

UNITED NATIONS
ECONOMIC
AND
SOCIAL COUNCIL

64.330



Distr.
GENERAL

E/CN.14/215
5 December 1962

Original: ENGLISH

ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR AFRICA
Fifth session
Leopoldville
February - March 1963
Provisional agenda item 11

WORLD METEOROLOGICAL ORGANIZATION
TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE ACTIVITIES IN AFRICA
(Prepared by World Meteorological Organization)

WORLD METEOROLOGICAL ORGANIZATION
TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE ACTIVITIES IN AFRICA

I Activities under the Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance

1. The WMO programme of technical assistance in Africa for 1962 was diversified and covered various fields of application of meteorology to economic development. The Annex gives a list of expert missions effected and fellowships awarded under the Expanded Programme in 1962. The following paragraphs give some comments on expert assistance rendered to various countries.

Lake Victoria Survey

2. An increasing need exists for the utilization of the waters of the Lake Victoria. The three countries, Kenya, Tanganyika and Uganda, intend therefore to apply for Special Fund assistance to make a complete hydrometeorological survey of the Lake basin. In order to study the feasibility of such a survey a team consisting of three experts was sent to East Africa in 1962. They prepared a report and made proposals for submission to the Special Fund. WMO provided two experts in the fields of meteorology and hydrology, FAO provided the third expert a swamp reclamation specialist.

Survey Mission to the United Arab Republic

3. Another survey was conducted by two WMO experts in the United Arab Republic. The United Arab Republic government is desirous of requesting Special Fund assistance for the establishment of an institute of meteorology and asked that a preliminary study of the project be made by two world-known capacities in the fields of meteorological training and numerical forecasting.

Expert Advice on Common Services

4. The three countries, Kenya, Tanganyika and Uganda, decided to operate certain services such as civil aviation and the meteorological service jointly. For the purpose of planning these services the East African Common Services Organization (EACSO) requested ICAO and WMO to send a team to study the technical aspects of a joint civil aviation service and a joint meteorological service and to advise on the budgetary requirements. A team composed of one ICAO expert and one WMO expert undertook this study in the summer of 1962 and made recommendations to the EACSO accordingly.

5. A similar study was undertaken by a WMO expert upon request by the Governments of Rwanda and Burundi. He studied the possibilities of creating a joint meteorological service for these two countries and made recommendations for further technical assistance to implement his proposals.

General Meteorological Advisers

6. In Libya by the end of 1962 a WMO mission was completed which had been advising for several years on the organization of a meteorological service in that country. A similar mission was started in Ethiopia early in 1962 which will continue during the next few years.

Advice on Various Applications of Meteorology

7. In order to plan, whether it be for agricultural, hydrological, aeronautical or other technical purposes, a requirement exists in all countries for the maintenance of accurate meteorological and climatological data. To further its economic progress the government of the Central African Republic foresaw the need of making efficient use of the climatological data available and requested the services of an expert in that field who commenced his mission in August.

Experts in Meteorological Instruments

8. The basis for all meteorological activities is accurate meteorological observations and their exchange by means of meteorological telecommunications. The acute demand for greater agricultural output, the increasing need for hydrological data all necessitate the establishment and maintenance of networks of meteorological observation stations. To assist in these activities experts in the field of meteorological instruments served in Dahomey, Ethiopia and the Sudan.

Training of Meteorological Personnel

9. In most countries of Africa there is a considerable lack of trained meteorological personnel. WMO has therefore given its particular attention to training of such personnel on all levels. During 1962 a special consultant of WMO prepared overall plans for meteorological training with special emphasis on the needs of Africa. He made a number of recommendations on how to meet existing requirements; these were discussed at the Third Session of WMO Regional Association I (Africa) which was held in March 1962 in Addis Ababa. A plan for regional training centres was developed and for some of them assistance was requested from WMO either under EPTA or the Special Fund. In addition, WMO continues to cooperate with ICAO in meteorological training at the Civil Aviation Training Centres in Tunis and Casablanca.

10. Besides formal training given at universities and training centres, WMO also sent experts to countries to give training courses. On the other hand, fellowships were awarded to nationals of various countries for meteorological training abroad either at foreign universities or on-the-spot training in national meteorological services of highly developed countries.

II Meteorological Activities in the Congo (Leopoldville)

11. In 1962 WMO continued its participation in the United Nations Civilian Operations in the Congo (Leopoldville). Experts were provided to undertake three different kinds of duties: a) to advise on the development of the meteorological service and of certain specialized branches; b) to provide meteorological services at airports in the Congo until such time that Congolese nationals are able to take over these duties; and c) to provide meteorological training. The total number of WMO experts amounted to nearly 30 by the end of 1962.

12. In accordance with general training plans for Africa, particular emphasis was laid on meteorological training in the Congo. Several training courses were organized and it is interesting to note that WMO Regional Association I (Africa) recommended that the meteorological school at Binza, near Leopoldville,

be recognized as a regional training centre. A number of students who had attended forecaster courses at the Binza school were subsequently sent to foreign countries (Ireland, Kenya, Switzerland) in order to obtain practical experience at airports to enable them to effect such duties themselves after their return to the Congo.

III Meteorological Posts under the OPEX Programme

13. WMO continued to cooperate in the United Nations OPEX Programme by providing qualified specialists to assume operational and executive functions in the field of meteorology. During 1962 specialists were provided for OPEX posts in the following countries: East Africa, Libya, Nigeria, Sudan and Togo.

IV Future Planning

14. Based on requests made by African governments during the preparation of the 1963-64 EPTA programme the activities of WMO in Africa will be considerably increased during the forthcoming programme period. An increased number of experts as well as fellowships in the various fields such as agrometeorology, hydro-meteorology, climatology, etc., will be provided for a number of countries.

15. As a regional project it is intended to conduct in 1963 a survey of basic meteorological telecommunications requirements.

16. Particular emphasis will be laid as in the past on meteorological training. Among others, it is planned to establish chairs of meteorology at the Universities of Dakar and the Royal College at Nairobi. Moreover, plans are being developed to obtain Special Fund assistance for several regional training centres. The conversion of the meteorological school at Binza, near Leopoldville, into a regional meteorological training centre with Special Fund assistance is also under consideration.

17. At least one meteorological training seminar will be organized in Africa as an EPTA regional project.

18. In conclusion, it may be emphasized that WMO is anxious to make its contribution to economic development in Africa through various means of technical assistance in its field.

WORLD METEOROLOGICAL ORGANIZATION
TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAMME IN AFRICA
AS IMPLEMENTED IN 1952 UNDER THE EPTA
EXPERTS

Country	Project	Duration	Remarks
East Africa	Lake Victoria Survey	6 months	(2 experts-3 months each)
	Meteorological Survey	1 $\frac{1}{2}$ months	
Central African Rep.	Climatology	4 "	
Dahomey	Met. Instruments	1 "	
Ethiopia	General Meteorology	6 "	(temporary cessation caused by death of expert)
	Met. Instruments	4 "	
Ghana	Met. Training	5 "	
Guinea	Aerology	6 "	
Libya	Met. Adviser	12 "	
Nigeria	Met. Training	12 "	
Rwanda and Burundi	Met. Adviser	3 $\frac{1}{2}$ "	
Sudan	Met. Instruments	12 "	
Tunisia	Met. Instructor	12 "	
United Arab Rep.	Met. Survey	2 "	(2 experts- one month each)

FELLOWSHIPS AWARDED

		No./Man-mos
Ethiopia	Hydrometeorology	1/10
Ivory Coast	General Meteorology	1/10 $\frac{1}{2}$
	General Meteorology	1/10 $\frac{1}{2}$
Libya	General Meteorology	1/14
Madagascar	General Meteorology	1/24
	General Meteorology	1/10