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ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR AFRICA  
Sub-Regional Meeting on Economic  
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PROTOCOL OF THE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE MAGHRIB  
COUNTRIES, AND RELATIONS OF THE MAGHRIB ECONOMIC INSTITUTIONS WITH  
THE ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR AFRICA

NOTE BY THE SECRETARIAT

Reproduced below as background information for the participants in the Sub-Regional Meeting on Economic Co-operation in Central Africa is the Protocol of Agreement between the Maghrib countries, and the Relations of the Maghrib economic institutions with the ECA.

PROTOCOL OF THE AGREEMENT

between

THE KINGDOM OF LIBYA

THE TUNISIAN REPUBLIC

THE PEOPLES DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF ALGERIA

THE KINGDOM OF MOROCCO

I - PLANNING

The Ministers of Economic Affairs of the Maghrib recommend the Standing Consultative Committee to arrange the necessary meetings to promote the co-ordination of development plans.

II - INDUSTRIAL HARMONIZATION

In order to prepare the conditions for far-reaching industrial harmonization, the Conference of Ministers of Economic Affairs of the Maghrib has decided :

1. To recommend the Economic Commission for Africa to establish contact with the Permanent Consultative Committee, and to provide the latter as soon as possible with the following studies:

- (a) A detailed comparative study of existing industrial potentialities, in particular from the viewpoint of production capacities, volumes of production and their uses, as well as prime costs, etc...
- (b) A detailed comparative study of the requirements of the Maghrib countries for industrial products.
- (c) A comparative study of agricultural production, in particular from the viewpoint of quantities and their uses, locations and production periods. This study should be supplemented by a study of development potentialities, especially for industrial cultivation.

(d) A preliminary feasibility study on the co-ordination of industrial standardization.

2. To give the Standing Consultative Committee the task of considering the type of study required, and the criteria to be adopted in considering harmonization in the different industrial branches;

To recommend the Standing Consultative Committee to consider the conditions for co-ordination and harmonization, taking into account the urgent needs for simultaneous industrialization in the countries of the Maghrib;

To entrust the Standing Consultative Committee, at its forthcoming meeting, with a concrete study on specific projects of industrial co-ordination and harmonization, in those sectors where such co-ordination and harmonization may prove possible forthwith.

3. To establish a Centre for Industrial Studies, in regard to which a request to the United Nations Special Fund has been prepared, and to give the Standing Consultative Committee the task of preparing the Statutes for submission to the Governments for their approval.

### III - MINES AND ENERGY

The Ministers of Economic Affairs of the Maghrib agree to refer to the Standing Consultative Committee the problems relating to co-ordination and co-operation in the fields of energy and mining, and give it the task of making proposals to the Governments, beginning with electrical energy.

### IV - COMMERCIAL RELATIONS AND SERVICES

Simultaneously with the mission entrusted to the Standing Consultative Committee at the Tunis Conference relating to intra-Maghrib commercial exchanges, the Ministers of Economic Affairs of the Maghrib give the Standing Consultative Committee the task of defining the basis and general conditions for establishing a multilateral framework of privileged commercial exchanges.

The Conference of the Ministers of Economic Affairs of the Maghrib recommend the holding, under the auspices of the Standing Consultative Committee of:

- (1) A meeting of the appropriate agencies of each country with a view to drawing up a list of products of significance to their balances of payments, where co-ordination in imports and exports can be set in train, and to defining the practical terms and conditions of this co-ordination.
- (2) A meeting of the national agencies concerned to define means of co-ordinating tourism for the Maghrib as a whole.
- (3) A meeting of the national agencies concerned with a view to producing a report on the harmonization of the policies of the four Maghrib countries in air transport, and on the closed coordination possible between their airway companies.
- (4) A meeting of experts of the four Maghrib countries with a view to considering the problems of coordinating rail and road transport, and to examining the terms and conditions for implementing this co-ordination.
- (5) A meeting of the national agencies concerned to study the respective positions of the merchant navies of the four countries of the Maghrib and the prospects for co-operation and co-ordination.
- (6) A meeting of posts and telecommunications experts for the four Maghrib countries to define the terms and conditions for co-operation and co-ordination in these fields.

#### V - MANPOWER

The Ministers of Economic Affairs of the Maghrib give the Standing Consultative Committee the task of considering the problems of training Maghribian manpower, and of its employment inside and outside the Maghrib, in conjunction with the Economic Commission for Africa and the other appropriate international agencies.

## VI - FINANCING OF DEVELOPMENT

The Ministers of Economic Affairs of the Maghrib give the Standing Consultative Committee the task of studying, in co-operation with the Maghribian and foreign financial agencies, the problems connected with the financing of development projects.

Relations with the  
United Nations Economic Commission  
for Africa

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1. The agenda of the Conference invites discussion of the relations of the Maghrib economic institutions with the Economic Commission for Africa. It is a matter of defining the terms and conditions for the co-operation of ECA with Maghrib institutions already existing or to be established, ministerial conferences, the Standing Consultative Committee, the specialist commissions and the Centre for Industrial Studies.

Role of the ECA

2. The Secretariat of the ECA is a technical instrument which the Executive Secretary, in conformity with the terms of reference of the Commission, places at the disposal of all the Maghrib countries and institutions to assist them in their efforts to achieve economic development, co-operation and co-ordination.

3. The collaboration of the ECA will be liberally extended with strict respect for the independence of the Maghrib institutions, which are the sole judges of the general lines of approach that determine the priorities to be adopted in problems needing settlement, identify the sectors offering opportunities for co-ordination and lay down the study programmes.

Relations of the ECA with the Standing Consultative Committee.

4. In the spirit defined above, the Standing Consultative Committee may at any time call upon the Tangier Sub-regional Office to undertake whatever research and whatever studies it may wish to entrust to the ECA.

5. The Ministers on the one hand and the Executive Secretary on the other, authorize the Chairman of the Standing Consultative Committee and the Director of the Tangier Sub-regional Office to correspond directly on all questions that are relevant to the studies or research work to be undertaken, and onco-operation with ECA.

6. The studies called for will be carried out by the Tangier Office to the extent that the Executive Secretariat can place the necessary technical resources at its disposal.

If these resources were to prove insufficient for a specified study, the Tangier Office would lend its assistance in obtaining the necessary contribution for execution of the project from the Technical Assistance Board or the United Nations Special Fund.

7. Furthermore, the Tangier Sub-regional Office can, at the request of the Chairman of the Standing Consultative Committee, provide the necessary framework and Secretariat facilities to carry out its work or the work of such commissions as it may establish.

At the request of the Chairman of the Standing Consultative Committee, the Tangier Office can reproduce and disseminate documents to the Maghrib countries or centralize documents coming from these countries.

8. Lastly, in continuance of the efforts that it has made since its establishment, the Tangier Sub-regional Office can constitute a centre for documentation on the economies of the Maghrib countries, and hold this documentation at the disposal of the Maghrib institutions.

9. At the request of the Chairman of the Standing Consultative Committee, the same collaboration and the same facilities will be unstintingly extended by the Tangier Sub-regional Office to any specialist commissions that may be set up.



Relations with the Centre for Industrial Studies

10. The Centre for Industrial Studies will work in the framework and under the direction of the Sub-regional Office of Tangier in accordance with Articles 2, 3, 4 and 5 of the present paper, and in pursuance of the decisions of the Standing Consultative Committee.

11. Until the Centre for Industrial Studies is established, the staff of the Sub-regional Office will continue to lend its assistance to the countries concerned in their discussions with the Special Fund. Moreover, as soon as the application is addressed by the Maghrib countries to the Special Fund, the Executive Secretary will endeavour to obtain from the Bureau of Technical Assistance Operations the dispatch of a group of research workers to prepare the establishment of the Centre in accordance with Article 10.

Working Languages

12. The officials of the ECA normally use French and English in their work. Arabic, being the official language of the Maghrib countries, will likewise be used in the documents distributed by the Tangier Office. The Maghrib countries will extend every assistance that appears useful in this connexion.