invited to consider favourably requests from Governments of developing countries for technical assistance in this field at the national, regional or inter-regional level.

39. A lively discussion followed the Executive Secretary's presentation. Members of the Committee thanked the Executive Secretary for his presentation and expressed appreciation to the secretariat for the excellent assistance rendered to African countries at the session held at Santiago. The Committee regretted that more substantial achievements were not recorded by UNCTAD III.

From the standpoint of the meeting, some concrete results had been achieved. It had enabled Africa to participate in monetary reforms. On the other hand, the general impression was that the stand taken at the Twenty-fifth General Assembly had not been upheld at Santiago. Stands adopted at UNCTAD III had been subjected to too many reservations. It urged the secretariat to do what it could to ensure that a meeting of Ministers of Trade and Finance was held as soon as possible to harmonize an African position.

40. The Committee agreed to draft a resolution to be submitted to the forthcoming Conference of Ministers in Accra endorsing and incorporating the draft declaration of the Seventh ECA/OAU Joint Meeting on Trade and Development (document E/CN.14/576) on monetary affairs and intra-African trade. The Committee also agreed to draft and submit a resolution to the Conference of Ministers urging the Executive Secretary to give every assistance with the help of UNDP to African countries in the forthcoming multilateral trade negotiations, the inter-governmental commodity consultations within UNCTAD and the negotiations within IMF for the establishment of a new world monetary system.

41. The Committee hoped that the UNDP would give favourable consideration to the Commission's request when it was received, to enable African countries to participate fully in the forthcoming negotiations on trade and finance. In this connexion, the UNDP representative expressed the view that if, as reported, a grant had been made to another regional economic commission, he was sure that the Administrator would give ECA's request careful consideration. In preparing such a request, he advised that the Executive Secretary might indicate the priority he attached to it in relation to requests already made to UNDP, as well as spell out more precisely the amount of funds required, and the exact purpose for which required. The Executive Secretary expressed the hope, however, that UNDP would find it possible to meet this request without sacrificing those submitted previously.

Review and appraisal of Africa's Strategy for Development in the 1970s

42. The Executive Secretary in his statement (document E/CN.14/ECO/53) informed the Committee that a group of secretariat staff members undertook country visits between June and October to collect the most recent statistical and other information on the countries of the region and that, unfortunately most of the data available were for 1970 or earlier years. In order to establish a good basis for future work in the review and appraisal exercise, prominence was given to the implications of the two strategies for planning at the national level, including the collection and analysis of socio-economic data, improvement in their coverage, quality and timeliness, and the transmission of the appropriate material to the secretariat at the right time during the fourth session of the Conference of African Planners which took place in Addis Ababa from 4 to 13 October 1972. Appropriate recommendations for action had been made in the Conference's report for action by the Conference of Ministers at its second meeting scheduled to take place in Accra in February 1973. The secretariat would also be participating in the training workshops on the techniques of review and appraisal being organized in 1973 for the developing countries by the CDPFP, in collaboration with the regional commissions and other international agencies. Two workshops were being organized for Africa, one each for the English-speaking and French-speaking countries respectively.

43. The Executive Secretary gave a comprehensive review of the secretariat activities since February 1971 in the fields of agriculture, trade and mobilization of external and domestic resources, external financial and technical co-operation, industry, training and development skills, transfer of technology and the problems of the least developed countries. In the field of agriculture the ECA/FAO Joint Agriculture Division was undertaking a comprehensive study on the promotion of intra-regional co-operation and trade in agricultural and agro-industrial products. Special attention was being given to agricultural extension practices, credit and marketing services, agricultural prices, the use of improved seeds, fertilizers and insecticides in order to help farmers to improve their farming techniques so that their output and income could be increased, and a basis for partial specialization established.
44. Studies on the prospects for the production, marketing and trade in livestock and livestock products in Eastern Africa up to 1985, and for Zaire, Tanzania, Zambia, Malawi, Botswana, Lesotho and Swaziland, had been completed.
45. In the area of trade, a general study on ways and means of introducing structural changes in the trade of African countries was presented to the Sixth ECA/CAU Joint Meeting on Trade and Development in 1971 and was later updated and presented to UNCTAD III. Similarly, a study on African trade with the developing countries of East Asia was nearing completion. Through the Africa Trade Centre, it had been possible to provide trade promotion advisory services to 15 member States. Two courses on commercial policy and trade promotion were organized in 1971 and 1972 respectively; an in-service training course at the Africa Trade Centre and two symposia on intra-African trade were also held.
46. In the area of mobilization of domestic resources the Executive Secretary reported that special attention had been paid to the development of effective fiscal policy measures, including budget-plan harmonization, and improved legislation for, and organization of, financial institutions.
47. Activities in industry covered studies on industrial harmonization, investment and incentives, investment promotion, agro-allied industries, export industries and small-scale industries as well as training and development of skills. A study on the social cost-benefit analysis of foreign investment projects in developing countries has been completed.
48. The need for making arrangements for the transfer of technology through production techniques, research, and the acquisition of know-how through licensing arrangements was receiving the proper attention and in this connexion the ECA was undertaking a study through UNCTAD on the principles and criteria governing the acquisition and adaptation of technology. Similarly, all the efforts connected with the formulation of a regional plan of action in science and technology, and the promotion of the establishment of science policy making bodies in the member States were part of the implementation of the strategy. With a view to identifying the problems peculiar to African countries and to evolving measures to solve them, ECA was co-operating with UNIDO in organizing a regional seminar on UNIDO operations in the least developed countries in Africa to be held in Addis Ababa in January/February 1973; and a chapter on the proposed draft report on the review and appraisal exercise had been devoted to the problems of the least developed African countries.

49. Members of the Committee expressed their thanks to the secretariat for the comprehensive information on the subject at such short notice. It was surprising to some speakers how in view of the limited resources available to the secretariat such an ambitious programme had been undertaken.

50. However, the Committee wished to propose to the Conference of Ministers that in view of progress made in certain sectors such as transport, communications, science and technology and natural resources, the document "Africa's Strategy in the 1970s", should be amended to provide enough information on Africa's situation in these fields. The Committee therefore agreed to submit a draft resolution for consideration by the forthcoming Conference of Ministers in Accra.

51. Other points which the Committee mentioned included the need to incorporate an estimate of the probable costs of implementing the African strategy throughout the decade; the importance of including in the Review and Appraisal report, information on foreign aid and its different forms - including the practices of donor countries and reverse preferences; the problems of intra-African co-operation, and the incidence and extent of debt burdens. Also, in view of the pessimistic view expressed by the secretariat about the non-incorporation by member countries into their development plans of the goals and objectives of the strategy and the paucity of information on government policies, the Committee expressed agreement with the recommendation of the Conference of African Planners and suggested that the relevant draft resolution contained in the report (document E/CN.14/575) of that Conference be called to the attention of the Conference of Ministers by the Committee for their adoption and support.

52. Since the secretariat was already taking action in the field of science and technology, the Committee wondered whether resources might not be made available for helping African countries in the study of their marine resources as well as the forecasting of these resources, and in a study of the economic repercussions in certain mineral exporting countries of the exploitation of the sea bed.

53. In replying to points raised, the secretariat assured the Committee that it supported suggestions made, and proposals for changes in the strategy would be submitted for the consideration of the Conference of Ministers along the lines suggested. Concerning the shortage of resources, the Committee was informed that the secretariat had been using bilateral resources to supplement normal United Nations allocations. But, in view of the fact that the strategy was meant for implementation by individual countries, it would be difficult, if not impossible, to give estimates, however crude, of the resources for implementing the strategy. However, some attempts could be made in the area of transport and communications, and in science and technology. The area of trade and reverse preferences was a touchy one; and it would be difficult for the secretariat to obtain the relevant information and include them in the review and appraisal report. Moreover, in view of the preliminary nature of pre-investment studies, and of their importance to the countries of the region, the secretariat would like to continue activities in these areas, otherwise the secretariat's activities in this field would be purely theoretical. On the question of technical assistance in marine resources research, it was pointed out that the secretariat was short of its full complement of specialists in science and technology. Hence, it was only taking note of what

individual countries were doing instead of launching new activities from the outside. However, it was co-operating with the University of Lagos in the field of marine technology. Finally, it was pointed out that while the problem of funds was a real one, the problem of getting the right information in the secretariat might not be solved by sending teams to the field, since experience had indicated that information was usually not available. It was very important, therefore, that Governments of the region improve their statistical and research services.

54. In reply to the Committee's question about the FAO's attitude to the Africa's strategy and how the FAO recent Regional Conference came to pass a substantial resolution on intra-African trade, the FAO representative informed the meeting that the FAO had, in fact, adopted the agriculture section of the ECA strategy as its own strategy and in passing the resolution, the Regional Conference felt that the area of trade especially in the field of agricultural products was in its area of competence. To pursue this matter further, the FAO would be submitting the report of the Regional Conference to the Conference of Ministers at its meeting in Accra in February 1973 as well as to the OAU Council of Ministers.

United Nations Multinational and Inter-disciplinary Development Advisory Teams (UNDATS)

55. A representative of the secretariat presented a report on the UNDATS to the Committee based upon documents E/CN.14/569 and E/CN.14/ECO/45. He explained what the UNDATS were intended to accomplish, criteria for their establishment and basis for their location, etc. He indicated that the teams were being established where they would be most useful, and that due to budgetary and other reasons their number had been kept low. The UNDATS which were being established were to be looked upon as pilot projects and efforts were being made to ensure that they were successful in order to encourage the establishment of other teams.

56. The representative drew attention to three types of problems facing the UNDATS: (a) within the general framework of technical assistance as provided by both United Nations and bilateral sources, they had yet to gain acceptance as having a major role to play; (b) there was the major difficulty of recruiting competent, experienced and dedicated experts for the staff; and (c) the governmental machinery for enabling processing and implementation of UNDAT programmes was slow.

57. The general situation with regard to the establishment of the UNDATS was as follows:

West Africa: It was planned to set up two UNDATS to be based in (a) Dakar with responsibility for the Gambia, Guinea, Liberia, Mali, Mauritania, Senegal and Sierra Leone. Following the fact-finding mission sent out by the ECA it had been decided that this team should not be established hastily since several United Nations teams were already working in this area. The specific assistance being provided for this area had first of all to be determined; (b) Niamey with responsibility for Dahomey, Ghana, Ivory Coast, Niger, Nigeria, Togo and Upper-Volta. The recruitment of experts for this sub-region was already under way and two experts had already taken up their posts. The relationship between the ECA sub-regional office and the UNDAT team was being clarified; but already the sub-regional office staff was working closely with the UNDAT team. Its work programme was also being finalized.

Central Africa: Two UNDAT teams were planned for this sub-region: (a) Yaoundé, to cover the Cameroon, Chad, Central African Republic, Gabon, Equatorial Guinea and the People's Republic of the Congo. The team had in theory been in existence since October 1970 but was only able to begin its activities in January 1972 owing in particular to the difficulty of finding suitably qualified experts; (b) Bukavu, intended to assist with development of a clearly defined ecologically uniform area consisting of Burundi, Rwanda and the Kivu province of Zaire, had already been provided with budget resources for 1972 and 1973. An evaluation mission and additional consultations with the Governments concerned were considered necessary before decisions on the location and the programme of this UNDAT could be made.

East Africa: The plan was to establish two UNDATs; (a) for the East and Southern Africa Sub-region to be based in Lusaka to cover Botswana, Lesotho, Malawi, Swaziland, Zambia and the East African Community. The head of this team had already been appointed and he was organizing the office and recruiting staff; (b) the other countries of the East African Sub-region were expected to be covered by the headquarters of the Commission in Addis Ababa.

North Africa: For the present the North African UNDATs were being given low priority in view of the activities of the Permanent Consultative Committee of the Maghreb and the relatively advanced stage of the structures and the relatively high standard of the planning staff of the sub-region.

58. A lively discussion followed the secretariat's presentation in which the following points emerged: (a) that the main objectives and modus operandi of the UNDATs were not clearly understood, and that (b) the expectations of member States in respect of the UNDATs were mixed and conflicting. Some members of the Committee wished to know why, if the UNDATs were being established to promote multinational projects, they were being used almost exclusively in national projects such as had been described in the annex to document E/CN.14/ECO/45. It was thought that there were sufficient sub-regional and multinational projects to occupy the UNDATs without having recourse to purely national projects. Other members of the Committee, however, thought that the UNDATs should not arbitrarily determine the types of projects they should support without regard to the wishes of the individual countries of the sub-regions.

59. The secretariat was questioned as to why the basic concept of the UNDATs as discussed in previous meetings of the Executive Committee - and even the preceding meeting of the Technical Committee of Experts - had not been re-examined and brought in line with criticisms made by the two Committees and with the suggestions made by the UNDP representative at the previous meeting of the Executive Committee. Other members were of the opinion that the establishment of the North African UNDATs should not be delayed for long as they had positive contributions to make in fostering sub-regional co-operation and in harmonizing programmes and plans there.

60. The representative of Madagascar asked why his country was not included in any of the UNDAT sub-regions. He felt that his country being an island had to face difficulties, no less numerous than those of a land-locked country, and he expressed the wish that his country be included in the zone covered by one of the teams, the Lusaka team for example. The representative of the secretariat stated in reply that there was no objection to Madagascar being included among those countries to be served by the UNDAT based at Lusaka. Another member of the

Committee indicated that he found it difficult to accept the contention that the acceptance of the UNDATs by countries presented any difficulty, because his own country had asked for experts to help with three projects. Although these were national projects he did not see that the request conflicted with the terms of reference of the UNDATs; multinational projects were difficult to get off the ground in any case. Still another member of the Committee expressed doubt as to the usefulness of the UNDATs and wished to be informed of their purposes and why ECA staff could not carry out the work the UNDATs were supposed to do.

61. Comments were also made on the need to clarify the relationship between the sub-regional offices and the UNDATs. Some members of the Committee felt that the sub-regional offices should be separated in function from the UNDATs; others felt that the Director of the sub-regional offices should supervise the work of the UNDATs, while some members also felt that the staff of the sub-regional offices should supplement - and even be incorporated into - that of the UNDATs. Some speakers also felt that staff of the sub-regional offices should be strengthened in all the sub-regions - including North Africa.

62. The representative of FAO made a statement in which he indicated the support of his organization for the UNDAT programme in Africa. FAO's competence, expertise and wealth of experience, he promised, would be available to UNDATs as it was to ECA, based on an agreed programme of work, be it at the national or regional levels, and including recruitment systems in order to employ high-level personnel with adequate professional competence and experience. He stressed the need for close co-operation and working relations with the competent organs of the United Nations agencies, to avoid duplication of activities and waste of scarce resources. He expressed apprehension at the ECA secretariat's definition in document E/CN.14/569 paragraph 25 of the African Associate Experts: as "high-level African professionals having ten to fifteen years of experience, who have had to assume top-level technical responsibility, have had sound training, and who have had the opportunity to become familiar with and study development programmes at multinational levels". He felt that such a description should belong to a consultant and not an associate expert.

63. The representative of UNDP, in his contribution, recalled the UNDP Governing Council "consensus" which gave high priority to sub-regional and multinational projects. The United Nations system, he felt, had developed fairly sophisticated means of assisting multinational and country programmes. But it was only through the UNDATs that the multinational was coupled with the interdisciplinary approach. The name of the teams had been chosen carefully to reflect this quality and he felt the multinational and interdisciplinary approaches should not be ignored. He did not think, however, that assistance to developing countries could be dichotomized into national and multinational approaches - at least in respect of the UNDATs. All multinational projects, he felt, had their roots in national plans and desires and he did not see why an interdisciplinary UNDAT team could not assist in national plan formulation, for example, if the quality of the UNDAT's personnel was adequate for that task.

64. The representative of the secretariat replied to the questions raised. Specific mention was made of the conclusions of the fact-finding mission to West Africa which he stressed were not in contradiction to the statements made by the UNDP representative to the Executive Committee in respect of the management of the teams, their interdisciplinary character, nor the priority to be given to multinational projects. He stated that at the United Nations headquarters it had been accepted that the teams should operate under the guidance

of ECA. In respect of the choice of projects, he added that each project was to be judged on its own merits and that while interdisciplinary ones were to be encouraged a balance was to be maintained between national and multinational projects. In conclusion he stated that the role of the teams could be considered as laid down in General Assembly resolution 2563(XXIV), and the general guidelines prepared by the United Nations Secretariat. He felt that the major task in hand was to establish a positive and realistic programme for the effective establishment of the teams, and their work programmes, in consultation with the Governments concerned.

Study on African economic co-operation efforts and the significance of the enlarged European Economic Community for African economies

65. Professor Philip, the leader of the Team commissioned to make a study on "African economic co-operation efforts and the significance of the enlarged European Economic Community for African economies", presented a report which he described as "preliminary" to the Committee. This report consisting of over 600 pages, he said, had been submitted to the secretariat and his remarks would be confined to the main points of the findings and recommendations. He pointed out that the economic structures of the African countries still showed characteristics of their links with the colonial past. Economic groupings tended to follow the same broad pattern. There were therefore few economic organizations which comprised both language groups.

66. The main problem of African economic co-operation, he said, was that of determining its costs and who was to bear them. One of the main constraints to economic development in Africa, and hence economic co-operation, was the lack of transport and communications facilities. There should therefore be a "code of conduct" prepared by OAU/ECA on the development of the transport systems on which the African countries would base their future development programmes. Professor Philip acknowledged also that payments problems were an obstacle to African co-operation and suggested that there should be mutual drawing rights administered by a kind of African Monetary Fund, with headquarters in Africa. Consideration could be given to the existing francophone Central Banks as the basis for the new Fund.

67. Regarding the significance of enlarged European Economic Community (EEC) for African economies, Professor Philip stated that Yaoundé III must be a segmented negotiation even if it included a large number of countries. The attitude of African countries would be influenced by some elementary considerations because apart from countries like Zambia, Zaire, Gabon and Nigeria which had rich mineral resources, the rest of the African countries south of the Sahara had budgetary problems. Reverse preferences were embodied in the Yaoundé Convention and the outcome of negotiations depended on the interpretation of these reverse preferences. He suggested two solutions to the problem. First, that reverse preferences could be phased out for all the countries over a period of, say, eight to twelve years, and, second, that they could be temporarily suspended for a given period.

68. The new arrangement involved choosing one of the three options. If all African countries chose the first option, it seemed possible that the nine EEC member countries could channel a substantial part of their aid programme through the European Development Fund. If, however, the number of Associated States remained small, the newcomers in the EEC might try to keep the Fund at a minimum to avoid discrimination against the Anglophone part of Africa that might not be associated with the EEC.

69. If the Association number grew to between 30 and 35 countries, he offered three possibilities with regard to intra-African trade. First, the associated countries might create a large free trade area. Second, the existing African groupings such as the East African Community and the Central African Customs and Economic Union might be expanded to admit new members. Third, the present economic groupings might be preserved. The establishment of a large free trade area seemed to offer greater opportunities for industrialization in Africa since the countries could have access to a wider market.

70. Professor Philip concluded that it seemed reasonable to expect that a large number of associates with the EEC could change the entire structure of the EEC-Africa relations, since there would be new faces on either side with new ideas. It was better to try the first option and if that did not work the countries could negotiate for another form of association.

71. In the discussion that followed, participants expressed their appreciation of the manner in which the preliminary report of the Study had been presented. It was, however, generally felt that the report did not explain fully the consequences of the enlargement of the EEC for African countries. The advantages to African countries, and the effect on economic development should have been clearly spelt out also. It was further felt that advantages of co-operating with other countries outside Europe such as with Asia and Latin America should be clearly spelt out to enable the African countries to take a definite decision.

72. Some members of the Committee were of the opinion that the suggestions made by Professor Philip were realistic but that they could be effectively implemented only if the political will required of African Governments was forthcoming. It was generally agreed that the question of intra-African co-operation was of great importance and that the report should indicate clearly the ways and means of strengthening this intra-African co-operation. The report should also indicate how the enlargement of the EEC would affect such co-operation.

73. On the question of aid from the European Development Fund, participants expressed doubts as to whether the aid would increase in the third Yaoundé Convention. They wished to know whether when the aid was pooled together, it would be distributed equitably among all the countries taking into account their respective economic situation.

74. The implications of the various options were discussed and it was felt that the Study seemed to be weighted in favour of African association with the EEC. Some participants indicated that the choice of the options was not clear-cut. Moreover, it was pointed out that there had been difficulties even within the second Yaoundé Convention especially in the application of certain provisions regarding vegetables and that the case had been submitted to arbitration. The problem had grown so immense that it was felt at one time that the Yaoundé Convention might break up. What seemed probable therefore was that the Associated States might try to negotiate something between Yaoundé Convention and the Arusha Treaty. One delegate pointed out that African countries must understand association to imply two groups of countries each trying to bargain for its own advantages and therefore the principle of reverse preferences had to be accepted as the basis for trade negotiations otherwise there could be no association at all.

75. On the proposal for establishment of an African Monetary Fund, participants stated that they were not clear as to how this might be reconciled with the existing monetary systems in Africa. In any event, it was not clear as to how the present arrangements in the franc zone could pave the way for the proposed Fund. The question of EEC attitude to African industrial development came up and doubt was expressed as to EEC's favourable intentions in this regard.

76. The representative of FAO drew the attention of the Committee to the recommendations and conclusions of Phase I of the Study on intra-regional co-operation and trade in the field of agriculture, jointly undertaken by FAO and ECA which were relevant to the overall economic co-operation study in Africa. He also expressed the interest of FAO in such future studies.

77. In reply, Professor Philip stated that his statement was only a preliminary report summarizing the report which had been presented to ECA. The issues and doubts raised by participants were indeed relevant and had been taken care of in the report he had submitted.

78. At the request of a delegate, it was decided that document E/CN.14/ECO/INF/22 would be made available to Governments of member States. The Committee also decided that the main report should be studied and analysed by a panel of African experts to be chosen by the secretariat and that this report, together with the comments of this panel, should be made available to the next Conference of Ministers in Accra in February 1973.

Report of the Third Meeting of the Technical Committee of Experts

79. The Chairman of the Executive Committee tabled the report of the Third Meeting of the Technical Committee of Experts (document E/CN.14/571) held in Addis Ababa from 2-8 September 1972 for discussion.

80. The Committee took note of the report and decided that the report, together with the work programme that had been adopted by the Technical Committee of Experts be submitted to the forthcoming meeting of the Conference of Ministers subject to any recommendations and resolutions which the Executive Committee might make in the course of its current meeting.

Any other business

81. In the discussion of document E/CN.14/ECO/49 "Progress Report on the Composition of the ECA secretariat", the Committee expressed dissatisfaction with the rate and form of Africanization of the staff of ECA. Members wanted to see applied the decisions of the General Assembly Fifth Committee to allow over-representation of individual countries within the limits of regional targets. Some of the representatives were of the opinion that under the present circumstances which existed in Africa, the Africanization of the staff of ECA was doomed to failure as long as a narrow interpretation was given to the principle of geographical distribution (for this was now proving to be an obstacle to Africanization). The representatives believed that in view of the situation, United Nations Headquarters should make a point of clarifying the position regarding the temporary waiver of this principle. The secretariat explained that current practice was based on interpretation of General Assembly decisions by the United Nations Headquarters Secretariat. However, the secretariat indicated its willingness to refer the matter once again to the United Nations Headquarters for consideration.

ADOPTION OF THE REPORT

82. After the necessary amendments had been made to the draft, the Committee adopted the present report of its eighth meeting, as well as the draft resolutions to be submitted to the Conference of Ministers (ref: Part II of the report page 21 to 34).

PART II
DRAFT RESOLUTIONS
FOR ACTION BY THE CONFERENCE OF MINISTERS

Draft No. 1 - Declaration on Trade and Development

The Conference of Ministers,

Having reviewed the report on the third session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development;

Recalling the Declaration of the OAU Assembly of Heads of State and Government at its ninth session in respect of the third session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development;

Having considered the report of the Seventh ECA/OAU Joint Meeting on Trade and Development (E/CN.14/576);

Adopts the following Declaration:

- (1) The Conference of Ministers expresses its deep concern and disappointment that the results achieved at the third session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development are not commensurate with the development needs and requirements of African countries. In most fields these results fall far short of the Action Programme adopted at the African Ministerial Meeting preparatory to UNCTAD III.
- (2) The Conference of Ministers reaffirms its faith in the Addis Ababa and Lima Action Programmes, and strongly urges African countries to continue to strive for their implementation.
- (3) However meagre and limited in scope the achievements of UNCTAD III are, it is important to ensure that the latter are implemented and to prevent possible attempts, at the international level, to render them inoperative or less effective.
- (4) With a view to implementing those parts of the Action Programme that did not receive favourable consideration at UNCTAD III, African countries will have to rely more and more on joint action, aimed, not only at ensuring that the international community takes the necessary steps towards meeting the requests contained in the Action Programme, but also and more especially, in implementing, at national, sub-regional and regional levels, the relevant recommendations thereof.

(5) Such an approach appears to be all the more necessary as the overall economic situation in the region since the last meeting of the Conference does not show any visible signs of improvement. For African countries as a whole, preliminary data indicate that the rate of growth in 1971, the first year of the Second United Nations Development Decade, falls well short of the 6 per cent target, and it is also below the rate obtained by developing countries as a whole. During the early part of the Second Development Decade, the overall terms of trade for the Continent continued to deteriorate. The basic position therefore shows little change from that which existed at the end of the First Development Decade.

(6) While pursuing all necessary efforts to promote effective international co-operation toward the achievement of these aims, African countries need to give particular emphasis to self-reliant activities in all specific fields.

Commodity problems and policies and the Special Meeting of the Committee on Commodities

(7) Bearing in mind the forthcoming international commodity negotiations and consultations, renewed efforts must be made to reinforce co-operation among developing countries generally, and African countries in particular. To this end, specific commodities of particular interest to African countries should be selected and new negotiating techniques should be promoted.

(8) International organizations of commodity exporting developing countries, including African ones, should be established with respect to both mineral and agricultural commodities. The experience of already established organizations such as the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries, the African Groundnut Council, the Cocoa Producers' Alliance and the Inter-African Coffee Organization should be thoroughly analysed with a view to drawing helpful conclusions from this source.

(9) African countries need to define a unified strategy in respect of both the forthcoming special meeting of the Committee on Commodities and the multilateral trade negotiations keeping in mind the specific nature and problems of each commodity. It is important that both consultations and negotiations be approached in a co-ordinated manner, as regards the specific objectives to be sought and also that African countries present a common front in trying to reach these objectives. In this connexion, the African countries reaffirm the positions which they took at earlier meetings at Addis Ababa, Lima and Santiago concerning access to markets, pricing policy, diversification, marketing and distribution systems, competition between natural products and synthetics and substitutes and the role of foreign enterprises in commodity trade.

(10) It is in this spirit that African countries welcome the adoption of an International Cocoa Agreement in which many African countries have a vital stake, and expect that all countries will join in this common endeavour so as to make sure that the Agreement comes into force and that its provisions

are put into practice. Furthermore, the African countries request the secretariats of ECA and OAU, in so far as their resources permit, to undertake studies of and to examine closely those problems associated with commodities of export interest to the African countries, in order to assist the latter in defining their position at the forthcoming inter-governmental consultations on specific commodities.

Manufactures and semi-manufactures

(11) The African countries are urged to participate actively in the work of the Special Committee on Preferences with a view to ensuring that the various schemes are improved in accordance with the suggestions which have been made so as to take fuller account of tariff and non-tariff barriers, restrictive trade practices, adjustment assistance measures, market structures, prices, etc.

(12) Within the framework of self-reliant action African States should, in accordance with the Action Programme adopted by the African Ministerial Meeting and in conformity with resolution 48 (III) of the third Session of UNCTAD, undertake efforts to identify products and projects suitable for intra-African trade expansion with a view to opening early in the Second Development Decade negotiations for mutually beneficial preferential trade arrangements. The Protocol concluded between sixteen developing countries within GATT on reciprocal trade concessions offers a good example for Africa to follow.

(13) Action needs to be taken for the setting up of African multinational industries in order to achieve the following advantages, inter alia:

- (i) Economies of scale through joint national and multinational industries based on enlarged markets.
- (ii) The strengthening of industrial competitiveness through lower unit cost of production.
- (iii) The pooling of national, financial and human resources as well as technical know-how.
- (iv) The expansion of intra-African trade and the promotion of exports to non-African markets through the creation of joint ventures.

Trade relations with socialist countries

(14) African countries and the socialist countries of Eastern Europe are called upon to make mutual efforts in order to implement UNCTAD resolutions 15 (II) and 53 (III), with a view to exploiting the existing trade potential amongst them and to diversify their overall patterns of trade and increase this volume of trade.

(15) African countries should endeavour to promote trade relations with socialist countries, bearing in mind the new trends in world trade.

Export promotion

(16) Increased efforts should be made to expand intra-African trade. To this end, special measures should be taken with a view to facilitating the exchange of ideas and experience in African trade. Exhibitions and trade fairs, such as the OAU All-Africa Trade Fair held in February 1972 in Nairobi, should be organized so as to promote African products in the region. Consultations and negotiations should also be undertaken at the sub-regional and regional levels with a view to overcoming the various obstacles and problems that presently hamper the expansion of intra-African trade.

(17) In order to increase their products' access to external markets, African countries should speedily establish national export promotion centres with technical and financial assistance from regional and international institutions concerned.

(18) Furthermore, developed countries are invited to eliminate progressively obstacles which hamper the access of African products to developed markets and consider the necessary adjustment assistance measures.

Development finance and aid

(19) While the importance of external assistance is realized, African self-reliance and the need to mobilize domestic resources constitute major elements of the long-term solution to the crises being faced in the field of development assistance.

(20) There is an urgent need for more effective co-operation in the financial field at the sub-regional level. The funding of sub-regional projects by the ADB, and the tapping of surplus resources available within the continent for sub-regional projects, would represent important steps towards this goal.

(21) African countries need to make a thorough review of the philosophy and concept of "aid" which they receive. A study should be undertaken of the economics of assistance in order to determine the real volume of aid. The notion of generosity must be counterbalanced by the notion of co-operation between equal partners based on reciprocal interest. Joint action should be undertaken by both developed and developing countries to inform world public opinion.

Special measures for the least developed, land-locked and island countries

(22) The international community should take immediate measures to start implementing the relevant resolutions adopted at the third session of UNCTAD in favour of the least developed, land-locked and island countries. It is important that African countries themselves, in a spirit of solidarity and self-reliance, should contribute to one another's development.

(23) The meeting recommended that African countries taking part in the Special Committee on Preferences should ensure that the GSP is improved in order to take into consideration the special needs of the least developed countries. African members of the Economic and Social Council and the UNDP Governing Council should work on the possibility of creating a special fund for the least developed countries or of using the United Nations Capital Development Fund first and foremost for the least developed countries.

Shipping

(24) The Conference of Ministers reaffirms the need for African countries to pursue the following objectives:

- (i) Development of merchant marines;
- (ii) Development of ports;
- (iii) Protection against arbitrary and multilateral freight increases by maintaining constant consultation effective enough to counteract any such action.

(25) Every effort should be made to encourage the institution and operation of shippers' councils or equivalent bodies, and the establishment of effective consultation machinery. Such machinery should include government agencies, which are to ensure that their trade will be facilitated rather than hampered by shipping practices.

(26) Attainment of these objectives would be facilitated by action on a regional level within the framework of a policy of self-reliant action.

(27) African countries should ensure that the decision taken by the third session of UNCTAD on a code of conduct of liner conferences (resolution 66 (III)) is acted upon so that real negotiations on the substance of a code can begin without undue delay.

Transfer of technology

(28) African countries should:

- (a) Realign their education and training systems to meet the needs and demands of a progressively developing economy and society.
- (b) Create or strengthen the necessary infrastructure for development in the field of science and technology, including the establishment of joint research centres.
- (c) Strengthen their regional co-operation in the field of science and technology, including the training and exchange of African expertise.

- (d) Co-operate among themselves and with other developing countries in exchanging technological information, particularly in relation to adaptability of imported technology and indigenous technology.
- (e) Participate actively in the work of the United Nations Committee on Science and Technology for Development and in the Intergovernmental Group on Transfer of Technology.

(29) African Governments should take appropriate steps to stop or reduce the "brain drain" now affecting African countries with a view to ensuring that the economic potential of the region is exploited through African technology and technologists.

Economic co-operation among developing countries

(30) Economic co-operation among African countries will not make the hoped for contribution to the economic development of the region, if Governments of the region are not prepared to show the necessary political will to overcome the difficulties that have so far stood in the way of economic integration among them. Governments should be prepared to accept compromises in view of the need for specialization at the sub-regional and regional levels.

(31) While the need to further trade liberalization among African countries should be given due recognition, co-operation among African countries should not be limited to that field. For intra-African trade to increase in a significant way, it needs to be closely linked to a deliberate policy in other fields of economic co-operation such as finance, industry, agriculture and infrastructure.

(32) African countries should do their utmost to implement the relevant parts of UNCTAD resolution 48 (III) if only to demonstrate in an effective way their willingness to implement UNCTAD resolutions, in so far as it is within their competence and means to do so.

(33) African countries should act on the invitations addressed to them to hold confidential bilateral consultations among themselves during the meeting of the Conference of Ministers. To that end, competent specialists and trade experts should be included on the delegations in order to exchange information and to conclude any arrangements that might be required.

Multilateral trade negotiations

(34) African countries should make thorough preparations for the forthcoming multilateral trade negotiations. The secretariats of ECA and OAU in co-operation with UNCTAD and GATT are called upon to give them all necessary assistance, particularly in drawing up a more precise definition of techniques, modalities and ground rules as appropriate for their products.

(35) With a view to marshalling maximum bargaining power, African countries should present a common front both in the pre-negotiation stage and throughout the negotiations. Care should be taken to ensure that, in accordance with the principles put forward by the developing countries in UNCTAD resolution 82 (III), African countries collectively or individually shall not suffer, directly or indirectly, adverse or prejudicial effects as a result of these negotiations. On the contrary, the negotiations shall provide the African countries with additional benefits that represent a substantial and meaningful improvement of their position in international trade so that they secure an increasing share in the growth of international trade commensurate with the needs of their economic development on the basis of non-reciprocity, non-discrimination and preferential treatment. If the preferential advantages enjoyed by African countries are adversely affected by the results of these negotiations, the developed countries shall take additional measures to compensate the developing countries so affected.

(36) African countries should draw up a common stand for the consultations within UNCTAD and the multilateral trade negotiations.

International monetary situation

(37) Any contemplated changes in the international monetary system must take into consideration the interests of the developing countries. To that end, it is essential that African countries should participate fully in the reform of the international monetary system.

(38) In view of the peripheral manner in which the implications of world monetary and trade problems for African economies are dealt with at the international level, African countries should envisage the creation of an African body which would undertake in-depth studies of monetary problems.

(39) As decided by the OAU Assembly of Heads of State and Government at its ninth session in June 1972 and as recommended by the Board of Governors of ADB at their annual meeting in July 1972, African countries should convene a Conference of African Ministers of Trade, Development and Finance to strengthen the common African stand on forthcoming international trade and monetary negotiations. The conference should consider in particular the following inter-related problems:

- (i) The drafting of a Charter of Intra-African co-operation as an expression of political will to determine and implement those effective measures which must be taken in order to promote Inter-African co-operation in the fields of trade, finance, industry, agriculture and infrastructure;
- (ii) The multilateral trade negotiations;

- (iii) The inter-governmental consultations on specific commodities;
- (iv) The negotiations for the establishment of a new world monetary system; and
- (v) The implications for African countries of the enlargement of the European Economic Community.

Draft No. 2 - Conference of African Ministers of Trade, Development and Finance

The Conference of Ministers,

Recalling the International Development Strategy for the Second United Nations Development Decade, particularly its paragraphs 21 to 34 and 41 to 52 (General Assembly resolution 2626 (XXV));

Recalling further its resolution 218 (X) on Africa's strategy for development in the 1970s, particularly its paragraphs 7 to 22;

Recalling further the Declaration of the OAU Assembly of Heads of State and of Government on the third session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development:

Having noted resolution II on the promotion of international and intra-regional trade in agricultural and agro-industrial products adopted by the Seventh FAO Regional Conference for Africa, particularly its recommendation that steps should be taken to establish, under the aegis of OAU, an African Common Market Commission;

Welcoming the decision of the OAU Assembly of Heads of State and of Government at its ninth session to convene a Conference of African Ministers not only in order to strengthen their common stand vis-a-vis their partners in the international community in respect of development, but also and particularly, to study ways and means of promoting intra-African co-operation in economic development and trade.

1. Urges member States to take immediate steps to implement both the Declaration of the OAU Assembly of Heads of State and of Government and Africa's Strategy for Development in the 1970s,

2. Invites the Administrative Secretary-General of the Organization of African Unity to take all necessary substantive and organizational steps which he deems appropriate to ensure that a Conference of African Ministers of Trade, Development and Finance be convened as early as possible, during 1973;

3. Invites further the Administrative Secretary-General of the Organization of African Unity, in the preparations and the holding of the Conference, to co-operate closely with other African organizations such as the Economic Commission for Africa, the African Development Bank and the Association of African Central Banks;

4. Requests the Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa to give all possible assistance in the preparations and the holding of the Conference;

5. Suggests that the Conference should consider in particular the following interrelated problems:

- (i) The drafting of a Charter of Intra-African co-operation as an expression of political will to determine and implement those effective measures which must be taken in order to promote Inter-African co-operation in the fields of trade, finance, industry, agriculture and infrastructure;
- (ii) The multilateral trade negotiations;
- (iii) The intergovernmental consultations on specific commodities;
- (iv) The negotiations for the establishment of a new world monetary system; and
- (v) The implications for African countries of the enlargement of the European Economic Community.

6. Invites the Association of African Banks and the African Development Bank to co-ordinate their activities with those of the Organization of African Unity and the Economic Commission for Africa to ensure that Africa's problems in the monetary, finance and trade spheres can be resolved in a co-ordinated manner in the forthcoming negotiations.

7. Calls upon the Executive Secretary of ECA in co-operation with the Administrative Secretary-General of OAU to maintain close consultations and collaboration with the African members of the Group of 24 and the Committee of 20.

Draft No. 3 - African participation in negotiations in the trade, finance and monetary spheres

The Conference of Ministers,

Noting the consensus of the third session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to the effect that the developing countries should participate more fully in international decision-making on monetary and trade questions;

Recalling the Declaration of the OAU Assembly of Heads of State and of Government on the third session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development;

Aware of the crucial importance for African countries of the international negotiations due to commence in 1973 on trade, monetary and financial matters, as well as those related to the enlargement of the European Economic Community;

Having noted resolution 82(III) of the third session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, particularly paragraph 8, in which the United Nations Development Programme is invited to consider favourably requests from Governments of developing countries for technical assistance at the national, regional or interregional level to enable them to participate effectively in the multilateral trade negotiations;

Having noted further that the Trade and Development Board at its twelfth session invited the regional economic commissions and UNESOB to give the highest priority to requests for assistance formulated by their member States with a view to enabling them to participate effectively in the multilateral trade negotiations, and its wish that UNDP should accord priority to requests from the economic regional commissions for assistance in this field;

Conscious of the need for African countries to prepare themselves and to co-ordinate their approach to these negotiations;

Determined to ensure the effective representation of African countries in these negotiations;

1. Urges the Executive Secretary, in close co-operation with the Administrative Secretary-General of OAU, to assist member States by providing all information and expert services necessary to enable African countries to participate effectively in these negotiations at all their stages so that their interests will be fully taken into account;

2. Requests the Executive Secretary to prepare and forward to UNDP a regional project request for assistance to ECA to enable it to carry out the tasks mentioned in operative paragraph 1 above.

3. Requests further the Executive Secretary to notify the Governments of all member States and to invite them, as soon as the request for assistance is prepared, to convey their support of the request to UNDP, with a view to securing its approval.

4. Invites UNDP, as a matter of urgency to act favourably on the above request and to provide maximum support to ECA in order to enable it to assist its member States to participate actively and effectively in the negotiations in the trade, finance and monetary spheres.

Draft No.4 - Africa's Strategy for Development in the 1970s

The Conference of Ministers,

Recalling the International Development Strategy for the Second United Nations Development Decade;

Considering Africa's Strategy for Development in the 1970s adopted in Tunis in 1971;

Taking note of the report of the fourth session of the Conference of African Planners;

Taking further note of ECOSOC resolutions 1621(LI) and 1626(LI) on the arrangements for the review and appraisal of progress during the Second Development Decade;

1. Requests the Executive Secretary to work out the appropriate method to be used in the evaluation and appraisal of intra as well as extra-African factors affecting the progress made during the second United Nations Development Decade.

2. Decides to complement Africa's Strategy for Development in the 1970s, as embodied in resolution 218(X), by including the following sections more specifically related to: transport, communications, science and technology and natural resources (the text of the new sections will be available early in January 1973).

Draft No. 5 - Co-operation with International Organizations

The Conference of Ministers,

Aware of the challenges facing the countries of the African region and their firm determination to mobilize their human and material resources for the acceleration of their economic and social development during the Second United Nations Development Decade;

Recalling operative paragraph 9(f) of resolution 187(IX) of 10 February 1969 of the Commission requesting the Executive Secretary to take specific measures to ensure the co-operation of the bodies and organizations of the United Nations system in the implementation of the work programmes approved by the Commission and towards this end, to have, as far as possible, joint programmes with the individual agencies in their respective areas of competence;

Noting the existence of the ECA/FAO Joint Agriculture Division within the secretariat;

Recalling further repeated recommendations of the Executive Committee for the need to establish joint divisions with the other bodies and organizations of the United Nations system in order to ensure a more effective implementation of the Commission's programmes;

Emphasizing the importance of the co-operation which exists between the Commission and international organizations;

Desirous that the Commission should continue to play a more effective role in the economic and social development of the region within the framework of the International Development Strategy and Africa's Strategy for Development in the 1970s, particularly by concentrating its efforts towards the implementation of specific projects.

1. Recommends that all future reports of the secretariat on the relations between the Commission and other international organizations should be more comprehensive, thus emphasizing the contributions which international organizations are making towards economic and social development of Africa, as well as finding out gaps in the implementation of joint programmes;

2. Requests the Executive Secretary to ensure that the draft work programmes of the Commission are formulated so as to achieve a proper balance between the activities of the Commission, particularly between action-oriented programmes for multinational co-operation designed to accelerate the development process in African countries and the other activities of the Commission such as seminars, meetings, working groups, etc.;

3. Requests further the Executive Secretary to examine with the United Nations Secretariat and other agencies the possibility of establishing workable arrangements between each agency and the ECA for co-ordinated action in the formulation and implementation of joint work programmes and, where practicable, for the establishment of joint divisions at the ECA secretariat particularly with UNIDO, UNCTAD and UNESCO whose regional programme activities also cover a wide area of the Commission's activities.

Draft No. 6 - Science and Technology

The Conference of Ministers,

Recalling Commission resolutions 158(VIII) of 24 February 1967 and 206(IX) of 14 February 1969 on science and technology;

Having noted the draft Declaration adopted by the Seventh ECA/OAU Meeting on Trade and Development, particularly paragraph 75;

Recalling the International Development Strategy for the Second United Nations Development Decade, particularly its paragraphs 60 to 64;

Recalling further resolution 39(III) of 16 May 1972 of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development relating to transfer of technology;

Having reviewed Africa's Strategy for development in the 1970s, particularly its paragraph 39;

Taking into account the approval of the World Plan of Action by the United Nations Advisory Committee on the application of Science and Technology to Development;

Bearing in mind resolution 2.12 the General Conference of the United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization passed at its seventeenth session, which authorized the convening in 1973 in co-operation with the Economic Commission for Africa and the Organization of African Unity, a Conference of Ministers in African member States responsible for the application of Science and Technology to Development (CASTAFRICA);

Aware of the crucial importance of science and technological development as a foundation of economic and social progress;

Recalling resolution 1621B(LI) of 30 July 1971 of the Economic and Social Council establishing a Committee on Science and Technology for Development;

Noting the terms of reference of the Committee as approved in resolution 1715(LIII) of 28 July 1972 by the Economic and Social Council;

Convinced that the Committee on Science and Technology for Development of the Economic and Social Council will play a very significant role in the field of science and technology for development in the interest of all mankind and particularly of the peoples of the developing countries:

1. Recommends that member States co-operate in implementing the recommendations made by the United Nations Advisory Committee on the application of Science and Technology to Development by adopting the African Regional Plan for the World Plan of Action;
2. Recommends that ECA and OAU establish a joint secretariat team to assist African members of the Committee on Science and Technology for Development established under resolution 1621B(LI) of the Economic and Social Council;
3. Recommends that the ECA secretariat take early action to assist the Governments of member States in the setting up of machinery for the implementation of the African Regional Plan within the World Plan of Action, particularly in respect of the establishment of national committees for the World Plan of Action in individual countries which should be completed during 1973;
4. Recommends that the ECA secretariat in co-operation with the Specialized Agencies mobilize resources from multinational and bilateral sources to assist member States in:
 - (a) The strengthening and establishment of appropriate national and regional institutional structures;
 - (b) The promotion of links and co-operation among such institutions;
 - (c) The formulation and adoption of high priority research and development programmes;
 - (d) The stimulation and acceleration of the education and training of much needed scientific, technological and technical manpower.

5. Requests the Executive Secretary to provide full assistance to the African members of the Committee on Science and Technology for Development at and in between the sessions of the Committee;

6. Further requests the Executive Secretary to continue and to intensify the support which has been provided by the secretariat to the African Regional Group of the United Nations Advisory Committee on the Application of Science and Technology to Development at the sessions of the Advisory Committee and the meetings of the Group itself.

Draft No. 7 - Establishment of Multinational Inter-disciplinary Development
Advisory Teams

The Conference of Ministers,

Recalling Commission resolutions 134(VII) of 22 February 1965, 178(VIII) of 24 February 1967 and 221(X) of 13 February 1971 as well as the recommendations of the Executive Committee urging the adoption of measures to provide the sub-regional offices with adequate material and skilled personnel to enable them to play a more active role in the economic and social development of member States;

Further recalling resolution 189(IX) of 10 February 1969 of the Commission on the review of the organization, structure and functions of the secretariat, including the sub-regional offices;

Bearing in mind General Assembly resolution 2563(XXIV) of 13 December 1969 on the role of the regional economic commissions in the field of development planning during the Second United Nations Development Decade;

Considering that the use of sub-regional inter-disciplinary teams to provide member States with technical assistance in the form of advisory services will contribute to the promotion of regional integration;

Noting the conclusions and recommendations on the United Nations Multinational Inter-disciplinary Development Advisory Teams made by the Conference of African Planners at its fourth session and the Technical Committee of Experts at its third meeting, and bearing in mind the need to clarify the terms of reference of these teams;

Noting further the programme for the establishment of United Nations Multinational Inter-disciplinary Development Advisory Teams in seven areas in Africa;

1. Recommends that the action of the United Nations Multinational Inter-disciplinary Development Advisory Teams be if not exclusively at least mainly oriented towards the implementation of multinational projects;

2. Requests the Executive Secretary to formulate and execute on the basis of the provisional mandate instructions and draft Plan of Operations, realistic action programmes in consultation with member States in each of the areas to be served by the United Nations Multinational Inter-disciplinary Development Advisory Teams.

Annex - LIST OF DOCUMENTS

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| E/CN.14/ECO/47/Rev.2 | Agenda |
| E/CN.14/556 | Report of the seventh meeting of the Executive Committee |
| E/CN.14/ECO/51 | Progress report on matters raised at the seventh meeting of the Executive Committee |
| E/CN.14/ECO/49 | Progress report on the composition of the ECA secretariat |
| E/CN.14/577 | Resources allocated to ECA in 1971 and 1972 under technical assistance programmes |
| E/CN.14/ECO/50 | Report on ECA's relations with other United Nations agencies and international or intergovernmental organizations (1971-1972) |
| E/CN.14/ECO/48 | Working languages of the Economic Commission for Africa |
| E/CN.14/ECO/43 | Note verbale dated 27 March 1972 from the Embassy of the Republic of Equatorial Guinea addressed to the secretariat of the Economic Commission for Africa |
| E/CN.14/534/Add.4 | Resolutions and decisions of interest to the Commission adopted by the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council since the first meeting of the Conference of Ministers |
| E/CN.14/ECO/52 | Activities in the field of science and technology |
| E/CN.14/576 | Report of the seventh ECA/OAU Joint Meeting on Trade and Development |
| E/CN.14/WP.1/48 | The third session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development in Africa |
| E/CN.14/ECO/53 | Africa's Strategy for Development in the 1970s |
| E/CN.14/ECO/45 | Report on the general situation concerning the establishment of multinational inter-disciplinary development advisory teams |
| E/CN.14/570 | Progress report on the United Nations multinational interdisciplinary development advisory team (UNDAT) based at Yaoundé (Cameroon) |
| E/CN.14/569 | Fact-finding mission relating to the establishment of multinational inter-disciplinary development advisory team in West Africa |

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E/CN.14/ECO/46	Progress report: Study on African economic co- operation efforts and the significance of the enlarged European Economic Community for African economies
E/CN.14/571	Report of the third meeting of the Technical Committee of Experts

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