

ECA - CEA



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

**PROGRESS REPORT ON THE
IMPROVING THE COMMUNICATION NETWORK OF
THE AFRICAN CENTRE FOR WOMEN**

**Funded by
THE ITALIAN GOVERNMENT**



ADDIS ABABA - ETHIOPIA

AFRICAN CENTRE FOR WOMEN

PROGRESS REPORT

JANUARY TO DECEMBER 1996

Project Title	:	Improving the Communication Network of the African Centre for Women
Project Number	:	ITA/90/III
Account Number	:	DC-ACW-OL28
Scheduled Starting Date	:	January 1991
Actual Starting Date	:	November 1992
Estimated Ending Date	:	December 1997
Total Budget	:	US\$ 543,817

I. PURPOSE OF THE PROJECT

Strengthen the ACW communications mechanism and networking.

II. THE PROJECT

Development Objective of the Project

Improve the work relevance, effectiveness and impact of ACW through better communications and increased information dissemination.

III. IMMEDIATE OBJECTIVE

Improved channels of communication between ACW and member countries, women's national machineries, UN agencies, development organizations, media institutions, women's organizations and groups.

IV. OUTPUTS

- a) Information packages based on research conducted to be disseminated to various users.
- b) Media productions to be aired on national television and radio stations.
- c) Video productions for use by women's machineries and related organizations and feature articles in print periodicals including ACW update and those of other UN Agencies.
- d) Production of informational awareness building material such as leaflets, brochures and booklets.

V. ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN

It should be noted that major activities of the project were not implemented during the period under review due to delay in disbursing the third instalment of the grant. However, the following activities were carried out with remaining funds in the project.

- a) A consultant have been identified to collect data and prepare the directory of government national machineries for women's programme, subregional and regional research and documentation centres and regional NGO's working on gender issues. The consultant is expected to start the assignment soon.
- b) Video production of the First Global Women Entrepreneurs Trade Fair and Investment Forum which was held in Accra, Ghana in July 1996 was undertaken.

- c) One computer with all necessary accessories to backstop the project and in the long run improve the communication capability of ACW has been purchased.

VI. OUTPUTS REMAINING

- i) Information packages based on research conducted to be disseminated to various users.

The following activities will be carried out:-

- a) Two sub-regional survey will be undertaken to build data base on African women leaders.
- b) Research on the state and extent of violence against African women and related human and legal rights including proposal on educational curricula for peace will be prepared.
- c) A summary of the information package based of (a) and (b) above will be aired on national television and radio programmes.

- ii) Production of information awareness building material such as leaflets, brochures and booklets.

- a) A senior communication expert will be recruited to provide advisory services on promotional activities to increase exchanges among women entrepreneurs through improved networking and flow of information.
- b) Informational materials on the Leadership and Empowerment Programme for Women in Africa will be prepared in the form of leaflets, brochures and booklets
- c) Competition by women in the media/journalists on feature articles based on selected critical areas of concern from the Regional and Global Platform for Action.

VII. FINANCIAL NARRATIVE

The actual expenditure on the project up to November 30, 1996 is US\$ 344,664. The difference between the donor record and ECA on what was allocated and the balance remaining was due to currency fluctuation at the time when the amount was credited in dollars to ECA account. This has been communicated to the donor in due time (see attached correspondence).

U. N. E. C. A. Addis Ababa.

B u d g e t a n d F i n a n c e S e c t i o n

Page

SUMMARY BY PROJECT AND DETAILED OBJECT OF EXPENDITURES AS AT 30/11/96

** (GROUP C) ... P R O J E C T A C C O U N T S ** (CURRENT YEAR)

FINANCIAL YEAR

Project Title: UNHCR WOMEN'S MANG.

Project No.: UNHCR/95/00178

Account No.: DN-RAF-0-L57

START/END: 01/01/95/31/12/95

DN-RAF-0-L57	Description	Revised	Unliquidated	Allolements	Obligations	Expenditures	Commitments	FINANCIAL YEAR
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L57-1101	Resource portions	69,719.00				48,523.44	68,523.44	18.8
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L57-1000	Mission costs	7,500.00			1,017.00	1,083.00	2,100.00	5.4
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L57-0200	Meeting/Training				3,908.00		3,905.00	
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L57-0201	Group Training/Meeting	50,350.00						30.3
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L57-0202	Travel and Leadership and M.T.	39,000.00			5,632.00	18,173.51	26,805.51	3.1
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L57-0200	Report and Printing Costs	1,500.00						1.5
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L57-0300	Materials	400.00				13.83	18.83	3
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L57-0400	Direct Charges (Overhead)	15,531.00				11,847.73	11,847.73	3.6
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L57-0000		135,000.00			5,749.00	105,565.51	109,295.51	25.7
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UNITED NATIONS ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR AFRICA
AS AN EXECUTING AGENCY
Statement on Project Expenditure
FOR PERIOD as at 30 June 1996

Donor: Italy
Project Title: Improving the Communication Network of the African Training and Research Centre for Women
Project Number: IIA/90/111
Account Number: DCACOM 28

Budget Line	Description	Funds allocated for 1992-1996	Unliquidated obligations	Disbursements	Total expenditures	Unencumbered balance
1100	Appendix D	2,681.00	-	-	-	2,681.00
1101	Communications Expert	313,053.00	2,280.00	218,467.17	220,747.17	92,305.83
1102	Consultants	30,000.00	-	15,000.00	15,000.00	15,000.00
1300	Administrative support personnel	19,273.00	-	16,376.02	16,376.02	2,896.98
1500	Travel	15,269.00	-	11,037.41	11,037.41	4,231.59
1600	Mission costs	10,000.00	-	-	-	10,000.00
2101	Video products	37,115.00	-	14,372.13	14,372.13	22,742.87
2102	Translation and editing	5,000.00	-	-	-	5,000.00
2103	Radio programmes	5,000.00	-	-	-	5,000.00
2104	Information packages and kits	11,800.00	-	1,800.00	1,800.00	10,000.00
2105	Honoraria for preparation of feature articles	3,000.00	-	-	-	3,000.00
4200	Non-Expendable Equipment	12,500.00	-	-	-	12,500.00
5200	Reporting costs	15,166.00	-	4,191.41	4,191.41	10,974.59
5300	Surplies	1,397.00	-	247.04	247.04	1,149.96
5400	Programme support costs	62,563.00	-	36,890.25	36,890.25	25,672.75
	TOTAL	543,817.00	2,280.00	318,381.43	320,661.43	223,155.57

Notes:

1. Total Grant US\$543,817.00
2. Cash received as at 31/12/95 US\$347,083.00
3. Amount to be deposited by the Government of Italy US\$196,734.00
4. Interest US\$ 2,702.71

Prepared by:

Almaz Zedache

Approved by:

Raj Rikhy, Chief
Budget & Finance Section



ADDIS ABABA - ETHIOPIA

CABLE: ECA, ADDIS ABABA
P.O.BOX 3001
TELEPHONE: 517200

DATE: 21 February 1996

REF: TA/3/ITA/90/111/0081 ✓

Your Excellency,

Subject: ITA/90/111 - Improving the Communications Network
at the African Centre for Women Third instalment.

I would like to kindly refer to the ECA's letter Ref. TA/2/ITA/90/111/030 of 15 January 1996 regarding the implementation of the above project. It should be recalled that this project is funded by the Italian Government through the letter Ref. 0253/UTI dated 11 May 1992 from the Embassy in Addis Ababa.

In that respect, I would like to recall also that the disbursement of the third installment of this agreement is long overdue. As you are aware, this situation may affect the effective and timely implementation of this important project. The proper completion of the remaining activities would require an urgent deposit of the last installment amounting US\$196,683.

In view of the importance of this issue, I would like to seek your kind support in conveying our request to the Government with regard to the last tranche of the budget covering this project.

In the meantime, the relevant 1995 progress report reflecting the activities carried out within the available funds is attached hereto for your consideration.

I would like to take this opportunity to renew once more to your Government the Commission's sincere gratitude for your government's support to the Africa's Development Activities.

Please accept Your Excellency, the assurance of my highest consideration.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gaoussou Traore", written over a horizontal line.

Gaoussou Traore
Officer-in-Charge
Technical Assistance Co-ordination
and Operations Office

H.E. Mr. Maurizio Melani
Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary
Embassy of the Republic of Italy

**UNITED NATIONS
ECONOMIC COMMISSION
FOR AFRICA**



**NATIONS UNIES
COMMISSION ECONOMIQUE
POUR L'AFRIQUE**

- INTER-OFFICE MEMORANDUM -

TO: Mr. Gaoussou Traoré
Officer-in-Charge
TACOO

DATE: 10 February 1996

THROUGH:

FILE No.: COES/ACW/96

FROM: Mebo Mwaniki, Chief,
African Centre for Women

TEL. 300/301
EXTENSION

SUBJECT: ITA/90/111/D/01/51-Improving Communication Network in the ACW 196 Progress Report

Your memo of 16 January 1996 refers.

Attached herewith please find a narrated progress report on the Italian Grant for 1995 expenditures. It would be appreciated if you could authorize the use of the remaining balance of US\$ 2,745.62 budget line 21.01 to budget 21.04 for information packages and posters and under budget line 52.00 the remaining balance of US\$ 613.61 for translation of packaged information.

We shall prepare a budget revision as soon as we get your response to this request.

Thank you for your usual cooperation.

④ Turn,
P.P. arrange for 2
copy

② Turn,
H. provide all p.b
of this project

⑦ Turn,
P.P. include the draft
2 pages proposed on
this

⑤ Copied
16/2/96

③ Provided
14/2/96
Turn

① Turn,
transmitted

**PROGRESS REPORT ON THE ITALIAN GRANT TO THE
UNITED NATIONS ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR AFRICA**

**African Centre for Women (ACW)
January 1996**

Project Number: ITA/90/III

Project Title: Improving the Communications Network of the African Centre for Women (ACW)

Period Covered by the Report: 1 January 1995 - 31 December 1995

Project Background:

The last project report, accounting for ACW's use of the second installment of the Grant up until December 1994, was submitted to the Italian Government in January 1995, after the Fifth African Regional Conference in Senegal, preparatory to the Fourth World Conference on Women, which subsequently took place in Beijing, China from 4-15 September 1995.

Funds available in 1995 after appropriate budget revision and approval by the Technical Cooperation and Operations Office (TACOO) of the ECA, amounted to \$US 12,761.61, as reflected in budget revision "D", signed on 12 February 1995 and herewith attached.

The revision was issued to reflect actual expenditures incurred in 1994, and to allow utilization of the balance left over from 1994 actual expenditures. This balance was \$US12,763.61.

Of this balance, funds were spent from three budget lines as follows, (in \$US):

BL13.00:\$4,350 spent. Line now exhausted;

BL21.01:\$4,254.38, spent with a remainder of \$2,745.62;

BL52.00:\$800.00 spent. \$613.61 remaining.

Budget line 13.00 was used to pay for a total of 15 work months for three (3) administrative support personnel, comprising:

(a) A bilingual secretary for word-processing duties in English and French, telephone operation and receptionist duties, as well as maintenance of project files, documents control, mail and telefax control and general distribution and dissemination of the print media products of the Centre;

(b) A data processing clerk responsible for maintaining communications computer files and directories, including master mailing lists, lists of specialized materials in the Reference Unit, budget control for extrabudgetary project funds, PT8 travel arrangements and claims and liaison with Finance, Personnel and other Divisions.

(c) An office clerk/messenger responsible for conveying communications to the post office, to ECA Registry, and to various

Divisions of the ECA, for preparing envelopes and labels for print media dissemination and for assistance to visitors to the Centre, especially the Reference Unit.

Budget Line 21.01 went towards paying the Union of Radio and Television Networks of Africa (URTNA) for its TV and radio coverage of the Dakar Conference, and production of a video about the event.

Budget Line 52.00 covered miscellaneous mailing and dissemination costs, as well as minor editing and translation requirements of the project during the period.

The Project was not able to support the activities of the ECA at the Fourth World Conference in Beijing since the third installment was not deposited as expected. The information dissemination planned for Beijing was severely reduced, as well as plans to sponsor the participation of various women leaders, women media specialists and relevant professional staff of the ECA. Networking with organizations and NGOs sending representatives to Beijing was also severely affected.

A government official, Mr Massimo, from the Technical Cooperation office of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Rome, visited the Centre for talks in November 1995, on his way home from the Beijing Conference. He promised to hasten the process of disbursement of the third installment, to enable the Centre to carry out follow-up networking activities for the Fourth World Conference. However, the funds have still not been received.

It is hoped that the third installment funds will be forthcoming soon, before the momentum from Beijing is lost. The Global Platform adopted in Beijing still awaits wide dissemination in Africa. In addition, project equipment and supplies urgently needed by the Centre remain identified but unpurchased, and no Communications Expert or Consultant is in place for the 1996 communications programme. Mailing lists and data bases need further updating and special and recurrent publications need writers, translators, production and dissemination. Support staff are also not yet in place for 1996, given the lack of continuity in disbursement of project funds.

**UNITED NATIONS
ECONOMIC COMMISSION
FOR AFRICA**



**NATIONS UNIES
COMMISSION ECONOMIQUE
POUR L'AFRIQUE**

Cable: ECA, Addis Ababa
P. O. Box 3001
Telephone: 51 72 00
Telex: 21029 UNECA
Fax: (251-1) 512785

Date: 25 January 1995

File No.: TA/2/ITA/90/III :030

Dear Sir,

The Technical Assistance and Coordination Office (TACOO) of the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA) has the honour of submitting the December 1994 Progress Report on the Italian grant to UNECA's African Centre for Women (ACW) for transmission by your office to Rome.

... Along with the progress report, we also attach herewith copies of the print media outputs and the information kit produced during the period under review. We would like to point out that UNECA worked under constraints in view of the fact that the disbursement of the second instalment was seriously delayed.

Project continuity is urgent, in order to maintain UNECA's leading role in implementation of the African Platform for Action. This document was the major outcome of the climax of the communications networking reflected at the Fifth African Regional Conference on Women, 16 - 23 November 1994 in Dakar, Senegal. This Dakar Conference was preparatory to the United Nations Fourth World Conference on Women to be held in Beijing, China in September 1995.

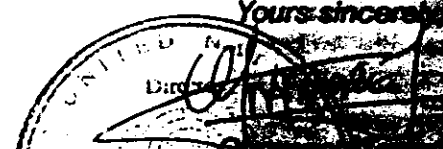
Immediate action is required for follow up to Dakar and for finalizing the African region's preparations for Beijing and for the Global Platform for Action to be reviewed and adopted there.

UNECA therefore would appreciate if the Italian Government would make available the third instalment of the grant as soon as possible.

In this regard, we would like to stress that some of the outputs and activities undertaken under this project are required to be ready not later than July 1995.

Accept, Sir, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Yours sincerely,


Director
Technical Assistance Coordination
and Operations Office

His Excellency
Mr Maurizio Melani
Embassy of Italy
Addis Ababa

**PROGRESS REPORT ON THE ITALIAN GRANT TO THE
UNITED NATIONS ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR AFRICA**

The African Centre for Women (ACW)
December 1994

PROGRESS REPORT, December 1994

Project Number: ITA/90/III

Project title: Improving the Communications Network of the African Centre for Women (ACW)

Period covered by the Report: 1 January - 31 December 1994

A.Introduction

1. It took a while to recruit staff to continue Mrs. Amonoo's work as the Italian Government had still not lodged the second instalment of funds by the time she left the Project in January 1994, and as project activities could not continue uninterrupted, there were delays in resuming project activities. Until the second instalment was paid salaries were owed to Ms. Azeb Kenfe and Mr. Brouk Worku from July 1993 and to Mrs. Amonoo for October 1993 as the funding under this project was uncertain with regard to time frame. As a bridging arrangement, a special ECA Inter-Divisional Information Committee was set up to deal with the information and communication process in support of the urgent preparatory activities for Regional and World Conferences on Women and to advise the Centre with regard to communications messages and channels. All members of the Committee, and also all professional staff of the African Centre for Women (ACW) were made responsible for making effective inputs regarding communications preparations for the Conference. Once funds were secured and released under the second instalment, a consultant was hired while applicants for the L4 Post were being interviewed and short-listed in preparation for recruitment in 1995. The recruitment of another Expert was therefore, postponed until 1995. A Communication Consultant was hired instead for specific outputs for the 1994 Dakar Conference. Very little money was scheduled for 1994 as major remaining activities were rephased for 1995, the year of the World Conference and the year for establishment of an effective follow-up mechanism to the African Platform of Action drafted and agreed on at the Dakar Conference. The Centre lost the services of the L-4 Communication Expert during this period of delay and revision although it was planned to recruit someone for 1995.

2. Preparations for the African Regional Conference on Women in Dakar, Senegal, November 16-23, and the Conference itself, have dominated the communications activities of the ACW/ECA for most of this period covered by the second instalment. The African Platform of Action and the National Reports which were the major outputs of the Dakar meeting are thorough documents which cover the critical areas of concerns affecting African women and which propose targeted actions for the rest of this century and into the twenty-first. The Platform also presents the African common position on women's social advancement and participation in the modern development of nations, which will become part of the global Platform of Action expected to be formulated in Beijing, at the Fourth World Conference on Women.

B. Activities

3. There had been delays in the implementation activities of this project from its beginning due to delays in release of funds, reporting and, recruitment of project staff.

4. Since the second instalment of funds to be disbursed under this project was especially delayed, a large deficit accumulated, owed to ECA by the African Centre for Women (ACW), formerly ATRCW. Recruitment of support staff for Mrs. Amonoo, the L.4 Communications Expert hired under the first instalment, was delayed, and basic supplies and equipment were never purchased.

5. A United Nations Volunteer from UNDP Geneva, Mrs. Lucy Mordi, was attached to the Centre in March 1994, specializing in Mass Media Communications and Conference Services. She handled design, reproduction and dissemination of various brochures, posters, news letters, information kits and media accreditation for Dakar. She travelled to Nairobi for communications networking, and to Dakar for liaising with the Senegalese host government through its Ministry of Women, Children and the Family. Her work has greatly helped to consolidate mailing lists and media messages as well as the recurrent and special publications of the Centre. She was also one of the Information Officers in Dakar, liaising with the media and coordinating conference coverage by the Union of Radio and Television Networks of Africa (URTNA) and by the Pan-African News Agency (PANA). Major international networks were also involved including the BBC and Reuters.

6. A Communications consultant, Mrs. Lorna Davidson, an editor, translator and writer was hired from 1 July 1994 to 31 November 1994 to follow up on Project activities begun by Mrs. Amonoo, with specific editorial, translation, publication and communications networking targets for the Fifth African Regional Conference on Women, Dakar, Senegal, 16-23 November 1994. Mrs. Davidson assisted with editing and translation of the papers for the Conference and was responsible for updating the information booklet for the Centre. She was also responsible for designing and writing the publication commending fifty achieving women in Africa, entitled "A Roll Call of Africa's Distinguished Daughters" a copy of which is enclosed. She also advised on the sub-programmes with URTNA and PANA, wrote pre-conference news releases for distribution by United Nations Information Services at ECA, launched the African Women Features Competition, organized the production of 3,000 T-Shirts for distribution in Dakar, and served on the Drafting Committee producing reports on the Technical Expert Meeting and the Inter-Ministerial Conference.

7. All communications networking and publication of the Centre developed thus far had to be maximized for promoting the regional conference, preparation for which focused not only on pre-conference information and liaison but also tried to use the conference itself for setting up the contacts for improving networking. Not only did organizers, participants, observers and donors share an intense communication experience but were able to participate in special missions, subregional preparatory expert group meetings, Steering Committee Meetings, Task Force Meetings and on National Preparatory Committees.

8. Mrs. P. Amonoo travelled to Nairobi, Kenya in January 1994 to participate in the FEMNET First Regional Steering Committee Meeting. Such inter-agency coordination began early since FEMNET was the Convenor of the NGO Forum at the Regional Conference. She also furthered collaboration with URTNA and the women's national machineries in East Africa.

Video Products

9. The ACW, in collaboration with URTNA/Programme Exchange Centre (URTNA/PEC), sponsored awards at the March 1994 URTNA, Africa Television Programme Festival in Nairobi, Kenya, under the category dealing with women and gender issues, for the three best documentaries on women, filmed and produced by women. Again Mrs Amonoo's services were invaluable as she not only pushed the idea but was invited to serve as one of the jurors assisting with the adjudication of the films. She took the opportunity to brief the audiences about the work of the ACW. She was able to appeal directly to film and television producers to make programmes dealing with African women's issues in order to help to sensitize the broad mass of African men, women and youth on a continuous basis. Once the second instalment of project funds was secured, the ACW was able to honour its \$US 10,000 commitment to URTNA for award of the prize money to the winning entries. Thus, the video products under this project include:

- (a) The Inauguration FAWE Film;
- (b) Sirri Cow (Uganda);
- (c) Women's Mirror (Namibia);
- (d) Women and Development (Nigeria);
- (e) A video film of the major action at the Regional Conference in Dakar 12-23 November, including the Youth Consultation, the NGO Forum, the Technical Expert Meeting and the Inter-Ministerial Conference.

Radio programmes

10. Given the high estimates quoted by URTNA, pre-conference publicity on radio was limited to a paid announcement for radio, about the details and themes of the Conference broadcasted in English, French, Arabic and Kiswahili, 1-2 months before the Conference. URTNA, along with the major African networks and the BBC provided radio coverage. PANA, Dakar, was contracted to handle the print media during the Conference, assisted by Mrs. Mordi, ACW and by Mr. Agoli-Agfo from UNIS, ECA. A Press Conference was organized in Dakar with Mr. Layashi Yaker, ECA Executive Secretary and another with Mrs. Gertrude Mongella, Secretary-General of the United Nations Fourth World Conference on Women. Another was

organized in Addis Ababa after the Conference, at Africa Hall, with Mr. Yaker, the Executive Secretary of the ECA.

11. Print products

Project staff paid by the Italian Project were directly involved with production of various print materials, even when outputs were funded by regular or other budgetary resources. Major outputs for communications networking included:

✓ (a) FEMMELINE. This is a quarterly newsletter for communications on the Regional Conference and on the World Conference. Three editions in English and French were published and disseminated before the Dakar Conference while the fourth in December 1994 will sum up the achievement of the African Platform of Action produced by 5,000 women in Dakar as well as the lessons learnt in Dakar;

(b) Women's Features Competition. In an effort to further sensitize and reach journalists and media writers, the ACW launched a Features Competition on specific aspects of women's status in a given country. Eleven entries were received by 10 October 1994, but the panel of judges decided not to award the prizes until more entries were received, especially from French and Arab-speaking Africa. Accordingly, this competition will be re-advertised under 1995 activities. With more funding, this competition could select and sensitize one or more journalists to cover the Beijing Conference, from the African point of view.

✓ (c) The information booklet on the African Centre for Women. This was updated and reprinted. Copies are attached, in English and in French. A version should be prepared in Arabic as well, and perhaps Chinese, for Beijing;

(d) Sensitization and public information and participation activities before Dakar. These included networking with journalists, especially women in the media and five subregional Expert Group Meetings to produce the Draft African Platform taken to Dakar. The ACW also participated in major regional conferences including the 1994 annual ECA Conference of Ministers, the African Regional Coordinate Committee for women's advancement ARCC, the Cairo Population Conference and the Regional Preparatory Meeting for European countries, for the Beijing Conference on Women;

(e) Promotional T-Shirts for Dakar. Three thousand T-Shirts were produced in Addis Ababa: two thousand (1000 in English, 1000 in French promoting ACW/CAF and the logo as well as the themes of the Conference, Equality, Development, Peace and 1000 promoting FAWE/AFWE in English and French. Two thousand were distributed at the Conference and 1000 were distributed in Addis Ababa. These mementos and souvenirs all said "Fifth African Regional Conference on Women, Dakar '94 and were well liked by the women. The T-Shirts were produced by Mrs. Yaynie Abebe Cheru of Bingo Silk Screen Printing Company, Debre Zeit Road, Addis Ababa;

(f) The "Roll Call of Africa's Distinguished Daughters", was also well received in Dakar. A copy is annexed to this report. The ACW has been requested to expand this publication, in colour, for Beijing, with more women included especially from countries whose national machineries had not responded to the data collection forms sent out in English and French in October 1993. The Roll Call not only commends 50 achieving, "visible" African women but also provided personal and contact data on dynamic women all over Africa, who are committed to the advancement of women, both nationally and internationally. The 1995 Roll Call should do an even more complete job, with representatives from all African countries and with English, French and Arabic versions;

(g) The women listed prove the vast and versatile potential of African women and have shown enormous vigour, stamina and capacity for caring about the less fortunate in society, while also pursuing careers, business and committed participation in the development and enhancement of women's status, role and opportunities. The Centre was pleased with the eager response from many countries, as filling the form was not only time-consuming for the individuals but forced applicants to think about their whole involvement with paving the way for other women and young girls;

(h) A number of valuable original papers with overview assessments were prepared for Dakar. The ACW professional staff contributed some of the papers, while others were produced by Specialized Agencies and by outside consultants. An Inter-Agency Task Force was set up in 1993 to prepare for Dakar and networking with other ECA Divisions was also furthered through the Conference preparations. Improved channels of communications were specifically established between ACW and member States, through ministries and other women's national mechanisms. UN agencies, development organizations, media houses, women's groups and organizations, the African Women Regional Communications Network and with various Divisions of the ECA. The process produced documents and other publications which were edited, translated and reproduced in English and French, and Arabic where possible, a Draft Platform and also enabled the attendance and participation of other five thousand women and men at the Dakar Conference;

(i) The African Platform of Action produced in Dakar was the culminating achievement in Dakar. It is a rich, comprehensive piece of work which will list standards and guide women-in-development activities into the twenty-first century. It will help to form the global Platform of Action to be produced in Beijing. Dissemination of information about the Platform and about implementation mechanisms for the measures recommended are now urgently needed. The critical areas of concern in the Platform included:

- (i) Women's poverty, insufficient food security and lack of economic empowerment;
- (ii) Inadequate access to education, training, science and technology;
- (iii) Women's vital role in culture, the family and socialization;

- (iv) Improvement of women's health, including family planning and population related programmes;
- (v) Women's relationship and linkages to environment and natural resources management;
- (vi) Involvement of women in the peace process;
- (vii) The political empowerment of women;
- (viii) Women's legal and human rights;
- (ix) Mainstreaming of gender-disaggregated data, i.e. making specific gender data on women and girls an integral part of project formulation, implementation and evaluation;
- (x) Women, communication, information and arts;
- (xi) The girl-child.

(j) A flexible assessment and monitoring lead mechanism for the implementation of the Platform was suggested in the Platform at the level of United Nations institutions and regional institutions, working with strengthened national machineries, including the National Preparatory Committees. If national machineries benefit from political will and government affirmative action, they can establish linkages at the community, national, regional and international levels. At the regional level, it has been suggested that implementation of the Platform be monitored by the ARCC for the Integration of Women in Development. This Regional Committee is a subsidiary body of the ECA with subregional representation by 15 member States and works in close collaboration with existing IGOs such as COMESA, ECOWAS, as well as the Joint OAU/ADB/ECA Secretariat, IPU, UPA and relevant UN Agencies, especially UNIFEM. This Inter-Agency body for implementation of the Platform should meet annually and should present a progress report to the ECA Conference of Ministers, the OAU Council of Ministers and the OAU Assembly of Heads of State and Government every 2 years. There should also be a review of the effectiveness of the delivery of donor programmes related to gender and development. To foster the dissemination of information relating to the process and progress of the Platform, the ECA secretariat should publish a regional report on African women and should institute a prize award scheme for the countries on the basis of their performance for the advancement of African women;

(k) National reports on the situation of women since the 1985 Nairobi Forward Looking Strategies were received from 41 countries, at no cost to the project but they had to be edited, compiled and translated by ACW Communications staff. Each of these reports was summarized and reproduced in a single book/document for Dakar. They represent the most up-to-date data on the situation of African women in individual countries, valuable data which

should be highlighted in other appropriate ways for depicting African regional contribution in Beijing. The Commemorative Diary planned for 1995 is one such way to publicize this data,;

(j) The Dakar Conference itself definitely increased the coordination experience of the Centre, heightened global awareness of the situation and needs of women and girls in Africa and pressured for placement of gender concerns in national and regional planning and strategy formulation. It also pressured for strengthening of women's national machineries, organizations, NGOs, women's enterprises and women's health and education. The Conference also forced the media to focus on issues related to the needs and demands of African women.

The Platform was the major output of Dakar, but the presence of over 5,000 women in Dakar will also have unquantifiable multiplier effects in terms of communications networking when all these women returned home to their national environments, with increased personal and institutional contacts and inspired with new ideas and solutions to the old and new problems so well articulated at the conference and shared in varying degrees by African women all over the continent.

Other networking activities

12. Not only because of Beijing preparations, but also for coordinating and assisting the women's movement for increased participation in Africa's development, networking activities have to intensify, especially to ensure that the Global Platform of Action accepted in Beijing is relevant to and reflects the needs and strategies of African women.

(a) Booklets (copies annexed) were produced, listing the resource materials of the reference unit. The work of upgrading the ACW reference Unit has continued. However, the Unit needs a more spacious location with an office for the librarian, adequate space for users and adequate working areas for a database-trained programmer to computerize the vast and rich materials in the Reference Unit. Until this is done, user access to the reference unit will continue to be small, both for in-house users and visitors as well as for dissemination in fulfilment of its clearing house role. The huge amount of information available through research studies, surveys, training seminars and workshops and women's conferences in and outside the African region needs professional cataloguing, storage and dissemination. The video films and UN radio programmes in the Reference Unit also need cataloguing and appropriate storage, for increased accessibility to users;

(b) Ms. Faith Henderson of Jackson, Mississippi, USA joined the ACW 1 November 1994 on a one-year internship for the International Foundation for Education and Self-Help, in Phoenix, Arizona, USA. This Organization was founded by Rev. Leon Sullivan the prominent African-American advocate for increased participation of Africans in the diaspora, in Africa's development. Ms. Henderson will assist with the preparation of various recurrent publications of the Centre, particularly the "Roster of African Women Experts". She will also assist with preparation of abstracts of major papers and other reference materials available in the Reference Unit, for follow-up dissemination through the clearing house facility;

(c) ACW will also need to continue to increase networking with other United Nations bodies, especially the office of Mrs. Gertrude Mongella, Under-Secretary-General and Secretary-General of the United Nations Fourth World Conference on Women, UNDP, other regional commissions, the Multinational Programming and Operational Centres (MULPOCs), NGOs and national machineries, journalists and media writers, women's organizations, donor agencies and partners-in-aid. Only dynamic networking cooperation can enable the ACW to play its role as a resource centre for exchange of WID experiences and for information dissemination. In line with the System-wide Medium-Term Plan for the Advancement of Women, the ACW will expand close working relationships with the Inter-Agency Task Force for the World Conference. This harmonization will involve the ECA, UNIFEM, UNDP, UNICEF, ADB, OAU and the African Women's Development and Communication's Network (FEMNET). In addition, the Centre continued to take part in the annual sessions of the Commission on the Status of Women and on the Board of Trustees of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women (INSTRAW), and has established contacts with the International Women's Tribune Centre, AAWORD, etc.

C. Outstanding activities rephased to 1995

Video products

13. Video products need to be followed up with appropriate dissemination throughout Africa each carrying the Women's Conference Logo, the ECA logo and a caption of credits. The film "Sirri Cow", although shocking to many men and women to see a female butcher with blood up to her elbows, does an excellent job of questioning gender roles and attitudes in Africa. It and the other films can be shown on their own as documentaries or as part of a series of gender sensitization seminars planned as an outcome of the Dakar Conference. Translation of sound tracks into French, Arabic, Kiswahili, Hausa and other subregional languages will aid broadcasting to specific target groups and nations. This Project will fund the required editing and translation of the sound tracks as well as the distribution of the video cassettes to 50 African national television networks, in appropriate languages, through URTNA/PEC, Nairobi, Kenya.

Radio products

14. Radio programmes should be developed to publicize the outcome of Dakar, specifically the African Platform of Action, and the massive turnout of women representatives to Dakar, as well as the growing strength of women national machineries, organizations and NGOs involved in WID activities. A panel discussion could be taped for dissemination, or a dramatized skit discussing the major themes of the Conference and the critical areas of concern mentioned in the Platform.

Print media products

15. Print products for 1995 should seek to follow-up and disseminate the documents and reports emerging from Dakar as well as the project products rephrased for 1995, especially the Commemorative Diary, 1995-1996.

(a) The African Women Report, drawing on the national reports, the Platform and the Dakar Conference itself;

(b) The book compiling the summaries of the National Reports should be printed and disseminated in English, French and Arabic;

(c) The African Platform of Action should be edited, printed up in booklet form and disseminated in English, French and Arabic;

(d) The 1995 ACW Update and Femmeline issues will focus on the Platform, the lessons from the Dakar Conference, and on preparations for Beijing;

(e) The Roster of African Women Experts will be updated, with special effort to include French and Arabic-speakers;

(f) As a result of Dakar, mailing and distribution lists can be expanded and finalized:

(i) General

Efforts were made to streamline the Centre's, mailing lists but a great deal of the information on the Dakar Conference was also disseminated through UNDP Offices. The participants and observers at the Dakar Conference will be added to these lists. The two existing lists are M-010 (Organizations and Institutions) and M-070 (Individuals). Ms. Lucy Mordi and Mr. Brouk Worku have to monitor these lists for full updating. These new lists should be availed immediately to Ato Tadesse for use in distribution of the December issue of FEMMELINE.

(ii) List of media women in Africa

Brouk has been working on this list, on and off, and much work needs to be done now to streamline, using the CDS/ISIS software to better sort it. Once this list contains all new contacts made at the Conference, it should be availed to the Information Service for use by Mr. Agoli and Mrs Mamitu.

(iii) List of NGOs

The original list compiled by FEMNET is now greatly expanded as a result of the huge turnout for the NGO forum in Dakar. The ACW and the FEMNET Regional Steering Committee will use this list for follow-up of the Platform of Action.

(iv) List of national machineries

Also as a result of the Dakar Conference the list of national machineries has been greatly strengthened. Ms. Mordi has to finalize any additions and corrections and ensure that the new list is the one used by Mr. Tadesse for future dispatch of documents. It has become quite clear that many more institutions and individuals in Africa and abroad want to receive the recurrent and special publications of the Centre.

(g) Documentation. The Centre has to liaise with Documents Reproduction Unit to ensure that the Abuja Declaration, the Abuja Treaty, the papers presented in Dakar, the National Reports, the Dakar Conference Reports, and the African Platform of Action are available in sufficient quantities. About 5,000 women participated at Dakar.

(h) The "Roll Call of Africa's Distinguished Daughters" will be revised, expanded and put out in English, French and Arabic for Beijing. Not only was it pleasing to African women but the data provided promoted networking between individuals and institutions;

(i) Commemorative T-Shirts for the Africa Region will be prepared for Beijing as print products, with an appropriate and striking African design;

(j) The commemorative diary will be produced for Beijing as it will be especially good for communications networking. It will be read and used for at least a year after Beijing and will help to use some of the data from National Reports as well as from the Data Collection Forms received from national machineries:

(k) The "Hall of Fame" idea, a follow-up of the "Roll Call", should be considered for Beijing, with selected women. This "Hall-of-Fame" exhibition will highlight African heroines in history as well as the foremost women in the "Roll Call", backed by statistics and social indicator posters on African women. Enlarging and framing the photographs, producing the back-up posters and panels and transport to and from Beijing will be the major costs, in addition to recruitment of a consultant with photographic, graphics and printing/publishing experience.

Project equipment and supplies

16. The ACW is in great need of this equipment but none have been purchased due to lack of funds. The Information Systems Section (ISS) has begun installation of the E-Mail mode of communication for the ACW. This mode, however, although useful for the United Nations and other international communications, is not yet well-known or widely used, among African women's groups and national machineries. More ECA personnel are, however, being trained by the Pan-African Development Information System (PADIS), to maximize use of E-Mail, with various country offices and research and Information Centres, given the problems of delay with telephones, fax and mail modes in Africa, and the ease of use of E-Mail.

17. Preparations for Beijing

(a) All communications outputs will require the participation of project staff;

(b) The Expert and the Consultant will be especially involved with networking for preparing for Beijing, including follow-up of Africa's representation and follow-up to the African Platform of Action. They will also be involved with the preparation of all media products and with related planned gender-sensitization activities, falling under the regular budget of the Centre.

D. Conclusion

18. It would be greatly appreciated by the ECA/ACW if the Italian Government releases the third installment of funds under this project as soon as possible to maximize the momentum built up in Dakar and continuing for the Beijing World Conference in September 1995. A great many activities in communications networking are being performed by a handful of staff members. Project continuity is urgent while morale is high for follow-up to Dakar and for preparing for Beijing. A basic work plan for 1995 is attached.

19. The ACW would also like to stress that evaluation of project activities should take into consideration that "networking" involves many projects and all professional staff of the Centre. Salaries and activities funded by the project cannot be viewed in isolation but as an integral part of all the communications activities of the Centre, both within the ECA and externally.

Project ITA/90/III

Work Plan 1995

<u>Months</u>	<u>Activities</u>
January - February	<p>Recruitment of personnel identified in 1994 preparation of individual work plans and follow up with information dissemination about Dakar.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Establishment of implementation mechanism for the Draft Platform of which ECA is the lead agency, working within the Interdivisional Task Force, the Inter-Agency Task Force, ARCC, and National Preparatory Communities.Purchase of equipment as possible.Special issue of FEMMELINE on the outcome of Dakar, the Platform and preparation for Beijing.Re-launching of the Features Competition and follow-up contacts for sensitizing media writers.
January - March	<p>Follow-up on distribution of the URTNA award videos the Dakar Conference video and preparation of the radio programme.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Dissemination of the African Platform in English, French and Arabic.Distribution of the summaries national reports.Revision of the "Roll Call" for Beijing, including inclusion of a number of other women identified in Dakar or through the national machineries. Special efforts to be made to include women from each country.

- | | |
|----------------------|--|
| March - May | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> . Preparation of documents for the 1995 ARCC meeting and the 1995 ECA Ministerial Conference, including reports on Dakar and plans for Beijing. . Follow-up on media outputs for TV, radio and print. |
| April - September | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> . Final selection of participants at Beijing; preparations for travel and accommodation; finalization of Africa's participation at Beijing by individuals or by institution. . Finalization of media outputs for Beijing. . Finalization of communications networking plans for 1996-1997 and of relevant follow-up funding proposals from regular and extra-budgetary sources. . Finalization of the reorganization of the Reference Unit. |
| September - December | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> . Dissemination of the Beijing Global Platform of Action in English, French and Arabic and of other outputs from Beijing, relevant to Africa. . Establishment of a permanent structural mechanism for monitoring and advising on implementation of the Global and African Platforms of Action. |

UNITED NATIONS ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR AFRICA

BI-LATERAL PROJECT WITH THE GOVERNMENT OF ITALY

Project Progress Report (PPR)

(for the period 1 January to 31 December 1993)

Project title : *Improving the communications network at the African Training and Research Centre for Women (ATRCW)*

Project number : *ITA/90/III*

Funding source : *Government of Italy*

Total cost of project : *US\$543,820.00*

Project duration : *2 years (April 1992 - March 1994)*

Summary

This report covers activities and services rendered under Project No. ITA/90/III (Improving the communications network at the African Training and Research Centre for Women (ATRCW) over the period 1 January to 31 December 1993. It constitutes the second report of the project's implementation.

As the report indicates, many activities and intermediate outputs were prepared but in view of the precarious funding situation, a number of outputs and activities have had to be postponed to 1994. Up to date, a total of US\$142,000.00 has been contributed by the donor, representing the first instalment. The second instalment of US\$240,000.00 which was to have been lodged by the donor according to a note verbal from the Italian Embassy in Addis Ababa dated 8 August 1993 is still outstanding. The project is now in deficit by over US\$98,000.00 being moneys advanced by the ECA in anticipation of the formal lodgement of funds by the donor. Since ECA is no longer in a position to advance any more funds to the project, project staff salaries have been suspended, sub-contractual arrangements can no longer be honoured and orders for project equipment and supplies acquired. The situation requires urgent attention and solution.

The project staff (as of 31 December 1993) comprises 1 Communication Expert (project leader), 1 bi-lingual secretary and 1 data processing clerk. There are plans to recruit a Communication Assistant early in 1994 to assist with information gathering and support communication related activities.

PROJECT ACTIVITIES IMPLEMENTED IN SUPPORT OF THE PROJECT'S IMMEDIATE OBJECTIVES

Objective Improved channels of communication between ATRCW and member government's agencies, development organizations, media institutions etc.

OUTPUT A.1 INFORMATION PACKAGES PREPARED

Activities

(1.1, 1.2 and 1.3) Efforts were concentrated on preparing the following outputs:

(a) Women, the informal sector and entrepreneurship, (Annex I) this being the third in the series of bibliographic listings. This listing was prepared to coincide with the formal inauguration of the Federation of African Women Entrepreneurs (FAWE), in Accra, Ghana in June 1993. The listing provides information on available documentation and literature on the subject for African women entrepreneurs. The earlier listings were (b) Audio-visual materials (List No. 2) (1993); and (a) Documents available for distribution (List No. 1) (1992) (See Annex II).

OUTPUT B.2 MEDIA PRODUCTIONS PREPARED

Activity 2.1

Identification of experts for production of communication aids/programmes

- a) The Communication Expert undertook a mission to Nairobi, Kenya in March/April 1993 and met with several representatives of women-in-the- media groups. (See report on the mission - Annex III). The mission was fruitful in helping to identify

women media experts, many of whom readily offered to collaborate closely with the project in the preparation of media outputs.

During the same mission, arrangements were also finalized with URTNA/PEC in Nairobi for the participation of ATRCW in the First African Television Programme Festival (ATPF) to award up to three prizes for the best television films dealing with women's issues these being themes indicated by the ATRCW and conforming to the approved agenda of the Fifth African Regional Conference on Women and Development. The Festival will be adjudged in March 1994 after which the best films will be screened widely on African television networks in the period leading up to the Conference to sensitize the total African population. Annex IV describes the television programme/film competition themes.

- b) Another mission was also undertaken to Dakar, Senegal to consult with women media groups. The report of the mission is attached as Annex V and indicates the very useful contacts established between the project and the Association Professionnelles Africaines de Communication (APAC), the Pan African News Agency (PANA) and others. As a result of this mission, proposals were made to establish an African Women's Features Service to be co-ordinated by the ATRCW, PANA and APAC, with the ATRCW serving as the focal point. The project staff prepared a proposal seeking additional funding to support this service which has since been submitted to UNDP for consideration. As of now, however, things are far from being finalized regarding funding support for this initiative. A copy of the mission report and the project proposal are attached as Annex V and VI, respectively.
- c) Firm contacts were also established with agencies like the African Women Communications Network (FEMNET) to the extent that the project's Communication Expert has now become a member of the regional Steering Committee of FEMNET to assist with (NGO) preparations towards the African Non-Governmental

Organizations (NGO) Forum to be staged in Dakar concurrently with the regional conference in 1994.

- d) *Additionally, though media experts have been identified, it has not been possible to commission them to undertake any specific assignments in view of the precarious nature of project funding. As soon as the funding situation stabilizes, it will become possible to recruit a communication consultant to assist in the preparation of programmed media outputs (e.g. media talks and interviews and radio broadcasts etc.).*

Activity 2.2

Identification and analysis of key issues concerning women in development (WID)

The project actively collaborated with other professional staff of the ATRCW to organize and service in Addis Ababa, in March 1993, the Regional Inter-Agency Meeting to co-ordinate the preparations for the Fifth African Regional Conference preparatory to the Fourth World Conference on Women. The meeting came up with an amended agenda and thematic outline for the Fifth African Regional Conference and established a regional Task Force. This way, the project directly facilitated in the agenda setting and selection of priority themes upon which it has now planned appropriate information and communication outputs and services to support the regional conference. Details of the project's information and communication strategy and planned immediate and long-term activities are given in a paper (Annex VII) presented by the Communication Expert at the Fourteenth meeting of the African Regional Co-ordinating Committee for the Integration of Women in Development (ARCC) in Addis Ababa when it met in April 1993. (The major agenda items and thematic outline were subsequently endorsed by the ECA Conference of Ministers in Resolution 753). As indicated in the last progress report, it will be around these themes that the communication aids and media programmes emanating from the project will now be concentrated.

**OUTPUT C.3 VIDEO PRODUCTIONS PREPARED FOR USE BY WOMEN'S
MACHINERIES AND RELATED ORGANIZATIONS AND FEATURE
ARTICLES IN PRINT PERIODICALS INCLUDING ATRCW UPDATE**

Activity 3.1 - As indicated in the last PPR, the project inventoried and compiled a list of the audio-visual materials of the ATRCW. The list has since been extensively distributed to women's groups and machineries in the region.

Activity 3.2 - Video productions

- (a) A video interview was done of the Secretary-General of the Fourth World Conference on Women (Mrs Gertrude Mongella) when she visited the ECA to address the ECA Conference of Ministers in May 1993. The Communication Expert interviewed Her Excellency Mrs Mongella on the objectives and expectations of the Fourth World Conference to be held in Beijing, China in 1995. This video production was later interlaced with another interview done of the Chief of the ATRCW who provided background information for the Fifth African Regional preparatory conference in 1994, highlighting the agenda and priority themes/sub-themes for consideration at the conference which is expected to generate the African Platform for Action.

The video, (60 minutes) is still in rough-cut format and is undergoing technical editing prior to its release and distribution to women's groups early 1994. Extracts from this video will be used as footage for a promotional film that the Centre expects to release during the first quarter of 1994.

- (b) The project also commissioned the video coverage of the inauguration of the Federation of African Women Entrepreneurs (FAWE) in Accra, Ghana,

in June 1993. The output is expected to be used to sensitize African women entrepreneurs on the objectives and goals of FAWE so as to encourage their active participation and collaboration in the new federation's activities.

A 120 minutes video film, the output is also awaiting technical editing prior to release and distribution. The video was recently used as a sensitization tool at the Training of Trainers workshop on Management entrepreneurial and technological skills training for women held in Kabwe, Zambia from 8 November - 3 December 1993.

- (c) As already indicated under Activity 2.1 (a) of this report, the project is sponsoring the production of at least three video programmes or films dealing with women's issues under the URTNA Film Festival Programme. Apart from reducing the cost of production (the project is contributing only US\$10,000 as awards for the best three video films), it is expected that the quality of production will be high to enable easier dissemination throughout the URTNA network in the African region.*

OUTPUT D.4 DEVELOPMENT SUPPORT COMMUNICATION STRATEGY ESTABLISHED

Activity 4.1, 4.2 - *The project focused much attention on establishing linkages with potential users of the project's outputs and services. It was not possible to undertake a formal users' survey but every opportunity was taken to identify and service the needs and requirements of users. Two (2) separate questionnaires were despatched to respondents to enquire about activities at the national level relating to women's programmes and projects. It is intended to produce a commemorative diary utilizing the data and information collected through this*

Z

exercise. The diary/agenda will contain information pertaining to WID programmes, status and social condition of women in the various African countries. It is hoped to keep African women, men and youth informed about progress made towards the various global and regional strategies for the advancement of women. The diary, to be entitled the Voices of African Women will be issued to coincide with the Fifth African Regional Preparatory Conference on Women (November 1994).

Additionally, the project commenced on a project to celebrate the contribution of African women to Africa's socio-economic development. Questionnaires have already been distributed to all national machineries and distinguished African women to supply pertinent information on contributions made by women at local, national, regional and international levels. Entitled Roll-call of Africa's distinguished daughters, the final output will comprise biographical sketches of Africa's distinguished women in various sectors (science, education, health, economic development and planning, environment, industry, entrepreneurship etc.) and will serve as a 'who is who' for African women. Alongside with the printed biographies will be a special photo exhibition with biographical clips of these women at the 1994 conference.

This activity will also be diversified to serve as a Hall of Fame for Africa's distinguished women. Much support has already been expressed for this initiative which will be the first of its kind in Africa in raising awareness about women's contributions. It is hoped that national WID offices and media groups will collaborate to do similar sensitization at the national level. It is also planned to interview some of African distinguished women using the facilities of URTNA for region-wide coverage. It is hoped that the outcome will impact favourably on Africa's youth, particularly girls for whom Africa's distinguished daughters will serve as very positive role models in their own search for advancement.

Copies of the two questionnaires mentioned above are attached as Annexes VIII and IX.

Activity 4.3 Feed back mechanisms and channels

Negotiations have been concluded to facilitate electronic communication through E-mail between the ATRCW and its collaborating agencies (i.e. the national machineries, NGOs etc.). A selection of strategic women's groups are to be trained in the use of the new technology for communicating so that they can be hooked on to the ATRCW for both the import and export of information. ECA/PADIS is arranging for this training and with the acquisition of modems by both the ATRCW and its collaborators, electronic communication will be considerably facilitated. PADIS plans to organize a series of national workshops/seminars on electronic networking and national women's machineries and NGOs will be invited to participate in them to acquire the needed skills and to improve the flow of information in the region.

Activity 4.4 Establish and up-date data bases on women

The project continued to establish files and data bases relating to different aspects of women's work. Apart from the Women's Information System (WIS), a sub-set of the larger WIS data base of the UN Division for the Advancement of Women, which the ATRCW imported two years ago for its work, new files have now been created on experts operating in several sectors (health, aids, environment etc.). Lists of women's machineries have also been updated. A file on women media contacts is also being maintained.

Additionally, the Centre's mailing and distribution lists were streamlined and updated.

OUTPUT E.5 INFORMATION AWARENESS CREATED AND INTENSIFIED

Activity 5.1 Production of informational awareness-building materials such as leaflets, brochures and booklets

- (a) A brief on the ATRCW Communications Network Project (ITA/90/III)/Amélioration du réseau de communication du Centre Africain de recherche et de formation pour la femme (CARFF) was finalized. This output was widely circulated during the inaugural meeting of FAWE in June 1993 to the participants and during missions undertaken during the period by both project staff and ATRCW staff.
- (b) Brochure on FAWE (in both English and French).
- (c) Production of a poster focusing on the forthcoming regional and world conferences on women. The poster which will serve as a newsheet will carry messages and information about the forthcoming conferences. The design and art work for the poster has been completed and is due for printing and reproduction. Copies of the poster, when completed, will be distributed among women's groups, NGOs and other machineries for their sensitization.

Activity 5.2 Exhibition of publications of the ATRCW at appropriate fora

- (a) The project managed to organize a computer video show for participants to the Fourteenth meeting of ARCC in Addis Ababa in April 1993, thus providing an opportunity to inform participants about ATRCW's work programme and activities,

as well as the role of ARCC for the co-ordination of regional and sub-regional programmes for the advancement of women in Africa.

- (b) During the inaugural meeting of FAWE in Accra, the project also displayed a selection of ATRCW publications thus drawing attention yet again to the work of the ATRCW and establishing linkages for a better flow of information between the Centre and collaborating women's groups and organizations.

Activity 5.3 List of ATRCW films, videos etc. prepared - As already indicated, this list was prepared and distributed widely. (See Project listing No.2). Efforts are being made to acquire other films and audio-visual materials dealing with women's issues so as gradually develop a film library of pertinent products which can help to inform women's groups, but the process of identification and collection is a slow one.

Activity 5.4, 5.5 and 5.6 (a) - Efforts were made to get media professionals and other professionals to contribute feature articles to be carried in print periodicals and newspapers throughout the region, but verbal assurances were not backed by actual contributions. It thus appears that if this activity is to be implemented in the future, some honoraria or fee will have to be paid to serve as an incentive to contributors.

(b) Additionally, the project undertook to initiate a new newsletter, FEMMELINE (in both English and French) which is to serve as a vehicle to inform African women, men and youth about regional preparatory activities towards the Fourth World Conference on Women in 1995. The maiden issue, originally scheduled for release in October 1993, is presently in press and should be released in time to coincide with the Expert Group Meeting and Roundtable Encounter with the media being organized from 6 - 10 December 1993 by the ATRCW. Subsequent issues of FEMMELINE will be produced at quarterly intervals. FEMMELINE carries

illustrations and photos and the maiden issue carries a special foreword from the ECA Executive Secretary.

(c) The project also assisted with the preparation of the ATRCW Update, the bi-annual news bulletin of the Centre. The last issue (No. 20) which was wholly prepared by the project, carried an editorial which served as pep talk to readers to encourage them to start preparing adequately for the forthcoming regional conference preparatory to the World Conference on Women. The December issue (No. 21) will focus on women and peace in order to highlight the outcome of the Women and Peace Conference held in Kampala, Uganda in November 1993.

Recommendations and conclusion

1. *Efforts at networking were intensified and the ATRCW is now in touch with several women's groups and agents. Unfortunately, the planned mission to Nigeria which would have further expanded the project's networking linkages for English-speaking Africa (Nigeria being the most populous country with very vibrant media groups) had to be postponed twice. Since Nigeria is the sub-regional focal point for the Pan African News Agency (PANA) for West Africa, a strong linkage with that country will eventually facilitate dissemination of news and messages in English not only for West Africa but also for the rest of English-speaking Africa. Accordingly, either before the year ends or early 1994, the mission to Nigeria should be activated, barring any political disturbances in Nigeria which might, once again, disrupt arrangements to undertake the mission.*

2. *In order to facilitate work with women in the media, it is recommended that three*
(3) *co-ordinators be appointed on an honorary basis to strengthen linkages and ensure*

the feeding of information to appropriate print and electronic media agencies in the sub-regions. The three co-ordinators should be distributed as follows:

- (i) Central and West Africa*
- (ii) East and Southern Africa*
- (iii) North Africa*

These co-ordinators will assist the ATRCW to disseminate information and sensitize women through appropriate channels in the respective sub-regions. At the national level, women media groups or journalists associations will be relied upon to serve as channellers of information and messages using radio, talk shows, village/community theatres etc. Following the Expert Group Meeting/Roundtable Encounter being organized by the ATRCW in December 1993, it is hoped that a strategy for communication support to the regional/world conferences on women will emerge and that a clear delineation of responsibilities for the media will be worked out so as to maximize the expertise and support from the African media.

3. Throughout 1993, the project underwent bottlenecks in project implementation largely because of lack of financial resources to enable project outputs to be implemented on time. The second instalment of funds to the project is still outstanding and the year is almost ended. If the funding situation is not resolved, the project might suffer a premature death or termination. Apart from project staff salaries being outstanding (for several months now), there are payments due for equipment, video productions, sub-contracts etc. The situation is now grave and needs to be resolved soonest.

4. Despite difficulties (funding, largely) which have led to many project activities being postponed to 1994, the project on the whole, enjoyed a reasonably good year. For the first time, the donor sent an expert to perform a technical evaluation of the project whose implementation was adjudged satisfactory. The project team was particularly happy to have had the opportunity to discuss issues directly with the technical expert and to also

benefit from the positive observations and encouragement given by the expert. It is hoped that similar site visits will be organized in the future to facilitate dialogue between the donor and the implementing agency.

5. *In this connection, it will be extremely useful for ECA to organize a visit next year to Rome to discuss directly with the donor about the possibility of extending the project beyond June 1994, at least till after the Fifth African Regional Conference on Women in Dakar, Senegal in November 1994. It is our firm conviction that the positive contributions already made by the donor will have its full impact during the 1994 Conference. And this can only be to the credit of the Government of Italy whose contributions to the ECA/ATRCW will be recognized by all the member States of the ECA during 1994 in view of the many communication-related activities planned in support of the regional conference in 1994, preparatory to the Fourth World Conference on Women in Beijing, China in 1995.*



ADDIS ABABA - ETHIOPIA

CABLE: ECA, ADDIS ABABA
P.O.BOX 3001
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DATE: 15 March 1993
REF.: ITA/1/ITA/90/111:170

Your Excellency,

Subject: ITA/90/111 - Improving the Communications Network at
the African Training and research Centre for women.

I have the honour to refer to our correspondence Ref.ITA/1/ITA/90/111:394 regarding the project mentioned above under which we submitted to your government the revision of the project as well as the revised project work plan.

You will certainly recall that in this letter we committed ourselves to forward to you the project progress report for the year 1992. Kindly therefore find attached hereto 3 copies of the project progress report for the period April to 31 december 1992.

You will notice that during the period under review, many activities have been undertaken despite the fact that the project commenced with some unavoidable delays.

We would appreciate your Embassy's support to have the report forwarded to the authorities in Italy for their information and comments if any.

The latest financial statement of the project duly certified by our Finance Section and showing the disbursements made during project implementation shall be forwarded to your Embassy very soon.


His Excellency
The Ambassador Extraordinary and
Plenipotentiary
Embassy of Italy
Addis - Ababa, Ethiopia

cc: Dr. Picelli, Embassy of Italy
Addis - Ababa

- 2 -

I would like to take this opportunity to renew once more to your government our gratitude for your continued support to Africa's development activities.

Yours sincerely,

 Ali B. Tall
Chief
Technical Assistance Co-ordination
and Operations Office

UNITED NATIONS ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR AFRICA

BI-LATERAL PROJECT WITH THE GOVERNMENT OF ITALY

Project Progress Report

(for the period 1st April to 31 December 1992)

Project title : Improving the communications network at the African
Training and Research Centre for Women (ATRCW)

Project number : ITA/90/111

Funding source : Government of Italy

Total cost of project : US\$548,690.00

Project life : 2 years (April 1992 - March 1994)

Summary report on present status of project implementation

The Communications Network project at the African Training and Research Centre for Women (ATRCW) started implementation rather late in April 1992 owing to the late disbursement of project funds by the donor, the Italian Government. The project, which will be implemented over a period of two years, (that is, from April 1992 to March 1994) is expected to promote effective channels of communication between the ATRCW and other collaborating agencies working in the region (national/government, non-governmental, international etc...) on issues pertaining to the advancement of African women. The project will be a mechanism for:

- i) strengthening the ATRCW's information and communication structures to ensure the inclusion of development support communication (DSC) strategies in all of the Centre's programmes and projects;
- ii) disseminating the data and information generated by ATRCW which will be packaged into usable formats and targeted to a variety of users; and
- iii) publicising the work of the Centre and improving the clearing house and coordinating functions of the Centre.

In April 1992, the project was assigned a temporary team leader pending the finalization of recruitment processes for the Communications Expert to continue with its implementation. To date, the sum of US\$142,805 has been received from the donor as first instalment towards the implementation of project activities. Subsequent instalments are expected to be made according to schedule to facilitate the smooth implementation of the project.

In view of the late start of the project, (project should have commenced in January 1991) the original work plans and budgets had to be revised in order to accomodate the shifts in project orientation, implementation and timetable. Instead of the original three-year timetable, it was deemed more feasible to reschedule project activities over a two-year period, in order to accomodate increased project staff and equipment costs. This is being done without sacrificing the overall objectives and targets of the project, and within the original project budget of US\$548,691.00.

The revised work plans and budget were submitted to the donor on 3rd November 1992 for consideration and an official response and approval are awaited to enable major project activities to be implemented. Recruitment of administrative support staff and of the purchase of project equipment and supplies has been suspended until the authorization for expenditure is received from the donor. A copy of the revised work plan and budget is attached as Annex I and Annex II, respectively.

Also attached as Annex III is the schedule of projected activities for 1993 (January - December 1993).

PROJECT ACTIVITIES IMPLEMENTED IN SUPPORT OF THE PROJECT'S IMMEDIATE OBJECTIVES

Objective **Improved channels of communication between ATRCW and member government's women's national machineries, UN agencies, development organizations, media institutions etc.**

Output A.1 **(Information packages based on research conducted to be disseminated to various users)**

Activities

(1.1, 1.2, the 1.3) **Preparation of appropriate information packages** - The project is continuing with process to identify appropriate themes and subjects around which information packages could be prepared in 1993. Some selected ATRCW studies/proposals on the informal and agro-industries sectors which formed part of an ATRCW research competition among African women researchers have already been reviewed and edited. This work will be continued into 1993 bearing also in mind the preparations for the African Regional Conference on Women of 1994. A special compilation is being put together on the theme of Women, the informal

sector and entrepreneurship. This information package will focus on work already done at the ATRCW under the UNDP funded project entitled " Women in the informal sector, production and management " as well as studies undertaken on women and their access to credit etc. Similar work underway in other devotions of the ECA will also be highlighted in this package.

It is expected that, once the agenda for the Fifth Regional Conference is debated and approved by the African Regional Coordinating Committee for the Integration of Women in Development (ARCC), and subsequently endorsed by the ECA Conference of Ministers in April 1993, the project will devote attention to preparing information packages on themes such as women, conflict resolution and peace, and other themes which are expected to feature highly at the forthcoming Regional Conference. This way, the project's outputs will be made directly relevant to women's groups etc. and also serve as a means to sensitize African women and promote their interest and participation in the forthcoming regional and world conferences.

In the interim, the project has prepared and distributed a list entitled: Select list of documents available for distribution (attached as Annex 4). The list is intended to inform users about some of the information resources available at the ATRCW on which they can tap for their work at the national, sub-regional and other levels.

- 1.4 Identification of specific target groups - In order to identify target groups of women, the project has screened the old mailing list of the ATRCW in order to incorporate all presently known Centre collaborating national machineries and focal points, NGOs etc. As a result of the screening, two new mailing lists have now been generated; one for institutions; and the other for individual respondents. As new user audiences are targetted, the mailing lists will be routinely updated in order to maintain relevance. As of now, there are 1427 institutional respondents, and 392 individual respondents.

A questionnaire has also been circulated to respondents to solicit more accurate data regarding their information needs and requirements relating to WID issues, so as to

enable ATRCW introduce a scheme of selective dissemination of information (SDI). Based on responses received, the Centre's future efforts at information repackaging will be appropriately organized, and targetted.

A special file on women media contacts, (journalists, and mass media communicators and other potential collaborators who can assist with the preparation of media products) has also been established and will be updated and expanded as more contacts are identified.

Obviously, the process of determining target audiences is a continuous one which will be regularly reviewed based on new user profiles, so as to make project outputs of continuing relevance to users.

Output B2 - Media productions to be aired on national television and radio stations

Activity 2.1

Identification of experts for production of communication aids/programmes - This activity is still underway and the project is now in touch with the African Women Development and Communication Network (FEMNET) for the identification of appropriate experts. A mission is planned during the first half of 1993 to Nairobi, Kenya to consult with FEMNET, the African Council for Communication Education (ACCE), the Union of National Radio and Television Networks in Africa (URTNA) and other similar bodies in support of this activity. It is hoped to derive of joint programmes and collaboration for the preparation of communication aids with these bodies and other specialists. Other consultations for the purpose of identification of communication experts are also underway in Addis Ababa where some of the identified experts are already assisting in the design and preparation of posters etc. for sensitization and awareness creation, especially for the ARCC meeting in April 1993.

At a later date, it is planned to tap the wire services of the Pan African News Agency (PANA) for the airing of pertinent messages to ECA member States, once a clear agenda emerges from the ARCC meeting. The possibility of the creation of a special desk at

PANA to cover issues of relevance to the Regional Conference as part of the PANA's women's bulletin (wire service) will be pursued once the regional is endorsed.

- 2.2 Identification and analysis of key issues concerning WID - In order to facilitate the process of theme and priority identification of information needs and requirements, and to institute mechanisms for development support communication (DSC) strategies within the project, it became necessary to liaise directly with certain key user groups to determine their information needs and requirements and to involve them actively in the project's planned activities.

Consequently, a mission was undertaken to Ghana in December to discuss with the national machinery, media bodies etc. to help establish a common agenda and map out an appropriate communication strategy in preparation towards the Fifth African Regional Conference (1994) and the World Conference (1995). The mission afforded an ideal opportunity to forge contacts with media personalities in Ghana and to solicit their collaboration in the preparation of feature articles and other media outputs in the course of 1993. The report of that mission is attached as Annex 5.

Another mission programmed for Nigeria for similar purposes could not materialize in 1992 and is thus expected to be undertaken during the first half of 1993, along with similar missions to Kenya, and the Eastern and Southern African sub-region.

As already indicated, it is expected that following the 1993 meetings of ARCC and the ECA Conference of Ministers, the key issues of concern to African women to be discussed at the Fifth African Regional Conference (1994) preparatory to the Fourth World Conference on Women (1995) will emerge. It will be around these themes that the communication aids and media programmes emanating from the project will then be concentrated. In fact, at the forthcoming ARCC meeting, the project will present a conceptual paper outlining its strategies and activities. The project will utilize the ARCC meeting solicit the active involvement of national machineries which will be represented by the ARCC Bureau.

Output C.3 - Video productions for use by women's machineries and related organizations and feature articles in print periodicals including ATRCW Update and those of other UN agencies

Activity 3.1 - Establishment of list of video tapes/films available on WID

The project has already compiled a list of the ATRCW's collection of audio-visual materials. Systematic efforts are being directed to collect all available films etc. on the subject in order to generate a comprehensive library and list of such resources. The present list (ATRCW holdings of audio-visual materials) covers films, videos, slides and microfilms). See Annex 6 for the list.

Jointly with URTNA (Exchange Centre), it is planned to identify and document all available videos and films produced by women themselves on women's issues and concerns so as to advertize them and to select the best ones for screening on national televisions as part of the build-up of interest for the regional conference.

3.2 - Video production

Work has not yet started on this as it is planned to link this video production with the overall communication support to the regional conference. The subject theme for the video production will be done in consultation with the ARCC Bureau, national representatives and other leading communication specialists in order to produce a video presentation which can adequately meet the needs of identified users and serve to positively project the work of the ATRCW in major areas of concern to its member constituencies. In order to ensure wider dissemination, the project plans to liaise closely with URTNA for viewing facilities through its Exchange Centre in Nairobi, Kenya. As with Activity 3.1, the details of this collaboration will be worked out during the proposed mission to Nairobi in 1993.

Output D.4 - Production of informational awareness building materials such as leaflets, brochures and booklets

Activities

- 4.1 - Collecting and compiling information to go into brochures, leaflets, booklets etc. - In line with the effort to brief national machineries and encourage their active participation in the project's activities, a booklet entitled "A Brief on the ATRCW Communications Network Project (ITA/90/III)" was prepared in English to provide information on the project. The French version has already been translated and both versions are expected to be finalized as printed booklets in due course. The English version is attached at Annex 7.
- 4.2/ - Posters and other promotional materials (brochures etc.)
- 4.3 - These are also under preparation initially for use at the 1993 ARCC and the ECA Conference of Ministers' meetings. These materials will be widely disseminated to national machineries etc. once they are ready. Following the ARCC meeting, other posters etc. will be prepared to highlight the themes of the regional and World Conferences.
- As a further effort to sensitize and increase awareness about the project and the ATRCW itself, it is planned to mount an exhibition of ATRCW publications and other information outputs during the above-mentioned ECA meetings in 1993.

Future plans

As will be obvious from Annex III, the thrust of the project's activities during the next semester (January to June 1993) will be the re-processing of some of the existing information materials of the ATRCW as a way of advertising and promoting subsequent utilization of these materials among targetted audiences. The active involvement of the national machineries and other WID focal points will be crucial to instituting appropriate feedback mechanisms to monitor the utilization of information outputs from the Centre. It is thus hoped that the ARCC meeting will endorse the communication strategies to be proposed by the project to ensure adequate

communication flows between ATRCW and its collaborating agents.

Over the next twelve months (i.e. January to December 1993), the project will therefore concentrate on the following major activities which will be aimed essentially at involving the participation of ATRCW partners in the process of the dissemination and the utilization of repackaged information outputs from the Centre, as well as to ensure an active and relevant role for the project in the preparations for the Regional Conference preparatory to the World Conference.

- (a) Consultations - While contacts will be intensified with FEMNET, arrangements will also be made to liaise closely with the Pan African News Agency (PANA), Union of National Radio and Television Networks in Africa (URTNA), etc. to facilitate their collaboration in the channelling of information on ATRCW's activities through their wire and television transmission networks and other communication modes. The consultative mission planned in February/March 1993 to Nairobi, Kenya (where these agencies and networks are located) will also assist in the identification of media experts/consultants who could be hired to assist in the preparation of media outputs, and in the airing of appropriate messages from the ATRCW, as needed;
- (b) Awareness/sensitization - As part of the process to directly involve WID machineries and focal points in the activities of the project, the support of AREC Bureau members will be especially sought to ensure acceptance and participation in those project activities to be implemented by national machineries and focal points, as well as other organs.
- (c) Linking the communication network project with other broader information resource - sharing agendas and programmes in WID - In order to ensure continuity with other planned WID information networking activities at the Centre, much time has already been spent in revising and re-formulating an earlier project proposal for the creation of a Women's Information Network for Africa (WINA) which will build on the present communication's project. Another project is also

being formulated for the establishment of a Data Bank to provide disaggregated data on women for planning purposes. If funded, this project will run parallel to the WINA project. Some discussions have already taken place with UNDP and UNIFEM on the possible funding of these two related activities. The Communications Network project will provide an ideal support base to the overall planned information and communications activities of the ATRCW by providing the environment and the impetus for the provision of the much needed information support and data to a package of information networking and communication activities, thus ensuring sustainability beyond the termination of the Communications Network project.

(d) Information and Communication Support to the Fifth African Regional Conference (1994) preparatory to the World Conference on Women (1995)

In view of the forthcoming African Regional Conference and the World Conference on Women, the project will have to re-focus in order to serve as a focal point for the various major information and communication support activities for these conferences. Accordingly, following upon the identification of priority themes and concerns to be addressed during the 1994 Regional Conference which will be done during the forthcoming meetings of ARCC and the ECA Conference of Ministers in April 1993, the project will commission appropriate video and other communication products which could serve as information communication support for the Regional Conference.

It is also planned to involve media specialists in the preparation of features and other focussed materials highlighting the implementation in the African Region, of the regional and global strategies for the advancement of women (eg. the Nairobi Forward-Looking Strategies). A competition will be staged in order to select the best investigative reporting on women's issues. The best of these reports will be assembled as a special publication to be released during the regional conference in 1994. It is hoped to involve the increasing number of African women reporters, journalists etc. in the assessment of Africa's performance vis-a-vis reaching targets set by the NFLS, the Arusha Strategies and

the Abuja Declaration.

The activities of the project will also be extended to involve the information campaign in the region which should involve national structures, as well as with the NGO Planning Committee for the preparations towards the World Conference. The NGO Planning Committee has offered to donate computer and communication tools to the ATRCW to facilitate the co-ordination of NGO activities towards the NGO Forum for the Regional and the World Conferences. The Communication Project will collaborate closely in these efforts to ensure adequate impact in the Region.

Again, in support of the Regional and World Conferences, the project will also link up closely with the UN/Department of Public Information (DPI) for the facilitation of both the receipt and dissemination of information on women during the period of the two conferences.

The project will also serve as the regional focal point and clearinghouse for the International Women's Tribune in order to channel information to the member States of the ECA especially during the World Conference.

Recommendations and conclusion

So as to ensure the smooth and efficient implementation of project activities, the following are recommended:

- i) strict adherence to disbursement schedules of instalments (donor country);
- ii) quick recruitment of project personnel in order to avoid disruptions in project implementation (executing agency);
- iii) serious consideration to extend project activities in order to cover aspects of

communication support to the regional conference. Such an extension will help to derive maximum benefits from the investments already made by the donor to the communication project by bringing it to the forefront of the major communications supports to the conference, preparatory to the World Conference (donor country and executing agency).

In conclusion, because of the late start of the project (late disbursement), coupled with the delays in the recruitment of project personnel, project activities will have to be intensified in 1993 to ensure the attainment of planned project activities and targets by the end of the project phase.

UNITED NATIONS
ECONOMIC COMMISSION
FOR AFRICA



NATIONS UNIES
COMMISSION ECONOMIQUE
POUR L'AFRIQUE

- 6 NOV 1992

ADDIS ABABA - ETHIOPIA

CABLE: ECA, ADDIS ABABA
P.O. BOX 3001
TELEPHONE: 517200

DATE: 3 November 1992
Ref.: TA/1/ITA/90/111/894

Dear Mrs Polastro,

Subject: Improving Communications Network in the African Training
and Research Centre for Women(ATRCW)

On behalf of the Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa, I would like to thank you most sincerely for all the efforts you have deployed to secure the approval of the above mentioned project.

In that respect, please find attached hereto the official receipt No. 4 0 9 0 0 6 issued by our Finance Section to acknowledge the payment of US\$ 142,805.00 representing the first instalment.

As you have suggested it in your letter Ref. 222/XII/144 OF 28 May 1992, we have already started activities implementation of the project with a view to securing timely delivery of project outputs.

However, a few readjustments of the scheduled activities and the budget were unavoidable and they have been reflected in the attached document.

Nevertheless you may wish to know that such readjustments do not entail any increase in the already approved budget.

In view of that, it would be appreciated if you could give your concurrence to the revised budget by signing the attached revision and fax it to me.



UNITED NATIONS

NATIONS UNIES

Field Office Receipt

Quittance de bureau auxiliaire

NO. 409006

Date: 21 Sept. 1992

Received from: Italian Government
Reçu de:

Address:

Adresse:

Amount (in words): USD One hundred forty two thousand eight hundred five only.
Montant (en lettres):In payment of: Improving communication Network of the ATRCW
En paiement de:Amount (in figures): \$142,805.00
Montant (en chiffres):Rate of exchange:
Taux de change:U.S. dollar equivalent: US\$142,805.00
Equivalent en dollars:
ORIGINAL TO PAYERFor United Nations
Pour l'Organisation des Nations Unies

21/9/92
 Bm

Ambasciata d'Italia
L'Ambasciatore

Addis Ababa, 10th of August 1993

Prot. No. *2253*

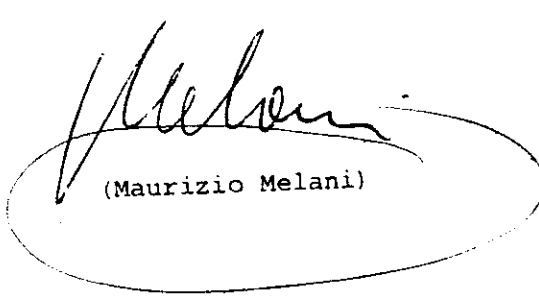
Dear Mr. Tall

following our conversations on the matter, I have the pleasure to confirm that the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Directorate for Development Cooperation, has authorized the release of the second installment in favour of the "ATRCW'S Improving the Communications Network Project" and that the administrative and banking procedures for the disbursement have been started.

According to the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs the total budget available for the initiative is of USD 543.820. The difference of USD 4.870 between the above mentioned budget and the amount shown in the revised request of ECA is the result of a calculation mistake which was found out and corrected from our side during the assessment phase of the project in December 1991.

I hope that, waiting for the transfer of the sum on the ECA's account, your Organization will be able to continue its efforts in order to guarantee the smooth continuation of project activities.

With my best personal regards,


(Maurizio Melani)

Mr. A.B. TALL
Chief Technical Assistance
Co-ordination and Operation Office
Addis Ababa
