



**Economic Commission for Africa**  
African Centre for Women

***ECA's MISSION TO ADB***  
**(Abidjan, 2 – 3 May 2000)**

ECA - CEA



**Economic Commission for Africa**  
**Commission économique pour l'Afrique**

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**INTER-OFFICE MEMORANDUM**

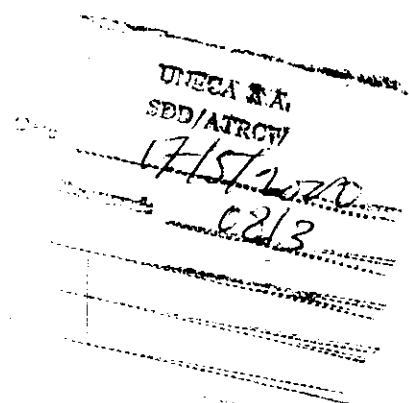
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**Date:** 9 May 2000  
**Ref.:** ESPD/209/00

**To:** Executive Secretary  
**A:**

**From:** A.A.G. Ali, Director  
**De:** Economic and Social Policy Division

**Subject:** ECA's Mission to ADB (Abidjan, 2-3 May 2000)  
**Objet:**



1. As per your directives the above mission was mounted to ADB's Headquarters in Abidjan as planned. Members of ECA's mission included Ms. J. Ouedraogo (Director, ACW), Mr. A. Beyene (Regional Advisor, DMD), Mr. M.H. Koumare (Regional Advisor, RCID), Mr. Ousman Laye (Senior Economic Affairs Officer, FSSDD). The consultative meeting was held during Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> May and was chaired by Mr. M. H'Midouche, the Head of the Co-operation Unit at ADB, and subsequently Mr. S. Nnama.
2. Prior to holding the meeting a proposed agenda was co-prepared on Monday (1<sup>st</sup> May) along the lines of annex II of the attached Aide Memoire (with Mr. T. Kebede, Senior Co-operation Officer). The thrust of the agenda for the meeting was to exchange views on the work of the institutions and their respective visions and missions; to exchange views on past collaboration (within the context of the Joint Secretariat and on ad hoc basis); to explore possible areas for future enhanced collaboration on a bilateral basis (additional to the Joint Secretariat); and to discuss possible mechanisms for future collaboration inclusive of the necessity of signing a bilateral instrument.
3. The most important agreements reached are as follows:
  - (a) that there exist a number of areas for substantive collaboration between the two institutions especially given their commitment to "poverty reduction" as an overarching objective of development in the continent;
  - (b) that there is a need to sign a special bilateral instrument of collaboration as a way of institutionalizing such collaboration. A Memorandum of

- (c) that the MOU will provide for a regular meeting, at an appropriate time of the year, between the two parties to establish a yearly programme of joint activities (given their respective work programmes and needs). The said consultative meeting will identify the activities, agree on the respective roles of the two institutions and agree on the cost of activities and how it can be shared among the two. An evaluation of the agreed annual programmes will be undertaken at appropriate intervals so that lessons can be learnt on a continuous basis;
  - (d) that in all future activities the two parties subscribe to the general principle of cost-sharing, given their respective budget constraints and their work programmes;
  - (e) that given agreement on the joint activities ADB together with ECA will agree on appropriate resource mobilization strategies for all under-funded activities;
  - (f) in the context of (e) ADB expressed the opinion that the budget constraint should not be perceived as that binding and that given judicious choice of future activities resources can be made available within available or proposed envelopes;
  - (g) that ADB will work on a draft MOU to be ready for signature by the CEO of the two organizations by the end of the month of May, 2000 (in the context of ADB's annual meetings);
  - (h) that currently on-going activities should be supported by the two institutions as a sign of their commitment to future collaboration, given their respective budget constraints.
4. The enclosed Aide Memoire summarizes the results of the meeting. Detailed areas of future collaboration are left, at this stage, for the first consultative meeting to be held in October 2000, following the signature of the MOU.

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cc: Deputy Executive Secretary  
Mr. Samba Jack, Director, OPRM

## **AIDE MEMOIRE**

### **ECA/ADB EXPERTS PREPARATORY MEETING**

**ABIDJAN 2-3 MAY 2000**

#### **I. INTRODUCTION**

- 1.1 In conformity with the bilateral consultative meeting between Mr. Y.K. Amoako, Executive Secretary of ECA and Mr. Omar Kabbaj, President of ADB intended to take place in Addis Ababa at the end of May 2000, the ECA/ADB Experts Preparatory Meeting was held in Abidjan on 2-3 May 2000, at ADB Headquarters. The ECA delegation was led by Professor Ali A.G. Ali Chief, Economic and Social Policy Division while the Bank's delegation was headed by Mr. Mohammed H'Midouche, Head of Co-operation Unit (The list of participants is attached as Annex I of this Aide Memoire).
  - 1.1 The purpose of the meeting was essentially two fold. First, to assess the performance of the past and existing collaboration of the two institutions, with a view to appreciating the lessons. Second, to chart out specific co-operative areas/activities and agree on an appropriate instrument of bilateral collaboration, which provides the framework for implementing, monitoring and financing the on-going and envisaged joint programmes to be agreed upon by the two organizations.
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- 1.2 In his introductory remarks, Mr. H'Midouche welcomed Professor Ali and the other members of the ECA delegation. He noted the on going positive and fruitful co-operation between the two institutions and reiterated the firm commitment of the Bank towards strengthening the ADB/ECA collaboration.

- 1.3 Professor Ali thanked the Chairman for his warm welcome and underlined the intended purpose of the meeting, centered on developing an effective framework for enhancing the co-operation between ECA and the Bank Group.
- 1.4 Subsequently, the proposed Agenda was reviewed and adopted (attached as Annex II) and the meeting proceeded accordingly.

## **II. RECIPROCAL BRIEFING ON RENEWD STRUCTURE AND MISSION OF THE TWO INSTITUTIONS**

- 2.1 Mr. H'Midouche briefed the meeting on the historical development of the ADB and outlined the three lending modalities of the Bank Group (viz. ADB, ADF and NTF). He highlighted the main features of the 1995 restructuring exercise and presented the New Vision of the Bank anchored on poverty reduction. Mr. H'Midouche elaborated the five core areas of the Vision (i.e. rural development, private sector development, policy reform, governance and regional integration.) and the focal cross-cutting issues (viz. capacity building, gender, environment and participatory development). He concluded his briefing stressing the readiness of the revitalized ADB to effectively collaborate with its partners in the economic and social development of the continent.
- 2.2 Profess Ali assisted by his delegation highlighted the restructuring of ECA implemented five years back with the aim of making the Commission more focused and cost effective. In this regard, it was reported that the Commission now operates with six Divisions viz: i) Economic and Social Policy; ii) Food Security and Sustainable Development; iii) Regional Co-operation and Integration; iv) Development Management; v) Development Information Systems and vi) the African Center for Women. In addition it was pointed out that the Commission has consolidated the areas of its activities under five Sub-regional Development Centres.

- 2.3 During the exchange of views on the respective new structures and priorities of the two institutions, it was observed that they have concurrent objectives and convergent tasks which can harmoniously enhance their cooperative relations.

### **III. REVIEW OF PAST AND PRESENT COLLABORATION**

- 3.1 In its assessment of previous and existing collaboration, the meeting noted that the two institutions have undertaken a number of fruitful joint activities of mutual concern to development in Africa, both bilaterally and under the framework of the OAU/ECA/ADB Joint Secretariat. This included various consultative meetings; studies on multilateral programmes aimed at promoting Regional Economic Integration and critical issues such as the external debt problem, food security, poverty reduction, gender and conflict prevention. In this respect, the High Level Workshop on Private Sector Participation in Infrastructure Development in Africa, the study on the Impact of Liberalization of Air Traffic Rights in Africa, the Conference on Industrial Partnership and Investment in Africa, the meeting on Interconnection of Railway Lines in West Africa Sub-region were cited as examples. The details on on-going joint programmes and other collaborative activities are provided in Annex III and IV.
- 3.2 However it was also observed that the foregoing collaboration was executed mostly in an ad-hoc manner that lacked the operational structure for systematic monitoring of implementation as well as the appropriate mechanism and arrangement for funding (particularly the absence of modality for cost sharing). In this respect, it was noted that some of the joint activities, previously agreed upon e.g. priority transport programmes and the Implementation of the Dakar and Beijing Platforms for Action could not be executed as envisaged primarily due to the absence of resources.
- 3.3 In view of the deliberations of the meeting relating to the lessons learned, the meeting agreed on the need for adopting a Memorandum

of Understanding (MOU) as an instrument of co-operation, wherein a clearly stipulated collaborative framework between the two partners will be spelt out.

#### **IV. COOPERATIVE AREAS AND BILATERAL INSTRUMENT FOR COLLABORATION**

4.1 Pursuant to an exchange of views on: the Economic performance of Africa (over the period 1974 – 1999); the impact of globalization; prevalence of conflicts; the regional economic integration efforts of the continent; and taking into consideration the complimentary objectives and tasks of the two institutions, the meeting identified the arching collaborative programme areas listed below:

- (i) Research: Economic Policy Analysis and Formulation
- (ii) Financing Development (with the primary objective of poverty reduction)
- (iii) Producing African Indicators on issues such as regional integration , gender and governance
- (iv) Information Technology
- (v) Capacity Building
- (vi) Preparation of Poverty Reduction Strategic Papers (PRSPs)

4.2 In line with the consensus reached under paragraph 3.3, the MOU will establish as an operational framework, an annual consultative meeting to be convened once or twice a year and be held alternatively in Abidjan and Addis Ababa. The meeting will serve as a platform for agreeing on a yearly programme of collaboration, where specific areas of activities or projects will be identified. The programme will indicate specific roles to be played, costs to be shared and time table to be followed-up. Thus it was agreed that the MOU will include:

- a) Consultative meetings to be convened biannually;

- b) Joint Work Programme to determine specific activities to be executed within a given time frame; and
  - c) The principle of cost sharing arrangement
- 4.3 It was agreed that once the MOU is signed by the two CEOs, the two institutions will convene a consultative meeting (around October 2000) to agree on the specific programme of activities, the cost sharing formula and the time frame of programme implementation as stipulated in the MOU.
- 4.4 With respect to the on-going cooperative activities (indicated in Annex III), the meeting recommended the continuation of their implementation utilizing, to the extent possible, available resources of the two institutions, including resources mobilized by ADB from bilateral donors. In this regard Mr. H'Midouche noted that given concrete and feasible projects, the lack of resource alone would not be an impediment to implementation of joint activities.

## V. FOLLOW-UP STEPS

- 5.1 This Aide Memoire will be submitted to the Executive Secretary of ECA and the President of ADB for consideration of the understandings reached at the Preparatory Experts Meeting. It is expected, a bilateral MOU between the two institutions will be signed subsequently, when the two CEOs meet during the Bank Group Annual Meeting at the end of May 2000.
- 5.2 Collaborative activities to be initiated and conducted under the framework of the MOU will be discussed and agreed upon during the first consultative meeting (following the signature of the MOU) of the two partners envisaged to take place in October 2000.
- 5.3 ~~The evaluation of the first phase of the cooperation under the~~ bilateral MOU will take place six months after the first consultative meeting (i.e. around April 2001)



## **VI. CLOSURE OF THE MEETING**

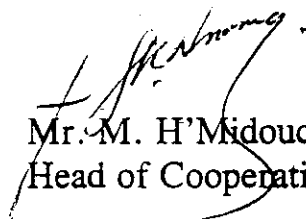
- 6.1 Mr. S. Nnama, Manger of OCOD3 who was chairing the meeting thanked the ECA delegation for their candid and fruitful contribution to the successful conclusion of the Experts Meeting and their visit to ADB. Professor Ali Ali also extended his appreciation to the ADB participants for their constructive deliberation.
- 6.2 The Aide Memoire was reviewed and adopted on 3 May 2000.

**FOR ECA**



Professor Ali A.G. Ali  
Chief Economic and Social Policy  
Division

**FOR ADB**



Mr. M. H'Midouche  
Head of Cooperation Unit

Abidjan  
3 May 2000

## ANNEX I

### ECA/ADB PREPARATORY MEETING (ABIDJAN 2-3 MAY 2000)

#### LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

##### **ECA Delegation :**

- Prof. Ali. A. G. Ali, Chief, Economic and Social Policy Division  
Head of ECA mission team
- Ms. Josephine Ouédraogo, Chief, African Center for Women
- Mr. Ousmane Laye, Food Security and Sustainable Development  
Division
- Mr. M.H. Koumare, Senior Transport Economist
- Mr. Asmelash Beyene, Development Management Division

##### **ADB Participants:**

- |                          |                                |
|--------------------------|--------------------------------|
| - Mr. Mohamed H'Midouche | Head, OCPU (Chairman)          |
| - Mr. S. Nnama           | Manager, OCOD3 (Co-Chairman)   |
| Mr. C.E. Anusionwu       | Manager, FSPR1                 |
| - Mr. T.W. Oshikoya      | Manager, FSPR2                 |
| - Mr. G. Aron            | Prin. Legal Officer, CLEG      |
| - Mrs. A. Orraca-Ndiaye  | Chief Coop. Officer OCPU       |
| - Mr. S. Gayi            | Prin. Planning Economist, FSPR |
| - Mr. G. Negatu          | Prin. NGO Co-ordinator, OESU   |
| - Mr. J. Kanyarubona     | Prin. Economist, OCOD1         |
| - Mr. S. Olanrewaju      | Chief Economist, OCDE          |
| - Mr. J. Hajarabi        | Sr. Budget Officer, FBFP1      |
| - Mr. T. Kebede          | Sr. Cooperation Officer OCPU   |

## **ANNEX II**

### **ECA/ADB EXPERTS PREPARATORY MEETING**

**ABIDJAN 2-3 MAY 2000**

#### **PROVISIONAL AGENDA**

##### **TUESDAY 2 MAY**

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|--------------|--|
| <b>8H30</b>  | <b>Introductory Remarks and Adoption of the Agenda</b>   |
| <b>9H00</b>  | <b>Reciprocal Briefing on Structure and Tasks of the Two Institutions</b>  |
|              | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Vision and Priorities</li><li>• ECA/ World Bank Co-operation</li></ul>   |
| <b>10H00</b> | <b>Coffee Break</b>  |
| <b>10H15</b> | <b>Review of Past and Present ADB/ECA Collaboration</b>  |
|              | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Modalities (The Joint Secretariat, Bilateral meetings, studies, publications)</li><li>• Lessons (complimentarity and/or overlaps)</li></ul>  |
| <b>11H30</b> | <b>Lunch Break</b>   |
| <b>14H30</b> | <b>New Directions for Partnership: (Exchange of Views)</b>   |
|              | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Economic Performance of Africa (1974 -1999)</li><li>• Impact of Globalization</li><li>• Cross Cutting Issues (Poverty, Gender Inequality)</li><li>• Conflict Prevention and Good Governance</li><li>• Regional Integration</li></ul> |
| <b>15H30</b> | <b>Coffee Break</b>  |

**15H45      Charting Areas and Framework of Bilateral  
Collaboration**

- **Specific Areas/Activities of Co-operation**
- **Joint Work Programmes**
- **Sharing Responsibilities (Respective Role)**
- **Resource Mobilization**

**17H00      End of First Day Session**

**WEDNESDAY 3 MAY**

**8H30      Follow-up Steps and Wrap-up**

- **Report to the CEOs**
- **Instrument for Collaborative Joint Activities**
- **Bilateral Meeting of the CEOs and Signing the  
Instrument of Collaboration**
- **Initiation of Collaborative Activities**
- **Evaluation of First Phase of Collaboration**

**10H00      Coffee Break**

**Preparation of Draft Summary Record**

**16H00      Review and Finalization of Draft Summary Record**

## ECA/ADB COOPERATION

### List of Programmes

#### Transport Sector Programmes to Facilitate Regional Integration and Development

##### **A. ON-GOING JOINT PROGRAMMES**

1. Study on Air Traffic Rights Liberalization in West and Central Africa estimated at US\$73,000 – bilateral funds have been secured by the Bank from the Indian Government.
2. High Level Workshop on Private Sector Participation in Infrastructure Development in Africa – estimated at US \$141,000. ECA contributed US\$91,000 and mobilized US\$50,000 from the World Bank Development Institute (WDI).

##### **B. PRIORITY TRANSPORT PROGRAMMES PROPOSED FOR ECA/ADB JOINT COLLABORATION**

- Evaluation of the Performance of the United Nations Transport Decade for Africa (UNTACDA II), TOR provided by ECA;
- Institutional Capacity Building Programme for implementation of the liberalization of access to air transport market in Africa,
- Study to facilitate Interconnection of Railways in ECOWAS sub-region; - ref. to ECOWAS letter to the Bank;
- Study on Road Safety and cross-border facilitation measures;
- Collaborative arrangements for organizing in 2001 the African Transport Forum for Ministers;
- High Level Seminar on Cross-border facilitation proposed for 2001.

##### **C. ADB/ECA COLLABORATION IN REGIONAL INITIATIVES AND PROGRAMMES**

###### Post conflict issues 1999-2000

Post conflict and peace-building reconstruction programme for the Mano River Basin countries (Guinea, Liberia and Sierra Leone).

###### Debt Relief Initiatives, 1999

Uganda and Mozambique

- ACP/EU negotiations, 1998-1999

Assistance to ACP countries during negotiations for EU post-Lome convention.

- African Development Report

Prior to 1990, ECA contributed Part One on African Economies, while ADB contributed Part Two on special topics.

- African Development Review

Non-institutional collaboration with ECA staff serving on editorial Board.

### **GENDER AND CROSS CUTTING ISSUES**

- Collaboration on Gender related issues, including the follow-up on the implementation of Beijing PFA and Capacity Building, with the African Centre for Women.
  - Collaboration on Environment and Sustainable Development issues, including the follow-up on Agenda 21 through the Expanded Joint Secretariat located in the Food Security & Sustainable Development Division.
  - Collaboration on Capacity Building related to the design, implementation, and evaluation of policies/programs on poverty reduction with the Economic & Social Policy Division.
  - Collaboration on Stakeholder Participation issues, and joint work on NGOs and CSOs, in collaboration with the African Centre for Civil Society
  - Collaboration on Population policies/programs, and sharing of Demographic Data through the ADB/ECA/OAU Population Commission
-

**Review of Financial Participation in the On-going Joint Infrastructure  
Programme as Approved in 1998 and 1999**

**A. High Level Workshop on Private Sector Participation in Transport Development**

The total cost of the activity was estimated by the two institutions at US\$ 141,000. Taking into account the time factor and the commitment expressed by the Chief Executives during the joint secretariat meeting in Abidjan in 1998 and Ouagadougou in 1999, the ECA financed the workshop together with the World Development Institute (WDI). The ECA contributed US\$ 91,000 while the WDI provided US\$ 50,000. The Workshop has been scheduled in Lusaka, Zambia from 8 to 11 May 2000.

**B. Air Transport Liberalization**

In the final communiqué of the 1998 meeting of the Joint Secretariat, the Chief Executives committed themselves to promote the air transport liberalization policy in Africa. In this conjunction, the ECA has organized in co-operation with ADB and OAU the regional meeting of African Ministers responsible for Civil Aviation, which adopted the Decision to liberalize the access to air transport markets in Africa. The ECA solely contributed US\$ 75,000 for the organization of the conference of African Ministers of Air Transportation in Yamoussoukro in November 1999.

The programme for implementation of air transport liberalization consists of the following components:

- a) Study on Air Traffic Rights Liberalization in West and Central Africa. The Bank has secured a pledge from the Indian Government to finance the study at a total cost of US\$ 73,000.
- b) On institutional support programme to establish PIUs in the ECOWAS and CEMAC secretariats to facilitate the implementation. ~~The total cost is estimated at US\$750,000. The World Bank has provided US\$ 450,000 leaving a shortfall of US\$ 300,000, which the Bank/ECA should source through bi-lateral donors. The ECA requested the Bank to lead the effort in approaching donors for financing.~~

C. Evaluation of the United Nations Transport and Communications Decade for Africa (UNTACDA)

It will be recalled that, the ADB was the chairman of the Resources Mobilization committee set up by the African Ministers to assist in the mobilization of necessary resources for the implementation of the UNTACDA II programme. The Programme is subject to final evaluation and the report will be presented to the African Ministers during the first quarter of 2001. This activity was reaffirmed by the African Ministers during their meeting in Atlanta and was identified as priority by the two institutions (ADB/ECA) in 1999. The total cost of the evaluation is estimated at US\$ 182,000 out of which the ECA has provisioned US\$ 83,000. In view of the key role played in the programme by the Bank, ECA requests the assistance of the ADB to assist in the mobilization of resources to finance the shortfall of US\$ 93,000 through bi-lateral sources.

D. Proposal for Cost-Sharing Arrangements for Joint Programmes

It was noted that within the overall context of the OAU/ECA/ADB Joint Secretariat, the Bank proposed an equal cost-sharing arrangement for financing joint activities agreed upon by the Chief Executives. However, under the current ECA/ADB bi-lateral meeting, the ECA delegation agreed to the cost-sharing proposal between the two parties in principle, but suggested that comprehensive discussion on this issue should be postponed to October 2000 when new joint programmes would be selected, costed and proposed to the Chief Executives for approval. It was noted that even though the current ECA/ADB meeting is primarily a bi-lateral arrangement, its conclusions would promote the overall programme of the Joint Secretariat. The absence of OAU representative was recognized. Regarding on-going programmes, the meeting agreed that the independent efforts being made by ECA and the Bank to finance the following programmes should continue: a) Workshop on Private Sector Participation and b) Study on Air Traffic Rights Liberalization. There was a consensus that bi-lateral resources should be sourced by ADB/ECA to support the implementation of other on-going programmes.

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~~In respect of joint participation of experts in any of the project cycle activities,~~  
it was agreed that the Bank's standard procedures utilized for United Nations Agencies in respect of cost-sharing would be adopted.