

RECOMMENDATIONS
OF THE ECA CONFERENCE OF MINISTERS
CONCERNING THE ECONOMIC ISSUES ON THE DRAFT AGENDA
OF THE TWENTY-FIRST ORDINARY SESSION
OF THE ASSEMBLY OF HEADS OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT
OF THE ORGANIZATION OF AFRICAN UNITY

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Introduction

1. The twentieth ordinary session of the Assembly of the Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity, held in Addis Ababa in November 1984, reviewed the economic situation in Africa and expressed grave concern at the serious and persistent economic and social crisis. They, accordingly, by resolution AHG/Res. 132(XX), decided that the twenty-first ordinary session in 1985 would consider economic issues, in particular
 - (a) the progress made in the implementation of the Lagos Plan of Action and the definition of new measures for the early attainment of the objectives of the Plan;
 - (b) the formulation of an emergency programme for Africa comprising immediate measures in the priority economic areas and particularly in the agricultural and food sectors; and
 - (c) the establishment of a common platform for action intended for the specialized agencies of the United Nations system on international economic issues of a crucial interest for Africa.
2. The Assembly of Heads of State and Government also decided to set up a Steering Committee at ministerial level composed of seven countries, namely Algeria, Cameroon, Ivory Coast, Nigeria, Senegal, the United Republic of Tanzania and Zimbabwe, to prepare the basic documents for the economic summit. The Steering Committee will have the responsibility of preparing the basic documents for the economic summit to be submitted through the Council of Ministers, with the technical support of the OAU Secretariat working in close collaboration with the Secretariat of the ECA.
3. The OAU Council of Ministers at its forty-first ordinary session, held in Addis Ababa (Ethiopia) from 25 February to 5 March 1985, considered and took note of the report of the Steering Committee. In addition the Council,

mindful of the need to involve the ECA Conference of Ministers responsible for economic planning and any other African or international conference on African economic issues fully in the preparation for the twenty-first Assembly of Heads of State and Government, decided by resolution CM/Res. 963/(XLI) to "urge the ECA Conference of Ministers responsible for economic planning in Africa to focus its deliberations on the issues on the draft agenda and to recommend concrete measures to be taken, including proposals for the follow-up and monitoring".

4. Pursuant to this resolution the ECA Conference of Ministers embarked on an exhaustive examination of the economic issues on the draft agenda for the twenty-first OAU summit meeting.

5. The Conference approved this document, which gives as thorough an outline as possible of the programme of action to be carried out by member States not only to help them overcome the present crisis but also to lay down firm foundations for self-sustaining economic growth and development in Africa.

6. The African economic and social crisis as described in the Special Memorandum by the ECA Conference of Ministers on Africa's Economic and Social Crisis has become even more critical. Hunger, malnutrition and poverty are still widespread. As of now, 21 countries with a total population of some 205 million people are still seriously affected by drought. Two of these are in North Africa; three in Central Africa; four in East Africa; and six each in Southern and West Africa.

7. The food aid requirements of these countries at the end of March 1985 were estimated at 6.9 million tons, in respect of which known pledges as of the end of March 1985 amounted to 5.7 million tons - thus leaving a balance of 1.2 million tons. Almost 10 million people have been displaced as a result of the drought. The situation has been exacerbated by the lack of adequate and efficient logistic support - transport, storage and distribution - and is still as acute today as it was last year. Indeed, the above estimation represents a sharp increase in food-aid requirements for 1985 and will impose additional logistical

constraints on the infrastructure for distributing food, medicines, clothing, etc. Moreover, with 10 out of the 21 drought-affected and food-aid dependent countries being land-locked, limited port capacity and congestion, not to mention inland transport and transit bottlenecks, are still presenting serious problems in the distribution of relief aid.

8. The situation in other sectors is also less encouraging than was the case last year. Domestic production and growth rates are still declining and the economic, social, agricultural and industrial reconstruction and rehabilitation to pull our countries out of economic stagnation have not yet taken place. Export performance continues to be inadequate and, not surprisingly, the foreign exchange reserves of many African countries have dropped to critical levels. Our balance-of-payments problems continue to be very acute and our external debt has reached crisis proportions. Indeed, since April 1984, the external debt service crisis has worsened quite significantly. Whereas, at the end of 1983, the total external debt of African countries was estimated at \$US150 billion, the corresponding figure by the end of 1984 was close to \$US158 billion and will probably reach \$US170 at the end of 1985.

9. This document comprises six parts. Part One offers an overall assessment of the Lagos Plan of Action, problems encountered in its implementation, the social and economic situation as it exists now before giving a sectoral assessment, chapter by chapter, of the extent to which the Plan has actually been executed. This is followed by proposals on practical measures that could assist in accelerating the application of the Plan as a background and framework for the measures proposed in the remaining parts of this document. Part Two reviews the survival measures required in various emergency areas, especially the food sector, in order not only to meet the needs of the population severely affected by drought and famine, but also to strengthen the preparedness of our countries to cope with future emergency situations, given the persistent drought in many parts of the continent and its periodic nature. It also highlights the main short-, medium- and long-term measures to be taken so as

to rehabilitate and revitalize our economies especially in the areas of food and agriculture, industry, infrastructure to support food production, food security and food self-sufficiency. Part Three deals with Africa's external debt situation and proposes measures for the management of such debts. Part Four examines proposals for a common platform for action, including subregional, regional and international measures. It also examines the destabilization of the economies of the front-line States by South Africa. Part Five makes some suggestions with regard to follow-up and monitoring, while Part Six draws the main conclusions arising from the issues discussed in the paper.

APPENDIX

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PART I

THE LAGOS PLAN OF ACTION AND THE FINAL ACT OF LAGOS: ASSESSMENT AND MEASURES FOR ACCELERATED IMPLEMENTATION

10. Five years ago, African Heads of State and Government adopted the Lagos Plan of Action and the Final Act of Lagos at the Second extra-ordinary session of their Assembly held in Lagos from 28 to 29 April 1980. While it must be reiterated that the measures and policies contained in these important documents are still valid and relevant especially in the context of the current crisis, it is however necessary to assess the extent to which their implementation may have been hampered and more importantly, to identify the internal and external reasons that may account for this. It is particularly useful to review the performance of African economies at global and sectoral levels as well as in the context of the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade of which the Lagos Plan of Action was an integral part. This should make it possible to identify practical measures for the accelerated attainment of the objectives of the Lagos Plan of Action and the Final Act of Lagos.

A. Overall assessment of the implementation of the Lagos Plan of Action

11. The Lagos Plan of Action was adopted as a tool for the implementation of the Monrovia Strategy for the development of the African region adopted by the 16th session of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the OAU. It is therefore based on six main pillars namely:

- (i) Africa's huge resources must be applied principally to meet the needs and purposes of its people;
- (ii) Africa's almost total reliance on the export of raw materials must change. Rather, Africa's development and growth must be based on a combination of Africa's considerable natural resources, her entrepreneurial, managerial and technical resources and her markets (restructured and expanded), to serve her people. Africa, therefore, must map out its own strategy for development and must vigorously pursue its implementation;

- (iii) Africa must cultivate the virtue of self-reliance. This is not to say that the continent should totally cut itself off from outside contributions. However, these outside contributions should only supplement our own effort: they should not be the mainstay of our development;
- (iv) as a consequence of the need for increased self-reliance, Africa must mobilise her entire human and material resources for her development;
- (v) each of our States must pursue all-embracing economic, social and cultural activities which will mobilise the strength of the country as a whole and ensure that both the efforts put into and the benefits derived from development are equitably shared;
- (vi) efforts towards African economic integration must be pursued with renewed determination in order to create a continent-wide framework for the much needed economic co-operation for development based on collective self-reliance.

12. From the above six guiding principles it will clearly be seen that the successful implementation of the Lagos Plan of Action called for a drastic departure from past socio-economic structures and patterns and for the adoption of well articulated policies of internalization of the development process. Five years after the adoption of the Lagos Plan of Action and the Final Act of Lagos, we are particularly distressed by the fact that little progress has been achieved in this regard.

13. National development plans as well as annual budgets have, in most countries, tended to perpetuate and even accentuate the dependency of our economies through, inter alia, (i) over-reliance on foreign resources (financial and human) leading in many cases to the disruption of national priorities to comply with those of donor countries and institutions (ii) misallocation of domestic resources with reduced shares for such high priority areas as agriculture, manpower and industry and massive expenditure on foreign consumer goods and non-productive investment projects.

14. With regard to the need for the internalization of the development process in such a way as to ensure self-sustained development, it is disheartening to note that basic prerequisites such as technology mastery, full knowledge of the natural resources base and the training of various types of skills for the exploration and use of natural resources have not received the attention they deserve. For example, five years after the adoption of the Lagos Plan of Action and the Final Act of Lagos, the percentage of foreign experts in the total number of high-level technicians and managers in African countries is as high as 50 per cent.

15. Economic co-operation and integration is a clear corollary of national and collective self-reliance and self-sustained development as national actions, important as they are, are not sufficient to ensure maximum growth and development and to enable the African region to play a more important role in international affairs. This aspect was deemed to be of crucial importance to the extent that its existence not only constitutes the basic assumption on which the implementation of the provisions contained in all the chapters of the LPA rests, but also our Heads of State and Government decided to give it special recognition in the form of an Annex to the Plan, known as the Final Act of Lagos.

16. While there has been substantial progress in the establishment of new subregional economic groupings, sectoral co-operation has followed a very slow path. Except for the area of trade and finance which witnessed the creation of the Federation of African Chambers of Commerce and the steps currently being taken towards the establishment of an African Monetary Fund, very little progress has been made in such crucial areas as subregional food security arrangements, food relief schemes, agronomic research, environment including desertification, industry, technology, natural resources and new and renewable sources of energy, which have been identified as priority areas by the Final Act of Lagos.

17. Given the colonial economic structures inherited by most African countries and the failure of the latter to bring about radical changes, the worsening of the international economic environment especially since 1979/80 has had a very negative impact on Africa. The ECA Special Memorandum identified "five major critical factors that have interacted to exacerbate the current crisis namely, (i) the collapse in commodity prices; (ii) a stagnation and decline in Official Development Assistance (ODA) in real terms; (iii) the unprecedented high interest rates; (iv) the shift to a regime of sharp fluctuations of interest rates; and (v) increased protectionism.

18. The above shortcomings are, no doubt, at the roots of the non-implementation of the Lagos Plan of Action. However, as if they were not enough, four major circumstances, which were not foreseen when the Lagos Plan of Action was adopted, added to the increasing difficulties of African countries namely: (a) the widespread, severe and persistent drought, (b) the acceleration of the desertification process, (c) persistent and destructive cyclones in the Indian Ocean; and (d) the intensification of destabilization attempts from South Africa on neighbouring African countries especially the front-line States.

19. At regional level, the Secretariats of the OAU and ECA have also been greatly involved in the implementation of the Lagos Plan of Action. However, increasing difficulties facing OAU member States, compounded by a negative international environment, have made it difficult to accelerate the implementation of various regional programmes such as the Transport and Communications and the Industrial Development Decades for Africa. Also, in spite of repeated attempts, the two Secretariats have not been able to make significant progress in promoting sectoral co-operation in some areas and, if they have succeeded, the number of participating countries is very limited. However, the two Secretariats have been very instrumental in the establishment of the Preferential Trade Area for Eastern and Southern Africa (PTA) and the Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS).

20. It is therefore clear that the path of growth and development in African countries has been seriously disrupted. Inevitably, it has resulted in poor performances not only from the standpoint of overall economic growth and the external sector, but also from that of the implementation of critical sectoral programmes.

B. Economic and Social Performance in Africa 1980-1985

21. Under this section an overall view of the economic performance of the region as a whole for the period 1980-1985 with particular emphasis on the LDCs and the extent to which the substantial New Programme of Action (CSNPA) for them has been implemented will be presented after which we shall try to review our countries' performance in a more detailed manner with respect to the Lagos Plan of Action, chapter by chapter.

1. Overall view of the economic performance of the African region for the period 1980-1985

22. During the first four years of the decade, performance in the African region was far below the objectives and targets of the Lagos Plan of Action. Real regional output fell by 1.3 per cent in 1981, increased by only 1.3 in 1982 and stagnated in 1983 and 1984. The region therefore not only failed to meet the objective of a growth in output of 7 per cent but it suffered its most serious recession on record. In per capita terms, the loss in output is around 10 per cent relative to 1980.

23. It was also recognized that for production to increase in the developing countries gross investment should reach the level of about 28 per cent of GDP, while gross domestic savings should be increased to reach about 24 per cent of GDP. In non-oil exporting countries, this saving rate has remained very low at 15.1 per cent only on the average during the 1980-1984 period.

24. Overall investment as a proportion of GDP which had increased to reach 24.5 per cent in 1981, fell afterwards and was down to 19.3 per cent GDP in 1984. The fall in investment was the most pronounced among OPEC members where it fell to 20.2 per cent of GDP, in 1984, from 29.2 per cent in 1981. In non-oil exporting countries, however, investment fell also to 15.4 per cent GDP in 1984 from 17 per cent in 1981. Government capital expenditure declined at the same time and was down in 1984 to 11.1 per cent GDP. While investment was falling, the productivity of investment left much room for improvement.

25. Agriculture is recognized as a key sector with the target of an average annual rate of growth of 4 per cent set for developing African countries. At the regional African level, the attainment of food self-sufficiency is strongly emphasized. Experience in the first years of the decade has been disappointing. The ECA index of agricultural output based on value added recorded a growth rate of 0.1 per cent for the region as a whole during 1981-1984.

26. The secondary sector including energy, mining and manufacturing has been in difficulty throughout 1981-1984. The mining industry has been hard hit by the recession in industrialized countries. Mineral prices fell well below marginal costs of production in many cases forcing widespread closures and the curtailment of production and investment. Production fell by as much as 20.1 per cent in 1981 and, by 1984, value added in mining is estimated to have fallen as much as 6.2 per cent between 1980-1984. As far as the manufacturing sector is concerned, a target of 9 per cent average annual rate of growth is set. However, in 1980-1984, the sector expanded by only 1.6 per cent a year.

27. The transport and communications Sector is recognized as one of the most critical sectors and adequate support is required for the implementation of the programme for the Transport and Communications Decade in Africa. The programme is now in its second phase and, while appreciable progress has been made in its implementation, certain specific problems which require urgent corrective measures can be already discerned.

28. The attainment of social progress is a primary objective of the Lagos Plan of Action and the International Development Strategy. Africa's population is growing by 2.8 per cent on average per annum; this is 14 per cent higher than the average for developing countries as a whole. This rate is associated with high dependency ratios, and a rapid rate of urbanization with its attendant impact on employment, housing and the like. Substantial progress is however being made in the provision of educational and health facilities, even though these remain grossly inadequate and unevenly distributed.

29. As far as the external position of the region is concerned, it has first deteriorated sharply with the overall current account deficit reaching an all time high of \$US31.8 billion in 1981 and remaining at \$24.5 billion in 1982 or 30.5 per cent of exports. An improvement was recorded afterwards, the current account deficit falling to \$17.3 billion in 1983 and to \$10 billion in 1984. But this was achieved through a drastic reduction of essential imports and at a heavy cost in terms of growth. External factors were particularly prominent causes of this bleak economic picture. The contraction of economic activity in the industrialized countries during 1980-1983, drastically cut into the demand for primary commodities exported by African countries.

30. Under these circumstances the objectives set out in the Lagos Plan of Action in respect of exports and imports, to the effect that the former should expand by 7.0 per cent a year and the latter by less than 8.2 per cent, have been far from being realized.

31. In volume terms, African exports contracted at the rate of 3.7 per cent per year, while imports decreased by 3 per cent only during the period 1980-1984. Since 1982, imports have been constantly decreasing at a rate of 3.9 per cent, while exports decreased at the rate of 2.3 per cent during the period 1981-1984, a situation which partly explains the improvement in the current account especially in 1984. The balance of payments issue should not be seen as a new phenomenon. The continent inherited from the era of colonialism an economic strategy primarily dependent on the expansion of a narrow range of primary export products. There was no room for diversification of exports. However, as it turned out, this export-oriented strategy failed to sustain the development momentum.

32. For a growing number of developing African countries, the development momentum is being seriously threatened by protectionist measures in the developed countries. The demand for primary products has stagnated or has been persistently declining and rapid export expansion is constrained by the increased production of substitutes. Apart from demand side constraints, supply side policies were not adequately addressed to renumerate producers.

33. As regards imports it should be pointed out that the structure of African imports was unduly biased towards consumption. Two items which dominate Africa's import bill were food and petroleum.

34. For years the issue of services has vegetated on the periphery of the development agenda. African countries have remained dependent on the developed world for most services, and their economies have been sapped by the related financial outflows.

35. The problem of balance of payments is further being compounded by substantial foreign exchange leakages. The issue of foreign exchange leakages has become a pervasive and difficult one in Africa owing to the complexities of its forms and sources. Common means of transferring resources out of a country include the over-invoicing of imports and under-invoicing of exports. Foreign exchange losses from unrecorded trade, particularly smuggling, are believed to be considerable.

36. Tentative estimates by the ECA secretariat for 1979 reveal that foreign exchange leakages from the commodity account aggregate 4.5 to 6.5 billion US dollars, which constitutes between 4 to 5 per cent of the value of total merchandise trade.

37. Unlike visible trade, invisible exports have no fixed point of exit. And because of the heterogeneity of invisible operations and the narrowness of the data base, it is difficult to estimate resource leakages associated with the invisible trade account.

38. In summary, the value of foreign exchange leakages from the commodity and the invisible trade alone is estimated at 7 to 9 billion US dollars per annum and accounted for 4 to 6 per cent of total current account operations.

39. It should also be underscored that developing Africa's outstanding external debt, including undisbursed sums, is estimated to have reached US 158 billion dollars at the end of 1984 and is expected to exceed \$170 billion in 1985. As a proportion of exports of goods and services, the external debt of developing Africa rose from 138 per cent at the end of 1981 to 190 per cent at the end of 1984. In 1983, the external debt reached 50 per cent as a proportion of GDP of developing Africa as a whole.

II: SECTORAL ASSESSMENT OF THE LAGOS PLAN OF ACTION

1. Food and Agriculture

40. The major objective of LPA in the area of food and agriculture was to bring about an immediate improvement in the food situation and lay the foundations for the achievement of self-sufficiency in cereals, livestock and fish products. The assessment undertaken concerning the implementation of both the Regional Food Plan for Africa (1978-1984) and LPA indicates that specific targets laid down for the achievement of this objective were, by and large, not achieved.

41. The target of overall annual agricultural production (4 per cent) envisaged was not achieved. Instead the food and agricultural sector registered an annual growth rate of about 1.7 per cent per annum against a population growth rate of about 2.3 per cent per annum, approaching 4 per cent in some countries. Thus, the per capita food production declined at the rate of 2 per cent, widening the already deteriorating food gap and resulting in widespread malnutrition and, in a large number of countries, outright famine.

42. The cereals registered the largest decline (3.2 per cent per annum between 1980-1984), implying an annual per capita decline of 6.1 per cent during the same period. Edible oil crops registered a rate of decline of close to 1 per cent implying a per capita decline of 3.7 per cent per annum. Root crops, tubers, pulses and livestock also showed low growth rates and per capita negative growth rates in all cases. Subregional analysis indicates negative per capita growth rates in all the subregions.

43. The target of 50 per cent reduction in food losses by 1985 has not been realized. However, there is evidence that some countries have been addressing themselves to this issue in varying degrees. International agencies have also instituted studies and pilot projects aimed at understanding the problem; sensitizing the governments and addressing the problem.

44. With respect to food security, the LPA urged member States to set-up national strategic food reserves in the order of 10 per cent of total annual food production. There is evidence that as many as 28 countries have formulated explicit national food security policies and maintain stocks. Lack of progress has been noted particularly at the subregional level except in the Sahel where concrete action has been taken. Initial steps have also been taken in Eastern and Southern Africa and the Great Lakes Countries. An FAO survey indicates that the difficulty in fulfilling the target by many African countries relates to insufficient domestic production, lack of foreign exchange to import food and build the necessary food security infrastructure (including storage facilities and transport). Technical, management and organization problems have also been cited.

45. Concerning agricultural services and institutional development (marketing, research and transfer of technology, agricultural extension and credit), some progress has been reported. Nevertheless, there are still inadequacies and shortcomings to be overcome, especially in the development and transfer of technology and in developing appropriate incentive packages.

46. Public expenditure in agriculture has generally declined during the plan period and, on average, stood at 7 per cent of total expenditure during 1978-82 period. On the other hand, although external assistance to agriculture has shown an upward trend, the target specified by LPA has not been achieved.

47. A target of 10 per cent annual expansion in forest resources envisaged by LPA has not been achieved. On the contrary, over the last decades, average per capita forest and wood lands has declined in all subregions resulting in a 6.5 per cent decline per annum for Africa as a whole. With the exception of one country, all other African countries registered negative per capita growth rates. The net result has been the unprecedented acceleration in desertification. The FAO satellite pictures reveal that, in 1983, the line of vegetation in the Southern fringes of the Sahara Desert permanently moved 200 km further South since 1977.

48. Generally, governments have not been able to establish the machinery required by LPA for monitoring progress in implementation. However, a few governments in the region are reported to be in the process of establishing such machinery, but this is an area where some technical and financial assistance is required. Apart from assessment exercises carried out by ECA and FAO, the combined interagency monitoring exercise called for by LPA has been limited.

49. It is hard to say whether the limited achievements by African countries are due to the implementation of the Regional Food Plan for Africa (AFPLAN) and LPA or these achievements could be the result of normal development process under national plans. For reporting and monitoring purposes, it is necessary that Governments indicate the relationship between their national plans and the objectives of the LPA.

50. It may be observed that the inability of governments to implement LPA may be due to inadequacies of policies with regard to agriculture, prolonged world economic recession, pre-occupation with emergencies and to generally unfavourable aid and borrowing climate.

2: Industry

51. The first major programme for the implementation of the industry chapter of the Lagos Plan of Action was formulated in the context of the Industrial Development Decade in Africa, 1980-1990 proclaimed by the member States in the Lagos Plan of Action. The master programme formulated during the period 1980-1982 and adopted by the African Ministers of Industry in 1983, was designed to meet the short-term objective of the Plan up to the year 1985 and the long-term objectives up to the year 2000. The short-term objective up to 1985 was to achieve at least 1 per cent of world industrial production and lay the foundation for the development of basic industries which are essential for self-reliance since they produce inputs for other sectors.

52. The implementation of the programme of the Decade was divided into two phases: a preparatory phase from 1980-1984 and the implementation phase for the period 1985-1990. Besides the formulation of the programme, the first package of multi-country priority projects were identified by individual governments and intergovernmental organizations in North, West, Central and Eastern-Southern Africa during the first phase. The choice of the priority projects was based on the objectives of the Lagos Plan of Action. Furthermore, some countries and intergovernmental organizations had already incorporated the objectives of the Decade programme in their industrial development plans and established national focal points for concerted promotion of the Decade as called for in the programme.

53. However, the momentum toward the implementation of the identified projects and other efforts at national and intergovernmental organizational levels were seriously frustrated by the worsening of the African social and economic crisis which led to the diversion of resources from investment in new industrial projects to the rehabilitation and revitalization of the declining industrial sector.

54. Indeed, the value added in the manufacturing sector expanded by only 1.6 per cent per annum in 1980-1984. However, the decline was unevenly distributed among the subregions, with North and Central Africa registering a positive growth of 4.5 and 7.0 per cent respectively while, in Eastern and Southern Africa, output rose by only a mere 1.2 per cent, and the largest fall of 4.0 per cent was registered in the West African region. The overall fall in value added reflected two broad trends: the decline in new investments due to the inability of the countries to generate finance for new projects and the continuing decline of resources flows from developed countries instead of the massive transfer of resources expected from the developed countries. The increasing inability of African countries to import industrial raw materials led to the prevalence of unutilized industrial capacity because many industries were established without making sure that the raw materials required were available locally; hence such raw materials were imported. The actual annual performance of the sector fell far short of that which would enable the region to reach the target of 1 per cent of the world industrial production by 1985 as stipulated in the Lagos Plan of Action.

3. Natural Resources

(a) Mineral resources

55. In spite of years of efforts towards implementing the main objectives of the strategy for the development of mineral resources during the 1980s as set out in the Lagos Plan of Action, African countries have not succeeded in preventing Africa's mineral sector from becoming increasingly marginalized in the context of depressed prices affecting most mineral commodities and keen competition from developed and other third world countries.

56. Many objectives of the original programme have not been fulfilled. Some of them were highlighted at the Second Regional Conference on Development and Utilization of Mineral Resources in Africa, recently held in Lusaka, Zambia.

57. One of the main factors responsible for the low contribution of the mineral sector to the socio-economic advancement of the African region is the lack of sustained exploration and mineral development leading to an alarming situation where the development prospects of Africa's mineral industry are now seriously threatened.

58. Simultaneously other aspects inherent to Africa's difficult operating conditions relate to poor or totally deficient transport systems, lack of training, stringent financing terms, inadequate participation and control in marketing operations, negligible offtake of some products by the local industrial sector, insufficient technical and scientific support from national and subregional institutions responsible for mineral resources development. All these aspects are at the base of high production cost, low performance rates and returns.

59. In the area of subregional and regional co-operation two mineral resources development centres have been established, the most recent being the Central African Mineral Resources Development Centre (CAMRDC) which was established in 1983.

(b) Water resources

60. Out of an aggregate set of recommendations outlined in the Mar del Plata Action Plan (MPAP)* that covered the entire spectrum of activities in the water sector, the Lagos Plan of Action gave recommendations on selected specific areas such as: institutional strengthening, formulation of plans, project identification preparation and implementation in the water supply and irrigation development and in the area of subregional co-operation on shared water resources.

61. The overall picture on the progress of the Lagos Plan of Action is very unsatisfactory. On the other hand, the implementation of the action plan remains crucial for the majority of the population in the region to gain from the economic and social benefits that could accrue from the development of the water sector.

62. Among the large number of constraints that hamper the development of the water sector are the inadequacy of policies, institutional shortcomings, and problems in the identification, planning and implementation of projects due to the low priority accorded to the sector, lack of manpower and finance. Further deficient operation and maintenance facilities have led to deterioration of a large number of schemes.

63. The problem of community participation has also given rise to failure of many water supply schemes. Added to the above factors are effects of high population growth rate, wide-spread drought, and the global economic recession compounding the lack of progress in the water sector.

* Mar del Plata Action Plan (MPAP): Plan of Action emanating from the United Nations Water Conference which was held at Mar del Plata (Argentina) in 1977 to review the worldwide situation regarding water resources development and to make recommendations for further action. These recommendations were embodied in what is now known as the "Mar del Plata Action Plan".

(c) Cartography and Remote Sensing

64. Although it is now five years since the LPA and FAL were adopted, the progress in the development of cartography and remote sensing in the African region has been slow compared to other regions such as Asia and Latin America. Africa still lacks the following: adequately trained manpower for cartography and remote sensing, surveying and mapping equipment, maintenance and repair facilities which has left most of the existing equipment non-operational, maps of different scales that are needed in planning and development, effective co-ordination of cartography and remote sensing activities which are presently spread over several ministries, sufficient priority being accorded to the role of cartography and remote sensing as important tools for natural resource inventory, planning and development, and support given to the subregional and regional centres for training and services in cartography and remote sensing.

(d) Resources of the sea

65. The recent rapid human population growth has increased the use of the finite resources of the earth both in rate and in aggregate. These resources, living and non-living, have provided food, essential minerals, energy and space. But they can become exhausted, even for those which are called renewable.

66. In order to prevent and reduce damage to the resources of the sea which are more intensively exploited, the United Nations organized a series of conferences and recently concluded its third Conference on the Law of the Sea, at which the Convention of that name was signed by a large majority of its members. The Convention offers opportunities and challenges to both coastal and land-locked African States in that it confers on coastal States rights over some considerable living and non-living resources. But most of the African countries lack the technology and the administrative and legislative capabilities to make full use of these resources.

67. It is therefore important to develop African capabilities (in terms of technologies, institutions, material and human) for the exploration, exploitation and development of marine resources.

4. Human Resource Development and Utilization

68. In considering human resources planning, development and productive utilization, the Lagos Plan of Action noted with concern the high rate of population growth, the growing level of unemployment and underemployment, the shortage of different types and levels of trained manpower, the high level of adult illiteracy, the deficiencies in the educational system, and lack of co-ordinated policies and programmes for manpower training and the funding of training at the national level. The Lagos Plan of Action called on African countries to achieve a good measure of self-reliance in trained manpower and technical know-how and ensure that the adverse situation in the development and utilization of human resources is reversed through various measures.

69. The following paragraphs attempt to review broadly the progress made in the implementation of these objectives and the measures to be taken in order to accelerate the realization of the objectives of the Lagos Plan of Action.

70. On the call for the integration of manpower planning into overall socio-economic development planning, manpower components have increasingly been incorporated in technical assistance project proposals, while some development plans have included chapters on human resources. Nevertheless, such efforts are still at their infancy and have not contributed to the removal of the existing structural imbalances in the utilization of human resources; namely, the misallocations of the scarce available critical manpower, the mismatch between available skills, knowledge and attitudes and those demanded by development needs, and the shortfall between the manpower required by the economy and the available manpower.

71. The large number of unemployed and underemployed point to the prevailing economic difficulties facing African countries which have severely constrained the ability of governments to create conditions required for the maximum utilization of human resources in productive economic activities. Although a number of productivity enhancement measures have been developed in many African countries, much more still needs to be done with a view to making them more coherent and effective.

72. As regards the LPA's call for the definitive formulation of comprehensive human resource and other sectoral policies and programmes that are strategic in enhancing the quality of human resource, and the establishment of ministries of manpower to serve as focal points for policy harmonization and programme co-ordination in human resource planning development and productive utilization, more progress has been made in the implementation of the latter recommendation than in the former.

73. As for the call for more emphasis on programmes with a multiplier effect, such as the training of trainers and staff development personnel as well as the training of science and technical teachers, the training of trainers programme has sustained momentum while increased facilities in programmes for science and technical teachers training have emerged.

74. There has also been more emphasis on science and technical education, though constraints, such as shortage of science teachers, laboratories and scientific equipments, still exist as formidable barriers to progress. As regards the emphasis on accelerated skills development and training programmes, systematic task analysis and development of tailor-made training programmes are still to be widely developed and extensively used.

75. By far the most widely undertaken activity is the educational reform and reorientation of educational policies programmes and practices. This has been manifested in the change of educational structure, the expansion of educational facilities, review of educational curricula and reorientation of research. Much still needs to be achieved if education is to be oriented more effectively to developmental needs.

76. At the regional level, the LPA emphasized the need for co-operation in human resources development. A significant achievement in this direction was the institutionalization of the Conference of Ministers Responsible for Human Resources Planning, Development and Utilization, under Commission resolution 389(XV), which is to serve as the regional forum for effective policy harmonization and programme co-ordination in human resources planning, development and utilization. Efforts in the identification and placement of African experts picked-up momentum with the implementation of an ECA/ICM (International Committee for Migration) co-operative arrangement on a related project, executed by ECA, for the return of talent to Africa. The support for and full utilization of regional and subregional institutions fell by far short of expectations and the adoption of employment policies that permitted free movement of labour across boundaries were not put into effect.

77. Overall, the picture that has so far emerged in the implementation of the LPA's recommendations on human resources is one of a slow and erratic progress and much more needs to be done if the objectives of the LPA are to be attained.

5. Science and Technology

73. The implementation of the Science and Technology Chapter of the Lagos Plan of Action has met with some successes although these fall far below what was expected to have been achieved five years after its adoption. Successes have been mainly in the areas of policies and establishment of national science and technology machineries for co-ordinating activities in the science and technology field. While some countries have even gone as far as creating a Ministry of Science and Technology, others have created commissions, committees, departments, etc., for this purpose. However, the majority of the countries still have no machinery for co-ordinating activities in the science and technology field.

79. Support to national and regional institutions has also continued although it has not been adequate for the sustained and effective development of the institutions to implement their objectives successfully.

80. Although member States may be aware of the role of science and technology in the socio-economic development of a nation, difficulties have been experienced in placing sufficient priority in this sector as characterized by low provision of funds for the sector in the African countries where only 0.2 to 0.3 per cent of their GDP is allocated to science and technology.

81. There are other constraints that have contributed to the low implementation rate of the chapter, some of which are:

(a) The distorted embryonic beginnings of science and technology infrastructure of the colonial era have been slow in undergoing change to make science and technology relevant to the needs of African countries;

(b) The education system in some countries is still biased towards humanities as a result of which not sufficient emphasis is placed on science and technology;

(c) Prolonged world economic recession which has been exacerbated by drought and restrictive trade practices of transnational corporations;

(d) Lack of capability for technology negotiations and technology appraisal, acquisition and adaptation;

(e) Exorbitant costs charged by the owners of technology;

(f) Reluctance of transnational corporations to rapidly transfer their technology.

6. Transport and Communications

82. The objectives of the Lagos Plan of Action in the transport and communications sector are as follows:

- (a) Promotion of the integration of transport and communications infrastructure with a view to increasing intra-African trade;
- (b) Ensuring the co-ordination and improvement of the various transport systems in order to increase their efficiency;
- (c) Opening up land-locked countries and isolated regions;
- (d) Harmonization of national regulations and reduction to a minimum of physical and non-physical barriers with the aim of facilitating the free movement of persons and goods;
- (e) Stimulating the use of local human and material resources, the standardization of networks and equipment, research and dissemination of techniques adapted to the African context in the building of transport and communications infrastructure;
- (f) Promotion of African industries in the field of transport and communications equipment; and
- (g) Mobilization of technical and financial resources during the Decade, with a view to promoting the development and modernization of transport and communications infrastructures in Africa.

83. The implementation strategy of the above objectives was based on the United Nations Transport and Communications Decade in Africa which established the following priorities:

- (a) regional, subregional and national projects with regional or subregional impacts;
- (b) projects for least developed countries, land-locked, newly independent, island and front-line States; and

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(c) other national projects.

84. Actual implementation was to be carried out in two phases, with the first phase running from 1978 to 1983 and the second phase from 1984 to 1988. The first phase programme ended in 1983 although some projects started during that phase are still being implemented. A preliminary evaluation shows that the first phase programme consisted of 554 projects, estimated at a cost of \$US7,575 million with the following sectoral breakdown: transport: 422 projects estimated at \$US6,921.56 million and communications: 132 projects estimated at \$US653.44 million.

85. Complete and detailed information is available only on 179 of the 422 transport projects and shows that 72 have been completed and 71 are currently on-going, and that only 20 per cent have not attracted any funding. The estimated cost of these projects is \$US2,151.22 million out of which \$US1,487.67 (about 69.2 per cent), has been secured. In the communications sector complete information is available on only 32 projects out of the 132 and \$US118.94 million (about 80.8 per cent) of the total cost has been secured.

86. The second phase programme was launched in February 1984 and consists of 1050 projects, estimated at \$US18.3 billion. No evaluation has yet been carried out, but available information indicates that the 581 transport projects in the programmes, estimated at \$US14,429 million have already secured \$US5,375.35 million funding, while the 472 communications projects estimated at \$US3,930.72 million have similarly secured \$US1,820.19 million funding.

87. In summary the Transport and Communications Decade programme contains many projects covering all the transport modes and communications sub-sectors, specifically formulated to achieve the main objectives of the Lagos Plan of Action within these sectors, viz: development, improvement, integration, co-ordination and harmonization of the various modes of transport and communications; harmonization of regulations and elimination of physical and non-physical barriers, promoting use of local natural and human resources and other activities on a collection basis, and promoting the development/establishment of transport and communications industries in Africa, as well as joint efforts at mobilization of the necessary resources for implementing the programme.

88. Concerning the implementation of the first phase programme, laudable efforts were made by the African states, who themselves financed a large number of projects. On its part, ECA has organized several technical consultative meetings at which substantial financial resources were mobilized, continues to monitor the implementation of the programme and is currently carrying out studies on the harmonization and co-ordination of the various transport modes in Africa, as well as studies on transport and communications manpower and training requirements in the region.

7. Trade and Finance

(a) Domestic trade

89. The Lagos Plan of Action calls for particular attention to be given to domestic trade and to improving the conditions under which it is now taking place. A preliminary study on "The situation of domestic trade in Africa" was undertaken. This was followed by three country case studies in Niger, Senegal and Sierra Leone.

(b) Intra-African trade expansion

90. The Lagos Plan of Action regards intra-African trade as one of the many aspects of the African constituting the mainstay for the development strategy. It recommended that measures directed at the reduction or elimination of trade barriers be undertaken. In this respect, the Preferential Trade Area (PTA) for Eastern and Southern African States, the Economic Community for Central African States, (ECCAS) the Southern African Development Co-ordination Conference, (SADCC), the Kagera Basin Organization, and the Economic Community for Great Lake Countries (CEPGL) were established and provide a forum to facilitate negotiations on the reduction or elimination of trade barriers. Assistance was also provided to ECOWAS in negotiations on the reduction of trade barriers.

91. A feasibility study on the "Establishment of an Agricultural Commodity Exchange for Eastern and Southern Africa" was undertaken and will be submitted to an expert meeting in July/August 1985 to complete the first phase of the project. Another mechanism called in the Lagos Plan of Action is the eventual establishment of subregional and regional council of buyers and sellers for each major commodity. On the basis of studies undertaken in this area a workshop for buyers and sellers of meat and meat products was organized in Addis Ababa as a first step towards that objective.

92. The countries intensified their efforts towards establishment of national chambers of commerce which include both state and private trading companies with a view to promoting domestic and intra-African trade. At the subregional level, a Federation of Central African Chambers of Commerce and the PTA Association of Chambers of Commerce have also been established. The Federation of African Chambers of Commerce was established one year ahead of schedule in September 1984.

(c) International trade

93. Work carried out in this area included inter alia, Assistance with systematic exploitation and implementation of trade and economic co-operation potentials with other developing countries through the completion of studies, organizing of meetings and conducting of businessmen's tours. For example, trade studies were used in the joint meeting of governmental experts from Africa and Latin America on economic and technical co-operation; a meeting of the Group of 77 on Surveillance of the Information of Prices and Raw Materials as called for under the Caracas Programme of Action; five consecutive tours of African Businessmen from 16 African countries with the concurrence of the governments and respective chambers of commerce and ministry to developing regions of Latin America, Western Asia and the Far East and Pacific. These tours provided an opportunity in establishing direct contacts for trade expansion. Similarly, in collaboration with the OAU provided necessary logistic support to African participation on the negotiations on a generalized system of trade preferences among developing countries (GATT).

94. Assistance in the promotion and expansion of trade with centrally planned economies was through conducted studies and seminars bringing together participants from selected countries in capitals of selected countries in both Eastern Europe and Africa. Assistance was also provided in relation to measures aimed at greater access for African exports in the markets of developed countries were through studies, servicing meetings enabling the African region to harmonize its position and with other developing regions, logistic support during negotiations. For instance, the Libreville Memorandum in respect of preparations for UNCTAD VI; preparation for the Lome III Convention; work related with the Common Fund of the Integrated Programme of Commodities.

(d) Finance

95. At the subregional levels, each subregion reviewed their financial co-operation arrangements among member States with a view to integrating them into one subregional multilateral clearing and payments arrangement and in subregions where such arrangements do not exist, member States are urged to establish them. In this respect assistance was provided to the West African Clearing House. A PTA Clearing House was established and the Central African Clearing House is being expanded to include all member States of the Economic Community of Central African States. A Trade and Development Bank of the PTA is now at an advanced stage of establishment.

96. At the regional level, a feasibility study on the establishment of an African Monetary Fund was undertaken and submitted to a meeting of experts who have made specific recommendations to a meeting of Ministers of Finance and Governors of Central Banks on the establishment of an African Monetary Fund. At the international level, efforts were intensified to press for the Lagos Plan of Action calls on resuming international negotiations on a fundamental reform with a view to establishing an adequate international framework to sustain development efforts of developing countries and to industrialized countries and international financial institutions to give increased assistance and aid to such countries.

8. Measures to build up and strengthen economic and technical co-operation including the creation of new institutions and strengthening existing ones

97. Since the adoption of the Lagos Plan of Action various steps have been taken to build up and strengthen economic and technical co-operation including the creation of new institutions and the strengthening of existing ones. Under the aegis of ECA, regular annual conferences of the Chief Executives of the nearly 30 multinational institutions are held for the purpose of discussing common problems and proposing solutions. It is within this framework that the institutions have established among themselves a Buffer Fund to be used for providing temporary financial assistance to institutions in financial distress. The annual conferences are also concerned with the promotion and harmonization of activities so as to avoid duplication of efforts. For this latter purpose, the institutions have been grouped under the following categories: financial and banking, earth resources, industrial development and sciences, socio-economic development planning and management, trade and transport. These groups also hold regular meetings on the harmonization and co-ordination of their work programmes and activities.

98. In order to keep African governments apprised of progress being made, the report and recommendations of the annual conferences of Chief Executives of ECA sponsored institutions and biennial reports on the work programmes and activities of these institutions are submitted to the ECA Conference of Ministers.

99. In 1983, the ninth meeting of the ECA Conference of Ministers in pursuance of paragraph 264 (i) of the LPA, established by its resolution 477 (XVIII) an Ad Hoc Committee of 10 member States of ECA to undertake an assessment of the objectives and operations of the various existing multinational institutions established under the aegis of ECA and OAU and to make proposals as to their effectiveness, rationalization and harmonization. The Ad Hoc Committee, which was serviced by a joint secretariat composed of ECA, OAU and UNDP, submitted its final report to the eleventh meeting of the ECA Conference of Ministers held in April 1985. The final report identified as the two main causes of the difficulties which were faced by the ECA and OAU sponsored institutions, the lack of adequate membership of the institutions and the unreliable financial support of their member States. The role of host governments in keeping ailing institutions going was also appreciated.

100. For the purpose of strengthening the institutions, the Ad Hoc Committee also made a number of recommendations which were directed at these two main problems. With respect to the rationalization and merger of the institutions, the Ad Hoc Committee were able to identify institutions in respect of which rationalization or merger could be considered, and proposed a number of options. All these recommendations including proposals for their implementation, are contained in a resolution adopted by the eleventh meeting of the ECA Conference of Ministers on the Report of the Ad Hoc Committee.

101. With respect to specialized or sectoral institutions, great care has been taken not to establish any except where existing multilateral institutions are not suitable or national institutions inappropriate. It was within this framework that for instance, the Federation of African Chambers of Commerce was established and active steps being taken to form the African Monetary Fund. The advantages which RIPS enjoys by being located within the campus of Legon University in Ghana and RECTAS within the campus of University of the Ile Ife in Nigeria are most useful to the development of these multinational institutions, and the ability of national institutions to promote multinational co-operation, has been realized.

102. Apart from specialized or sectoral institutions, major breakthroughs have been achieved in the strengthening of existing subregional economic groupings and the setting up of new ones towards the establishment of a continent-wide economic community. Efforts have been made to strengthen and streamline existing economic grouping such as ECOWAS, UDEAC, CEAO, CEPGL. The activities of the PTA, SADCC and the Lusaka MULPOC are also being streamlined and harmonized. ECA was instrumental in the establishment of the PTA and for the first year of its life, acted as its secretariat. ECA and OAU jointly promoted the establishment of ECCAS and also acted as its interim secretariat. ECA and OAU continue to render technical assistance to these newly created subregional economic groupings. With respect to North Africa, the ECA Tangiers-based MULPOC continues to provide the only forum for common action for the countries of North Africa.

103. Efforts have been made to strengthen the MULPOCs which are crucial not only to the promotion of co-operation within their subregions but also in the harmonization of activities between the subregions of Africa with in view to promoting the establishment of the African Common Market by the year 2000.

104. With respect to technical co-operation proper amongst African countries, it is well known that some African countries have already developed or acquired certain levels of technical know-how and managerial skill which can be the nucleus of an African TCDC. Indeed, some of these countries are already providing technical assistance to other African countries. Progress has been made in respect of TCDC between the Africa region and the other developing regions. It is only necessary to mention here for instance, that TCDC arrangements exist between African countries and other developing countries. At the inter-regional level, a meeting of Executive Secretaries of the United Nations regional economic commissions and attended by the Chairman of the Group of 77, took place in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia in March 1985 to select various project proposals for interregional TCDC and ECDC within the context of the implementation of the Buenos Aires Plan of Action.

9. Environment and Development

(a) Environment

105. In the implementation of their chapter Lagos Plan of Action, the ECA member States have carried out the following activities to promote environmentally-sound socio-economic development to protect the African environment:

(a) Through the seven subregional Environmental Groupings (SREGs) within Africa created by the UNEP Regional Office for Africa, the country focal points have identified national and subregional priority areas of environmental concern at an SREGs Regional Meeting on the African Environment, held at Lusaka, Zambia, 10 to 13 April 1984. 49 African countries participated at the meeting as Directors or Heads of national environmental institutions and they produced a "Programme of Action on the African Environment" (see document UNEP/WG.115/2 of 10 April 1984);

(b) The above document is one of the subjects to be discussed at an African Ministerial Meeting on the Environment to be held in 1985 in response to UNEP Governing Council decision GC.12/7 of May 1984 requested by the Africa group.

(c) For the incorporation of environmental components into development policies, strategies and programmes, the ECA member States of the Commission established the Joint Intergovernmental Regional Committee on Human Settlements and the Environment (IGRC/Hus/ENV) by ECA resolution 408 (XVI) of April 1980. The Joint Committee is a subsidiary body of the Commission which meets every 18 months at ministerial level to review policy and future programmes and the progress report on environmental matters within the Africa region;

(d) As a result of technical assistance to ECA member States rendered by a joint ECA/UNEP project on evaluation and assessment of and advice on national environmental machineries, 48 ECA member States have established national environmental institutions for co-ordination of environmental programmes within their countries as follows:

- Ministry of the Environment or part of a Ministry 11)
- Environmental Department within a Ministry 31) 48
- Separate Council/Commission/Academy for the Environment 6)

(e) Various ECA member States such as Senegal, Sudan as well as subregional institutions such as CILSS and SADCC have organized Regional Conferences on combating drought and desertification; for example the Conference of Ministers for a concerted effort to combat drought and desertification in the CILSS, ECOWAS, MAGHREB countries, the Sudan and Egypt, held in Dakar, Senegal, 18 to 27 July 1984.

(f) ECA member States have adopted a Regional Plan of Action to Combat the Impacts of Drought in Africa by resolution 499 (XIX) of May 1984 as a result of discussion of the Report of the Scientific Roundtable on the Climatic Situation and Drought in Africa (E/ECA/CM.10/23).

(g) ECA member States have adopted two conventions and protocols for the protection of the marine and coastal areas of (i) West and Central African States; and (ii) East African States through the UNEP Regional Seas Programme;

(h) ECA member States have adopted a "Programme of Action for Environmental Education and Training for Africa" through ECA Conference of Ministers resolution 496 (XIX) of May 1984 after discussion of the draft plan prepared by African government experts and those from the scientific community, at the Joint Committee (IGRC/Hus/ENV) in January 1984.

(i) In respect to General Assembly resolution 39/205 of 17 December 1984 for assistance to drought-stricken countries in the Horn of Africa to combat the catastrophic effects of the prolonged and persistent drought threatening human survival and socio-economic development, the Governments of Djibouti, Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia, the Sudan and Uganda have established an Inter-governmental Authority for Drought and Desertification (IGADD) at a Ministerial Meeting held at Djibouti on 4-6 February 1985.

(b) Habitat

106. As regards policies and programmes on housing promotion, member countries called on the secretariat, in accordance with the decisions of the Lagos Plan of Action, to assist national efforts in promoting housing construction and the use of subregional, regional and international institutions.

107. To encourage housing construction, following preliminary studies based on information supplied by the Governments of member countries through their missions and by a questionnaire sent to all member States, a seminar on the implications of self-help, housing co-operatives and other systems of community participation for human settlement programmes was held in Addis Ababa in December 1983.

108. The African Development Bank was given assistance in the establishment of "Shelter-Afrique", a regional institute for housing finance.

109. The programme for the development of local building materials included a study of cement production in West Africa, the subregionalization of a building research centre, and promotion of the use of local materials such as plaster and other materials to replace cement. In so far as the training of skilled personnel is concerned, after preliminary studies in some countries a meeting of a group of experts on regional human settlements training institutions and mechanisms was held in Addis Ababa from 1 to 4 November 1983.

10. The Least Developed African Countries

110. The least developed countries, for which the International Development Strategy and the Lagos Plan of Action call for special efforts to be made to enable them to break from their past patterns of stagnation and poverty were most adversely affected by the recession in the world economy. Overall development performance in the African least developed countries has been dismal. In terms of overall growth, the average annual rate of real GDP growth declined from 2.5 per cent in 1975-1980 to 2.3 per cent in 1980-1981 and 0.7 per cent in 1984.

111. After modest growth rates of 5.7 per cent in 1980-1981, the agricultural sector (which contributes well over 50 per cent of GDP, on the average, in all African LDCs) recorded a marginal annual growth of 1 per cent in real terms in 1981-1983 and declined by -4.2 per cent in 1984. The manufacturing sector, which accounts for an average of 7.6 per cent of GDP, declined by 1.7 per cent annually between 1981 and 1984 as compared to a growth rate of 2.8 per cent during 1970-1980. The mining sector, which is quite important in a number of African LDCs, has been stagnant at 1.6 per cent of GDP between 1980 and 1982, due to unfavourable world market conditions which rendered mining operations unprofitable in most of the countries.

112. With respect to the external sector, the African LDCs had experienced persistent and chronic balance-of-payments problems. The current account deficit which was \$US4.3 billion in 1980 and \$US4.5 billion in 1981 improved slightly in 1982 and estimated at \$US4.2 billion.

113. The debt problem has been a major destabilizing factor in all the African LDCs. On the whole, the annual flow of external public debt increased by 3.5 per cent as compared to the outstanding debt which rose from \$US11.5 million in 1981 to about \$US16 billion in 1984. Annual debt service payments was equivalent to 25 per cent of the annual export earnings. On the contrary, net disbursements of total external resource flows declined by 1.2 per cent from \$US4.7 billion in 1981 to \$US4.6 billion in 1983 which handicapped the implementation of public investment programmes. The net disbursements of official

development assistance (ODA) increased by only 0.36 per cent annually during 1981-1983, while ODA commitments declined by about 2 per cent.

114. It is against the background of a difficult socio-economic environment that the African LDCs have strived to implement the SNPA. In the context of paragraph 111 of the SNPA, 12 UNDP Roundtable Meetings have been organized and three World Bank Consultative Group Meetings have been held. The meetings have been organized by these countries with the aim of mobilizing the requisite external finance and technical assistance for the implementation of their respective development plans and public investment programmes drawn up on the basis of the strategies and priorities established by the SNPA.

115. There is no doubt that the aid-co-ordination mechanisms are positive instruments in mobilizing external resources but it is still too early to assess the failure or success of the outcome of these meetings.

116. In the first half of the 1980s, there has been a decline in external assistance to the African LDCs. Total resource flows in 1980 was around \$US5.23 billion, \$US4.77 billion in 1981, \$US4.96 billion in 1982 and \$US4.79 billion in 1983. The future prospects of aid flows to the African LDCs is not bright. As a group, the DAC countries' ODA flows declined from 0.08 per cent of their GNP in 1982 to 0.07 per cent in 1983. This is very far from the SNPA target of 0.15 per cent of donor GNP as ODA to be transferred to the LDCs by 1985. Given the fact that the DAC countries, on the average, provide 80 per cent of ODA to the African LDCs, such a trend is bound to have a devastating impact on public investment programmes in these countries.

11. Energy

117. There is unanimous recognition of the fact that energy today has become one of the most critical elements in African development strategies. Since the adoption of the Lagos Plan of Action in 1980 and Nairobi Programme of Action in 1981 for the development of new and renewable sources of energy, the progress achieved in their implementation has been rather slow although achievements can be said to have been made in the area of energy policy which has been prompted by the critical situation in this sector due to rises in the prices and production costs during the 1970's and 1980's.

118. Among other things the following constraints should be mentioned:

- lack of adequate integrated energy planning at the national, subregional and regional levels;
- insufficient analysis of energy supply and demand;
- lack of financing for the implementation of energy projects at various levels;
- lack of qualified manpower which severely affects the development of energy resources;
- lack of co-operation among African States in the exploration, exploitation and development of energy resources;
- electrification of rural areas is still a problem.

12: Women in development

119. Chapter XII of the Lagos Plan of Action entitled Women in Development is a recognition of the fact that the full development of women and their active involvement in development are prerequisites for the implementation of the Lagos Plan of Action and its successors. The chapter recognizes the need to devote special attention to women as a major component of the human resources potential when considering the status of development and measures to be taken in all the sectors covered by the Plan. The steps to be taken to solve the problems of women should therefore be considered within the context of overall development rather than as a marginal activity. The Lagos Plan of Action, recognizing that measures taken during the first half of the United Nations Decade for Women (1975-1980) had proved insufficient to address the problem of integrating women in development, proposed a new strategy within the following sectors:

- (a) Agriculture and nutrition;
- (b) Human resources development;
- (c) Promotion of employment of women;
- (d) Strengthening of national and subregional machineries;
- (e) Strengthening the data base on women;
- (f) Population and family life issues; and
- (g) Communications and media.

As indicated by the report of the Third Regional Preparatory Conference to the World Conference to Assess the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women held in Arusha in October 1984, the analysis of the participation of women in developments shows that:

- (a) Agriculture and nutrition

120. The contribution of women to agricultural activities as well as food production, processing and conservation is recognized today; however, such recognition has not always been accompanied by policies and measures designed to improve the work of women and increase their output. Women do not have enough educational opportunities, do not benefit from agricultural extension services and continue to use archaic tools.

121. ATRCW's contribution in this area has mainly focused on training activities through the organization of seminars and workshops on co-operatives, project management and implementation and food processing. ATRCW has also assisted women affected by drought through a project to study and provide training on how to obtain maximum nutritional value from donated food and the relief project entitled "Food for Labour". As indicated by its title, the project involves training the population in nutrition, health, agriculture and launching self-aid schemes to ensure that the assistance received by the drought affected areas is used judiciously.

(b) Development of human resources

122. As far as the development of human resources is concerned, considerable progress has been made since the adoption of the Lagos Plan of Action in the field of education. In elementary education, girls have almost caught up with boys. Progress has been made in vocational training and adult education, as well as in higher and secondary education; however, efforts have to be redoubled because achievements are still not very satisfactory since the number of educated girls is still lower than that of boys and illiteracy is still widespread among women. ATRCW has always felt that improving the skills and competence of women is a prerequisite to their participation in development. That is why it granted fellowships and organized several national, subregional and regional workshops on management, planning and project preparation implementation and evaluation which helped to improve the technical skills of and traditional technologies used by women. Special attention was given to women at decision-making levels to ensure the introduction of concern for women in development plans. Girls who had just left school were among the women who had received particular attention in these training schemes to enable them to get employment. The efforts of ATRCW have been channeled through existing institutions. This is done at ESAMI, Arusha, Tanzania, where management and development planning courses have been organized on a regular basis since 1981. An entrepreneurship training programme is in the process of being institutionalized in the following institutions: the College of Adult and Distance Education of the University of Nairobi, Kenya, and the Centre Ivorien de Gestion des Entreprises, Ivory Coast.

(c) Promotion of employment of women

123. The discrimination between men and women in salaried employment is not recognized by law since the various labour codes make provision for equality of salaries and working conditions for both sexes. Programmes designed to provide women in the rural areas with prospects of carrying out income-generating activities have been set up. However, the employment of women is hampered by the fact that they do not have any knowledge of management and problems related to reconciling their responsibilities as housewives and working women as well as rigid social and cultural norms. In the light of this lack of skill among women, ATRCW organized training activities to upgrade the skills of women and provide them with marketable skills.

124. In accordance with the Plan of Action, ATRCW also conducted general studies which highlighted the role of rural and urban women in solving their food crisis and carried out the activities planned under the Industrial Development Decade in Africa. Among other studies conducted by ATRCW, particular mention could be made of a pre-feasibility study on the prevention of food losses in Togo and Sierra Leone. That study was carried out jointly with the joint ECA/FAO Agriculture Division.

(d) Strengthening of national and subregional machineries

125. The Lagos Plan of Action recommended the promotion in planning ministries or commissions of the establishment of women's units that would be an input to and a source of comparison of national development plans with data on women as well as the integration of an action plan in national strategies. MULPOC programmes for IWD were to be strengthened by increasing the human, material and financial resources and priority was to be accorded to research. These various recommendations are yet to be implemented satisfactorily. Furthermore, certain countries have not yet established national machineries for IWD. Among those that have, the necessary resources still have to be provided. This is why the establishment and strengthening of national and subregional machineries have taken the main thrust of ATRCW activities. In this regard, ATRCW provided advisory services to member States and organized briefing seminars. It also organized study tours in order to ensure that the national structures for the integration of women in development became better

able to meet the needs of each country. All these missions and seminars enabled ATRCW to define the priority needs of women, to identify the problems encountered and to prepare future-oriented strategies. These activities tied in with those of the regional and subregional structures, namely, the sub-regional committees and the African Regional Co-ordinating Committee for the Integration of Women in Development which aimed at promoting the establishment of national agencies to co-ordinate activities for women.

126. An initial assessment was conducted of the influence of national machineries on women's programmes during a seminar held from 22 to 26 November 1982 in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. Participants in that seminar which brought together high-level officials from 40 member States formulated recommendations for the effectiveness of national machineries, the mobilization of funds to meet the needs of rural and urban women and on the relationships that should exist between national machineries and governmental, national and international organizations. Furthermore, ATRCW published a directory on national machineries and in 1983 made a film entitled "Widening the Circle". Both the directory and the film were meant to give some idea of the effectiveness of national machineries.

(e) Strengthening the data base on women

127. Generally, little effort has been made to collect data on women. However, at the regional level, ATRCW has conducted studies on the agricultural, industrial and technological sectors. Annotated bibliographies have been published in the following countries: Ethiopia, Mali, Nigeria, the United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe. ATRCW has also conducted studies on legislation and the status of women in Burundi, the Central African Republic, Ethiopia, Ghana, Morocco, Rwanda, the United Republic of Tanzania, Uganda and Zaire.

(f) Population factors and family life issues

128. Because of the importance of demographic factors in socio-economic development, women's activities have laid emphasis on the improvement of sanitary conditions and family life. At ECA, seminars have been organized on nutrition, health and the improvement of the quality of life in rural areas.

Studies were also carried out within the period on the access of rural women to water and suburban zones of countries members of the Gisenyi MULPOC; food preservation and storage in countries members of the Yaoundé MULPOC; and women, drinking water and sanitation in the member countries of the Lusaka MULPOC.

(g) Communications and media

129. Information has helped to raise public awareness of the role of women in development. However, efforts can still be made to carry out the recommendations of the Lagos Plan of Action with particular reference to the training of women in journalism and the increase of the possibilities of access to the media.

130. Considering the obstacles encountered in implementing the Lagos Plan of Action over the last five years, it may be concluded that the improvement of the status of women in Africa can be achieved only within the framework of overall development in the region. The serious economic and social crisis experienced by Africa during the same period has been exacerbated by famine and drought and these have compromised the role of women as agents and beneficiaries of economic development in Africa.

131. Secondly, in many countries in many countries the role of women as agents in development has not been recognized. An analysis of various development plans and projects reveals that this human capital has not been fully used even though certain facts indicate awareness of this potential. According to official statistics, women account for 32 per cent of Africa's total manpower. It is estimated that Africa has 268,127,000 women. It is also obvious that the work of women in agriculture is under estimated even though they do a bigger share of the work in sub-Saharan Africa for example. Trade, particularly petty trade, is another activity where the role of women is under estimated. This applies also to the services sector where women are under estimated because they are hired as maid servants, sales girls, manual labourers etc.

13. Development Planning, Statistics and Population

(a) Planning

132. Analysis of a number of economic and social development plans has revealed the existence of certain shortcomings, the most important of which are:

- (a) Most countries put the emphasis on a set of more or less fully worked out projects which do not always take into account the allocation of scant resources. In some countries there are tenuous links between the financing system and the planning process. Hence, central planning bodies have difficulties in implementing the plans they draw up, and this diminishes the effectiveness of the implementation and follow-up system;
- (b) Plans tend to perpetuate the external orientation of Africa's economies. Funding for plans still depends heavily on outside sources;
- (c) Financing of development plans is hampered by a low level of domestic savings which is already inadequate. In that connection, African States are requested to establish appropriate structures for mobilizing financial resources in light of the fact that external financial resources are becoming increasingly scarce;
- (d) The use by African countries of natural resources has changed very little. Information on potential is lacking, the means to catalogue and develop natural resources are lacking, countries are dependent on transnational corporations and there are no regional or subregional arrangements for co-operation;
- (e) Although human resources development has been given special attention much has still to be done to establish a scientific and technical infrastructure. African countries still have few arrangements for exchanging technical and managerial personnel;
- (f) There has been scant progress in subregional and regional economic integration. Collective decisions on economic co-operation are not always acted upon and most countries do not have a central economic co-ordinating mechanism.

(b) Statistics

133. All member States have made efforts to establish or strengthen their statistical infrastructures with varying degrees of success. However, very few countries have formulated statistical development plans. All countries with the exception of four have taken part in the 1980 round of population census, thus affirming their priorities in this area. With respect to National Accounts, efforts have been made at the national level to establish capabilities for compiling national accounts estimates but these have for the majority of countries in sub-Saharan Africa not substantially reduced their reliance on foreign experts. The position regarding the African Household Survey Capability Programme is slightly better. Eleven countries have affirmed their priorities in this programme by initiating integrated demographic, social and economic surveys. On the average about two-thirds of the total cost of such projects have been borne by the countries themselves. Six more countries have projects formulated and approved by their governments but due to the non availability of the external aid portion of the cost, the projects are not operational. It is urged that the required assistance be made available.

134. Many countries in the region have established producer/user committees in statistics to discuss data requirements, collection, analysis and dissemination, thus ensuring proper linkage between data collection and data applications. It should also be noted that efforts are being made to establish comprehensive data bases in a number of countries but these data bases are not yet fully operational.

(c) Population

135. Many countries have established national mechanisms for evolving population policies and programmes in response to the provision of population problems in each country, as stated in the LPA.

136. They have conducted censuses and surveys to improve knowledge about their population and have embarked on the analysis of available demographic data in order to integrate the findings into the process of development planning.

137. These efforts have gone hand in hand with programmes to improve national capabilities through the training of population experts at the UN regional institutes for population studies and through the provision of short-term on-the-job training in the context of advisory services to member States and through workshops and national seminars.

138. The economic crisis has reduced member States' efforts to tackle problems of rural-urban migration, high fertility, mortality and morbidity and to resolve current problems of unequal distribution.

139. Actions have been initiated by member States in the area of maternal and child health, fertility, mortality and morbidity with limited effects due to scarce resources and long-term nature of changes anticipated in these areas.

III. PRACTICAL SECTORAL MEASURES FOR THE ACCELERATED ATTAINMENT OF THE OBJECTIVES OF THE LPA AND FAL

1. Food and Agriculture

140. To accelerate food and agriculture production and achieve an annual growth rate of 4 per cent, first and foremost, African governments which have not already done so should make major changes in policies, strategies, and planning approaches. It will also require major institutional reforms including agrarian reforms. In this connection governments are urged to accord highest priority to agriculture especially the small holder sector, with a view to increasing production, incomes and employment.

141. In particular, governments which are not already doing so, may wish to re-orientate their planning methods to involve different social groups including small holder producers participating closely with policy makers, planners and administrators in the planning processes. The improvement in planning approaches should also involve strengthening the monitoring and evaluation systems. All these call for strengthening and up-grading manpower in agricultural planning and management and participation of social partners.

142. It is recognized that many countries which have been affected by emergencies would have to undertake agricultural rehabilitation and lay foundations for recovery before they can embark on medium and long-term development measures for sustained growth.

143. Some of the more important rehabilitation measures required include the provisions of strategic inputs such as improved seeds, fertilizers, chemicals, farm implements, draught animals, and veterinary facilities. This will also include rehabilitation of the existing infrastructure (storage, feeder roads, etc.) and where possible irrigation works.

144. Medium and long-term measures for accelerated attainment of Lagos Plan of Action objectives include:

- (a) Development and introduction of appropriate incentive systems, including more remunerative producer prices, more efficient marketing systems, adequate and timely supply of strategic inputs, the availability of consumer goods in the rural areas and greater involvement of farmers especially small-holders in decision making are critical sine qua non for increasing food and agriculture production. Another essential aspect of incentive packages for accelerating food and agriculture production is the motivation of agricultural staff through the improvement of working and living conditions.
- (b) Strengthening and expanding agricultural research with particular emphasis on adaptive research. In order to cope with the drought problem there is a need to intensify the introduction and development of drought-resistant and quick-maturing crops, livestock and pastures.
- (c) It appears that there is a serious weakness in the delivery and incentive systems as concerns the adoption of research results. Beside strengthening these systems there is a need to integrate research, extension, training and farmer activities in a forward - backward linkage manner.
- (d) Lack of trained manpower is singled out as one of the most critical constraints to accelerated food and agricultural development. Governments should therefore step-up manpower development at all levels including training of farmers and rural artisans.
- (e) To improve preparedness at national and subregional levels for purposes of tiding over emergencies and ensuring that all peoples at all times shall have access to stable and adequate food supply, African governments should now take immediate steps to establish food security arrangements as called for in the Lagos Plan of Action. This should be supported by measures to reduce pre- and post-harvest losses.

- (f) The role of physical, social and administrative infrastructures in food and agriculture development is often underestimated by African governments. The sustained development of food and agriculture in Africa requires improvement and maintenance of these infrastructures as a pre-requisite. Governments should also review and rationalize institutions concerned with agricultural development in order to ensure their cost-effectiveness.
- (g) In recognition of the unique position of the nomadic and transhuman population in the African economies and the need to develop and realize the vast potential of the livestock wealth, in particular, in the arid zones, African Governments should take appropriate measures to resettle where possible the pastoral population through appropriate land tenure systems.
- (h) Given the current energy crisis and the rising demand for forest resources facing many African countries and the need to reverse environmental degradation and to conserve national resources through environmentally sound management practices, concrete steps should be taken at the national, subregional and regional levels to expand forest resources, in particular through afforestation measures. This should involve rational exploitation of forest resources and harmonization of forestry development policies in Africa. In this connection, the ECA secretariat should undertake in collaboration with FAO and other relevant subregional, regional and international organizations actions which would complement the efforts of governments in harmonizing national, subregional and regional policies bearing on production, pricing and marketing of forest products.
- (i) The commitment of member States to achieve the objective of self-sufficiency in food and agriculture has not been matched by allocation of adequate resources for the development of this sector. It is clear more than ever before, that the development of this sector can not materialize without deliberate decision to step up investment in the sector. As a general guideline, the share of agriculture in total public expenditure should be about 20 and 25 per cent. The international community is also urged to increase both the quality and quantity of their assistance in support of African development efforts as called for in the Lagos Plan of Action.

2. Industry

145. The programme of the Industrial Development Decade for Africa, which aims at promoting self-sustaining industrialization and self-reliant development, was formulated as a means of implementing the industrial chapter of the Lagos Plan of Action.

146. Unfortunately, the economic crisis started almost at the same time when the member States began to execute the preparatory phase for the implementation of the IDDA (1980-1984). The industrial sector has accordingly been beset by a multitude of problems, which in the long-term might contribute to its collapse. Hence, the urgent need for our countries to undertake various measures to face such problems including the following:

(a) Rehabilitation and recovery programme for priority industries in the current crisis situation - short-term measures

- (i) With respect to industrial rehabilitation and recovery, special efforts should be made to develop industries with backward and forward linkages to the agricultural sector and which are profitable;
- (ii) Governments should encourage the participation of nationals in the equity capital and management contracts of existing businesses in order to increase their share and thus reduce capital leakages through the repatriation of profits and other invisibles. Governments should recognize, offer incentives to and encourage local entrepreneurs, farmers, manufacturers, chambers of commerce and industry and should have continuous dialogue with them in order to formulate industrial rehabilitation and recovery policies for overcoming the industrial crisis.

(b) Medium- and long-term proposals in the context of the IDDA

In reallocating new resources, priority and special incentives should be given to those industries engaged in the: (i) exploration for and processing of local raw substitutes; (ii) production of intermediate inputs for local use

(national, subregional or regional); (iii) use of local substitutes; (iv) export-oriented industries earning considerable foreign exchange; (v) promotion of intra-African trade in raw materials.

147. It is recommended to give full support and invest heavily at national, subregional and regional levels in those basic industries, namely:

(a) Resources-based national core industries. These include processed food, leather products, wood-based industries, textiles, clothing and related products, pulp and paper products, fertilizers and iron and steel.

(b) Engineering core industries which encompass general purposes machine tools, foundries, forging units, heat treatment, metal coating and machine shops to enable local production of spare parts and maintenance.

(c) Resource-based and other priority projects requiring inter-country co-operation already identified in the IDDA particularly agricultural equipment and machinery, irrigation, energy generation and transmission equipment.

148. The following measures will also increase collective self-reliance:

(a) Standardization and variety reduction to facilitate co-operation in mass production of spare parts and maintenance at national and subregional levels.

(b) Strengthen national and intergovernmental machineries to carry out effective negotiations and consultations and investment. Promotion of joint ventures and formulation of a code of conduct to govern responsibilities and obligations in industrial joint ventures among African countries.

3. Natural Resources

(a) Mineral Resources

149. In the light of the low implementation rate, considering the deepening economic recession prevailing in the mining industry and aware of the need to reverse the downward trend, urgent consideration should be given towards adoption of a more efficient strategy which should aim at achieving the unfulfilled objectives of the Lagos Plan of Action responding to the current problems and those highlighted by its present crisis.

150. In adopting a more practical approach priority consideration should be given to the following aspects:

- (i) The assessment and inventories of mineral commodities offering the best prospect of return, growth and indispensable in the industrialization process of the region;
- (ii) The promotion and technical support for mining projects which respond to the basic needs of African development and contribute to increased foreign exchange earnings;
- (iii) The improvement of manpower training programmes at the national, subregional and regional levels of all grades and skills which are indispensable to achieve higher outputs and will lead to greater efficiency better performances and cost control in the mining industry;
- (iv) The identification and evaluation of projects offering quick returns and within the reach of national capabilities and financial resources;
- (v) The strengthening of national, subregional and regional institutions responsible for mineral resources development and assign them specific tasks relative to the problems affecting the mineral sector.
- (vi) The restructuration of the African mining industries and adapt its policies as to restore confidence in its sector and create conditions conducive for new project and new investments.

- (vii) The development of greater control in mineral and metal marketing;
- (viii) The need to develop the small and medium scale mineral developments sector in an effort to broaden the spectrum of activities of its industry in line with the capabilities and resources of small operators and village co-operative;
- (ix) The production and use of indigenous minerals such as phosphate and other fertilizer raw materials for domestic consumption by small holders;
- (x) The examination of possibilities of further processing of minerals to increase their value added and other socio-economic benefits.

(b) Water Resources

151. In order to realize accelerated attainment of the LPA and the MPAP in the water sector, and thereby bring about economic and social benefits to the large majority of the population in Africa, the following actions are recommended on and emergency and medium-term basis;

a. Emergency measures

- (i) The first emergency measure is to restrict the use of water to essential domestic and industrial use to avoid wastage. Large consumers such as agricultural projects and industrial plants should be encouraged to have standby sources separate from treated domestic supplies so that they can switch to the untreated source in times of stress;
- (ii) Moves should be made towards development of underground water through the use of improved boreholes and well designs, followed by drilling programmes for purposes of domestic supplies and for small scale irrigation schemes;
- (iii) Construction of small earth dams should be carried out to provide water for livestock development and for small scale irrigation;
- (iv) Small scale water conservation schemes such as construction of sub-surface dams, roof catchments, lined tanks dug out of the ground should be undertaken.

b. Medium-term activities

- (i) Governments should improve their planning procedures for the water sector with regard to integrating sectoral master planning for the water sector (drinking water supply and irrigation) with national development plans;
- (ii) Finance is recognized as one of the major constraints of development in the water sector; it is therefore recommended that governments accord a much higher priority than heretofore to identification, preparation and implementation of water supply and irrigation projects by improving and increasing both internal and external resources.
- (iii) Attention should be paid (a) to increasing the effectiveness of operation and maintenance facilities of water supply schemes. This will prolong the service life of the systems and will provide a sustained and dependable source to the users and (b) to new hand pump technologies and to local manufacture of spare parts for hand pumps;
- (iv) In order to maximize the benefits that accrue from integrated development of water resources in a basin, governments should take steps towards regional co-operation over their shared water resources.

c. Cartography and remote sensing

152. Co-ordination of cartography and remote sensing activities at the national level must be harmonized into a central body or institution that would provide the country with all the different needs in the sector.

153. Member States should accord priority to the role of cartography and remote sensing in the exploration, exploitation and development of natural resources by increasing the financial allocation to the sector, expand training facilities, where they exist, and establish them, where they do not exist, in order to build up adequate management and technical capacity in the country.

154. While support by becoming members and contributing financially to the regional and subregional institutions is called for, member States are called upon to fully utilize the services and facilities (surveying and mapping services for development projects and maintainance and repair of geodetic and related equipment and training of technical staff that are provided by existing and planned subregional and regional cartography and remote sensing centres.

155. There should be co-operation at subregional and regional levels in the development of manpower of all levels, the sharing of experiences, exchange of information in the form of maps, data and charts and organizing meetings to draw up specifications for adjustments of geodetic networks in Africa.

156. For the rapid development of remote sensing application by each member State, a national remote sensing unit which would co-operate with subregional and regional centres, should be established. The publication of the hydro-geological map of Africa should be expedited.

(d) Resources of the Sea

157. In order to enable African countries accelerate the development of their capabilities for the exploration, exploitation and development of resources of the Sea, the following is proposed.

(1) At the National level

(a) Development of national capabilities for exploration, national exploration and development of resources of the sea;

(b) Development of policies aimed at the conservation and protection of sea resources in the Exclusive Economic Zone;

(c) Build up management capacities and strengthen the management of the institutions responsible for promoting marine resource development. In particular it would be necessary also where the resources are of good size, to speed up the development of industrial fishing fleets and improvement of shore facilities; without neglecting artisanal fishery;

(d) Expand training facilities and opportunities to boost manpower development, emphasis being placed advisedly on both technical and management training.

(2) At the subregional level

- (a) Exchange information, students, and expertise; joint exploration of resources and joint conservation and pollution prevention and control measures;
- (b) Negotiate fishing rights with neighbouring states and collaborate in R and D of marine resources;
- (c) Strengthen subregional maritime organizations to facilitate these arrangements;
- (d) Expand co-operation in the area of training to include use of each other's facilities and institutions in the subregion;
- (e) Harmonization of fisheries policies and agreements so as to strengthen their position and have a common stand by neighbouring African countries towards third parties;
- (f) Trade in marine products as well as conservation and pollution control.

(3) At the regional level

- (a) Expand co-operative arrangements to include resource exploration with common vessels e.g. fisheries, minerals, through cost sharing;
- (b) Profit more by the usual information exchange and common training at centres of excellence within the region;
- (c) Promote increased regional trade in marine products;
- (d) African countries should harmonize their fisheries policies and agreements so as to strengthen and have a common stand towards third parties.

4. Human resources

159. African Governments, as a matter of priority, should:

- (a) Accord priority to integrating human resources planning, development and utilization within the framework of overall national development policies and plans;
- (b) Establish sectoral human resources planning and programming units;
- (c) Review existing human resources management institutions, strategies, and programmes with a view to:
 - (i) Creating human resources of the types, levels and quantity required in administrative, managerial, entrepreneurial and technical fields to fill existing skill gaps and to provide those skills required for Africa's long-term structural transformation as called for in the Lagos Plan of Action, and thereby reduce Africa's heavy dependence on foreign manpower for the development of its huge natural resources base;
 - (ii) Strengthening the management of human resources development;
 - (iii) Making employment generation a central objective of development policy and plans; and
 - (iv) Ensuring that human resources can effectively manage the national economies;
- (d) Encourage various institutions and agencies to undertake innovative action-oriented research to identify and stimulate initiatives for the conceptualization and development of appropriate measurement and projection tools concepts, methodologies and models for human resources planning, development and utilization.

(1) Action at the national level

(i) Human resources policy objectives

159. African Governments should ensure that objectives in the area of human resources should seek to:

(a) Meet the present and future demands of the economy for trained and skilled personnel and to provide a skills base which is fundamental to national development;

(b) Enhance productivity and efficiency in all sectors of the economy, including the informal sector;

(c) Constantly upgrade skills in order that the work force can respond with flexibility and adaptability to changes in technological and economic development;

(d) Ensure that local skills and experiences are developed in order to replace expatriate workers;

(e) Adopt and apply appropriate working conditions, conditions of service and effective incentives systems in order to tap the full potentials of human resources and maximize their productivity; and

(f) Reorient educational systems so that they could respond more effectively to the changing needs of the economy and the labour market.

(ii) Strengthening human resources planning

160. Governments should strengthen human resources planning and programming efforts by:

(a) Integrating human resources planning into overall socio-economic development planning;

(b) Strengthening their data and information base for manpower planning;

(c) Reviewing the human resources concepts applied in planning manpower, employment and productivity;

(d) Strengthening human resources planning skills.

(iii) Better management and utilization of human resources

161. For the effective utilization of the existing human resources, it is important for African Governments to:

- (a) Adopt realistic recruitment policies which would ensure the effective allocation and matching of skills with job demands;
- (b) Ensure that all potential employees have easy access to existing labour market information systems;
- (c) Devise and apply appropriate conditions of service, including incentive schemes to attract and retain professional and skilled manpower;
- (d) Devise measures that are conducive to and attractive for the return of nationals living and working abroad and, thereby, improving the stock of available manpower;
- (e) Avoid frequent and inappropriate movement of personnel in the public service, especially at senior levels, in order to ensure continuity of policy formulation and implementation.

(iv) Creation and/or strengthening of institutional machineries for human resources planning, development and utilization

162. African Governments should, as a matter of urgency, set up appropriate machineries to facilitate the formulation, co-ordination, implementation and evaluation of human resources policies and practices. Such machineries should include the following:

- (a) A central agency responsible for the overall planning, policy-formation and co-ordination of human resources planning, development and utilization. Such an agency should be centrally placed in order to be effective;
- (b) Sub-organs at various levels and in key sectoral areas dealing with specialized functions of human resources development and utilization which are effectively co-ordinated by the central agency to avoid duplication and wastage;
- (c) Central labour market information systems;

(d) A centralized manpower data bank to facilitate access to manpower information;

(e) Foster recruitment and staff-management policies and practices that reward qualifications and efficiency so as to motivate workers toward higher productivity levels.

(2) Regional and subregional co-operation

163. Action to improve the management of human resources should also be taken at the subregional and regional levels. The following are some areas in which co-operation is strongly recommended:

(i) The strengthening of specialized institutions in priority areas such as science and technology; industrial development; natural resources development; development and financial management; climatology; water resources development; irrigation science; engineering etc.; to act as lead institutions capable of catering for manpower development needs at the regional and subregional levels;

(ii) The sharing of qualified personnel through technical assistance arrangements or by facilitating mobility between employment markets across frontiers;

(iii) The initiation of joint research and study programmes to refine the region's tools for manpower, employment and productivity planning, and for improving development management;

(iv) The further strengthening of co-operation, exchange of experiences and adoption of common strategies, approaches and policies in the field of human resources management within the framework of the Conference of Ministers Responsible for Human Resources Planning, Development and Utilization.

(v) According priority to the utilization of African technical capabilities and expertise.

5. Science and Technology

164. Practical measures for the accelerated attainment of the objectives of the Lagos Plan of Action and the Final Act of Lagos are:

(a) Member States should:

- (i) Accord high priority to strengthening National Science and Technology Co-ordinating mechanisms where they do not exist, or in creating new ones, in view of the intersectoral nature and application of science and technology;
- (ii) Continue to harmonize their national policies on matters of science and technology development and technology transfer at subregional and regional levels and establish a harmonized system of exchange and dissemination of research experience and results;
- (iii) Continue and intensify their support and strengthen the activities of the African Regional Centres, such as ARCT and ARSO responsible for the development of science and technology;
- (iv) Be encouraged to grant scholarships to African students in order to strengthen co-operation among African countries;
- (v) Intensify their participation in the negotiations pertaining to the United Nations Financing System for Science and Technology for Development and in the international code of conduct for technology transfer;
- (vi) Pay special attention to the problems of maintenance of equipment, production of spare parts and organize relevant training in this field;
- (vii) Strengthen their co-operation with NEIDA (Network of Educational Innovation and Development in Africa) and ANSTI (African Network of Science and Technology Institutions);
- (viii) Strive to increase the financial allocation for science and technology to reach a target of at least 1.0 per cent of the national GDP.

(b) Special effort should be made by the United Nations agencies, other international organizations as well as developed and developing countries when establishing their work programmes to provide scholarships to African students to reorient to African needs training of science and technology manpower, through co-ordinated programmes in schools, colleges and universities.

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6. Transport and Communications

165. It would be noted from the evaluation of the first phase programme that while reasonable and highly commendable effort is being made by African countries in implementing the Decade programme for the achievement of the LPA objectives in the transport and communications sectors, accurate and complete information has not been communicated to ECA by most African countries in spite of serious efforts made.

166. In adopting the second phase programme, the ECA Conference of Ministers gave special emphasis to the implementation of those transport and communications projects which foster the physical integration of the region and particularly, the rehabilitation and maintenance of existing infrastructure and facilities. It was recommended that:

(a) Member States request the United Nations Secretary General to provide ECA with adequate financial resources to organize the Fifth Conference of Ministers of Transport, Communications and Planning in 1986;

(b) African States appeal to the UNDP to continue to provide financial support for the operations of the Decade Co-ordination Unit, which is responsible for monitoring the implementation of the programme;

(c) African States appeal to donor countries and international financial institutions to participate in the technical consultative meetings, increase their support for the Decade projects and provide ECA with bilateral/multilateral experts;

(d) African States: (i) intensify their efforts in financing their Decade projects, (ii) make every effort to provide ECA with all information on projects, (iii) give emphasis to maintenance and rehabilitation, and intensify their co-operation in regional/subregional projects and (iv) seek to allocate the maximum resources to the development of transport and communications, in their national plans;

(e) African States harmonize and co-ordinate their air transport policy.

7. Trade and Finance

(a) Domestic Trade

167. A thorough inventory of domestic trade potentials should be carried out in each country particularly in food and food products; corrective measures should be introduced in the pricing mechanisms of agricultural commodities so as to facilitate the formulation of pricing policies which deliberately provide incentives to local producers and domestic distribution channels; review of commercial banking and credit facilities should be undertaken and appropriate measures taken to ensure that credit lines are made available to local private and public enterprises specializing in domestic trade; and domestic resource-based production units should be promoted and should be accompanied by extensive education campaigns designed to reverse the present consumptions patterns in favour of domestically produced goods.

(b) Intra-African Trade

168. Measures directed at increasing intra-African trade should include the following: Undertaking of supply and demand studies at the subregional levels in order to identify the potential of intra-subregional and intra-regional trade; the development of regional standards for products of interest of intra-African trade should be intensified; negotiations on medium and long-term supply and purchase contracts should be commenced; consultations on the harmonization of trade liberalization arrangements among subregional economic groupings should be started to lay ground for the establishment of an African Common Market; measures should be taken at the subregional level to establish joint production ventures and marketing channels among member States for the purpose of promoting intra-African trade; member States should as much as possible direct all their intra-subregional trade transactions through the existing clearing houses by imposing regulations requiring that payments can only be done through clearing houses; subregional import and export credit facilities to be backed by the African Development Bank and/or existing subregional and national development banks should be established.

169. In addition, member States are requested to undertake effective measures towards:

- (i) Reduction and removal of tariffs and non-tariff barriers restricting intra-African trade;
- (ii) Revising and where necessary, implementing trade and payment agreements applicable to intra-African exchanges of goods and services with a view to minimizing the use of convertible currencies particularly through African clearing houses, for the purpose of promoting intra-African trade and economic co-operation.

170. The ECA Secretariat, assisted by other relevant institutions as appropriate, is requested to compile a comprehensive study on the factors affecting intra-African trade, including in particular:

- (i) tariffs and non-tariff barriers affecting intra-African trade;
- (ii) African trade and payment agreements;
- (iii) Exchange rates and exchange control policies affecting intra-African trade and economic co-operation.

171. The ECA Secretariat is also requested to submit its recommendations with respect to measures that could be taken to promote intra-African trade, bearing in mind the results of the above comprehensive study, which should also include a section on African exportable goods and services which could substitute non-African imports of goods and services such as shipping, consultancy and contracting services.

(c) International Trade

172. The following action at international level is needed at the international level in order to accelerate the implementation of the Lagos Plan of Action:

- (a) Africa should strengthen its participation in the South-South dialogue and call upon the Group of 77 to institute measures, through regular meetings and consultations with a view to following up on the decisions taken in various international trade fora;
- (b) African countries should continue to press for gaining

increased share in decision-making at international level taking account of the need for continuity of the composition of African representation.

(d) Finance

173. Measures to promote financial co-operation at the subregional level should include the following:

- (i) increased utilization of existing clearing house facilities;
- (ii) studies on linking subregional clearing and payments arrangements into an African payments union should be started;
- (iii) co-ordinated measures should be taken to establish financial markets at the national, subregional and regional levels
- (iv) efforts to facilitate the establishment of an African Monetary Fund should be increased and sustained; and
- (v) increased co-operation between African commercial banks to promote intra-African trade.

collective self-reliance to help them restructure their economies and combat poverty and underdevelopment. In the meanwhile the exchange of information at the bilateral, subregional and regional levels must be intensified particularly with respect to technical assistance and training facilities and fellowships that African countries can make available to the African countries.

8. Measures to build up and strengthen economic and technical co-operation including the creation of new institutions and strengthening existing ones

174. It is proposed that:

(a) African countries should give their full political and financial support to the multinational institutions which have been established at their own request. They must rededicate themselves to these institutions. The Executive Secretary of ECA and the Secretary-General of OAU should explore ways of achieving these ends. In particular, they should take all necessary action proposed in the recommendations of the eleventh meeting of the ECA Conference of Ministers of the Report of the Ad-Hoc Committee.

(b) Regular annual Conferences of Chief Executives of ECA and OAU sponsored institutions should be held to discuss common problems and to promote the co-ordination and harmonization of activities and the avoidance of duplication of efforts.

(c) The activities of the MULPOCs towards the harmonization of the activities between the subregions with a view towards the promotion of the establishment of the African Economic Community by the year 2000 should be intensified.

(d) A time table for technical and political preparations for the establishment of the African Economic Community by the year 2000, should be established.

(e) The ECA and OAU and host governments of institutions should establish co-ordinating units so as to promote the effective co-ordination of the activities of the institutions.

(f) African countries should facilitate the implementation of the Fund for Technical Co-operation among African countries set up by the 12th Summit of the OAU Assembly of Heads of States and Government.

(g) ECA and OAU should take all necessary steps to institutionalize TCDC among African countries within a multinational framework as a feature of

9. Environment and Development

(a) Environment

175. Measures for the accelerated development of the provisions of the Lagos Plan of Action, involve the following:

(a) An increased effort and search for financial support to strengthen their national capabilities to solve their environmental problems in the African region;

(b) So far national co-ordinating machineries exist in almost all African countries, but institutional building on legislative with supporting administrative measures are still required by member States;

(c) African member States that have not already done so, should also develop African national standards for the protection of the environment on the basis of regional standards developed by ARSO and the ECA;

(d) On the more pressing issues of combating drought and desertification member States should put emphasis on the promotion of TCDC for affected countries to pull their resources together to deal with these transboundary scourges;

(e) African countries should also promote exchange of information, expertise and technology on desertification control; and those that have not already done so, should develop national plans of actions and the necessary co-ordinating mechanisms within the country to combat desertification;

(f) African countries should promote the formation of subregional and regional networks for monitoring and early warning systems, afforestation, sand dune stabilization and other corrective measures for desertification control within the African region;

(g) African countries are urged to study and implement the recommendations for a concerted effort for a joint policy to combat desertification and drought in the Sudano-Sahelian region as adopted in General Assembly resolution 39/208 of 17 December 1984 taking into account the results of the Ministerial Conference convened at Dakar at the initiative of the President of Senegal.

(b) Habitat

176. During the various meetings held at the request of the Governments of member States to decide on strategies for combating the drought and desertification now prevalent over large areas of the continent, it was recommended that:

- (a) priority should be given to policies on the organization of the physical environment;
- (b) the institutions and techniques used in such policy need to be multi-disciplinary and include specialists on the problems of urban development and the organization of the architectural environment;
- (c) that special attention should be devoted to developing the means to pursue such policies;
- (d) national resources for the joint use of building research laboratories and centres should be pooled in order to foster the use of local raw materials to make building materials and the development of techniques for using such materials;
- (e) at the same time, a policy of support for local (or national) building firms needs to be promoted;
- (f) individual and collective efforts by member States to set up the institutions for a housing finance policy should be intensified;
- (g) exchanges of information on systems for dealing with public participation in housing policies and programmes should be organized systematically;
- (h) African countries should participate fully in the activities planned for 1987 proclaimed by the United Nations as the International Year of Shelter for the Homeless to take full advantage of the Year's activities.
- (i) Building codes for rural and low-cost housing should be developed by ARSO and ECA for the use of and application by member States.

10. African Least Developed Countries

177. The period 1981-1984 represented a poor start of the International Development Strategy and the Lagos Plan of Action (LPA) in Africa. It would appear therefore, that a new policy orientation would be required in order to achieve the objectives of the Substantial New Programme of Action within the framework of the strategy and the LPA during the second half of the 1980s. In the context of self-reliance for self-sustained development, the African LDCs should recognize that the primary responsibility of developing their economies rests with themselves and that their total political commitment to the Substantial New Programme of Action for the 1980s for the LDCs is an indispensable policy instrument for the attainment of the objectives and strategies of the programme in the African Region;

178. The African LDCs should establish policies and appropriate institutions capable of enabling agriculture to flourish as a foundation for broad national development with increased emphasis on measures aimed at achieving food self-sufficiency by the turn of the 1980s. These countries would have to endeavour to rehabilitate, and efficiently manage and maintain existing infrastructures especially those directly related to effective operation of major productive sectors. Increased recourse must be placed on the development and effective utilization of domestic raw materials in order to establish a sound industrial base and to promote, especially sectoral, inter-linkages supportive of agro-based activities.

179. In order to enhance greater economic co-operation and integration in the Region, the African LDCs are urged to pay particular attention to the development of subregional schemes as a means of exploiting wider markets and other attendant economies of scale so as to minimize the extent of tying up scarce national investment capital in idle capacities; countries should also intensify efforts to effectively mobilize and efficiently utilize domestic resources for development;

180. In view of the structural weaknesses and other peculiar economic circumstances of the African LDCs, it is incumbent upon the international donor community to show the required political will and to make available the necessary investment resources and other support measures in the context the SNPA as adopted so as to ensure the programmes' fullest and expeditious implementation during the second half of the 1980s.

181. In particular, urges developed donor countries, especially those who have not yet done so, to take the necessary measures aimed at attaining the SNPA target of 0.15 per cent of donor GNP as ODA or to double their ODA to the LDCs and to make available such assistance as are adaptable to the special needs of the LDCs on an untied basis. There is also the need to introduce more flexibility in aid practices and modalities so as to speed up the disbursements of committed funds.

182. Developed countries should respond positively to the requests of African LDCs for the alleviation of their debt burden and if possible the outright cancellation of official development assistance (ODA) loans.

183. Recognizing the heavy dependence of the African Least Developed Countries on the export of a narrow range of primary commodities for their foreign exchange resources, the International Monetary Fund (IMF) is invited to give special consideration to the African least developed countries in the utilization of the IMF Compensatory Financing Facility (CFF) for short falls on the export earnings of these countries.

II. Energy

184. In order to accelerate the attainment of the objectives of the LPA and FAL in the energy field, the following measures are proposed:

(1) At the national level

- (a) Promotion of development of indigenous conventional energy resources such as small reserves of oil and gas and semi-commercial deposits of coal;
- (b) Attention should be paid to the development of new and renewable sources of energy such as solar energy, wind energy, energy from biomass and hydropower whose technologies are currently available;
- (c) Among the renewable sources of energy the development of ocean energy in tropical and subtropical African countries should be encouraged as a way of supplementing the traditional sources of energy, and, research in the development of ocean energy should be intensified;
- (d) Energy planning should be integrated into the overall socio-economic development planning at the national level;
- (e) Training facilities for the systematic development of all levels of manpower resources for energy production and utilization should be strengthened or established;
- (f) The programme of rural electrification should be given more priority and intensified through the development of such energy sources as Mini- or Micro-hydropower schemes, photovoltaics, wind, lignite and peat;
- (g) Rapid afforestation programmes through the use of fast growing free species should be intensified in order to ensure renewable supply of wood fuel which constitutes about 80 per cent of energy sources for the rural population; development and utilization of efficient wood burning stoves should be promoted in the rural and urban areas.

(2) At the subregional level

(a) Greater co-operation between member States in the subregion should be promoted through harmonized policies, joint exploration, exploitation and development programmes, R and D and training programmes as well as forming committees or commissions to discuss problems of common interest and institutions to conduct R and D work, training and provide advisory services;

(b) Subregional institutions such as ECOWAS, ECCAS, PTA and SADCC should assist in fostering co-operation among the member States in the field of energy.

(3) At the regional level

(a) Compilation of inventory of both conventional and new and renewable energy sources should be intensified and information and data at the regional level widely publicized. The publication of the Atlas, by the ECA, for energy resources in Africa should be expedited; inventories of available technologies for development of new and renewable sources in Africa should be compiled;

(b) The establishment of the African Energy Commission to be responsible for co-ordination of activities in the field of energy should be expedited;

(c) Regional workshops should be organized for in-depth treatment of each of the various energy planning issues: Energy management, energy-survey methodologies and institution building.

12. Women and development

185. The recommendations of the Lagos Plan of Action on women's issues are still valid. In fact, they have become more relevant against the serious economic and social crisis in the continent which, as stated above, have been made worse by drought, desertification and famine. These views are found in the Arusha forward-looking strategies for the Advancement of Women adopted on 12 October 1984 which advocate a more integrated approach to the issue of women and development.

186. Development planning and policy making, determine future action by allocating scarce resources for the achievement of national objectives. These objectives are to improve the conditions of living of the entire population. Women must thus be taken seriously into account in development planning both as contributors to and beneficiaries of development efforts. The most pressing need of the region is now considered to be that of food. In the formulation of integrated solutions to this problem the pivotal role of women in this sector must be recognized and acted upon.

187. Since there is a close link between agriculture and industry, which needs a thriving agricultural sector for its raw materials and for its market, the weak technical position of women in agricultural production is a contributory factor to the present unsatisfactory situation in industrial development. Priority should be accorded to vocational training to women in rural areas. Among the major obstacles to industrial take-off are lack of skilled manpower. National industrial policy in the region has provided few employment opportunities for women. The very limited employment possibilities for women in the formal sector, the tendency to choose capital rather than labour-intensive industries, discrimination against women by employers, place obstacles in the opportunities open to women. If women are to participate equitably in industry, and in all areas of development it is essential that action at institutional level should be taken to diversify their training so as to fit them for a full role in development.

188. It is also essential that special measures be taken to reduce the imbalance between boys and girls in education and minimize drop-out rates.

189. Women should be involved in the planning and delivery of public health care services. Family health education programmes should involve both men and women. Adequate measures should be taken to reduce the rate of infant and maternal mortality.

13. Development planning, statistics and population

(a) Development planning

190. The swift and efficient execution of the Lagos Plan of Action's provisions on planning requires substantial changes in the approach to, content and organization of economic policy. Depending on the country, these changes may imply the recasting, reorganization or strengthening of planning institutions and the creation of new national capacity for identifying, studying and taking action conducive to genuinely internalized and self-sustained development.

191. It is therefore important for plan design and execution to aim increasingly at the solution of specific socio-economic problems in particular sectors and/or institutions. All agents of production and distribution, as well as those concerned with research and development, must be involved in the decision-making process from the very beginning of work on plan design and execution.

192. If all decisive groups are involved in the planning process, realistic growth targets consonant with the Lagos Plan of Action can be set and attained on the basis of specific problems to be dealt with in the various socio-economic sectors. In the African context, the changes sought in the distribution of goods and services should give greater preference to goods and services for low-income populations in order to raise their living standards and productivity and create a broadly-based growth structure.

193. The formulation and application of specific subregional and regional programmes in the priority areas of the Lagos Plan of Action are vital to the survival of the continent. Member States should accordingly strengthen and make rational use of the many institutions for regional co-operation. African States should strive to strengthen machineries set up to assess and monitor their national development plans to make allowance for possible adjustments as a result of the economic situation.

(b) Statistics

194. Member States should make more serious efforts to formulate statistical development programmes and ensure that these are incorporated in national development plans, ECA would be providing assistance in formulating such plans if so requested

by governments. With respect to the African Household Survey Capability Programme (AHSCP) efforts will be made in the coming years to ensure that the six countries which have developed survey programmes but which are not yet operational modify these programmes so that they can be implemented without undue reliance on external aid.

195. Some countries have requested assistance in formalizing their survey programmes and will consequently become part of the AHSCP this year. Other countries will be given assistance in the next two years to draw up their survey programmes and then to implement them.

196. A workshop on statistical data base development for English-speaking countries is planned for this year to be followed by another for French-speaking countries. After these workshops have been convened, ECA will assist African countries which have already requested assistance to establish their statistical data bases.

(c) Population

197. The population of independent Africa estimated at about 500 million by mid-1984 had been growing annually at a rate of 3.0 per cent. Such a rapid growth rate, among other things, yields a young age structure, a high dependency ratio and low savings with concomitant low investment potential. It places difficulties on development efforts by way of providing such social services as education, health and housing. It also increases the demand for food, unemployment, and bears a potential for political and social upheavals.

198. If appropriate measures are not taken to influence existing growth rates, the total population will reach 889 million by the year 2000 and 2.17 billion by 2025 at an increasing annual rate of 3.6 per cent. This will accentuate the deleterious effects already noted. For the first time in history, at the Second African Population Conference held in Arusha (Tanzania) in 1984, Governments

asserted that population growth rates should be compatible with desired economic growth and social development goals. They identified actions to be taken which constitute the Kilimanjaro Programme of Action on Population (KPA) and covered key areas of possible intervention namely population and development strategy/policy; fertility and family planning; mortality and morbidity; urbanization and population distribution; changing role of women in the development process; children and youth, population data collection/analysis/training and research; population information; and, community involvement and role of private and non-governmental organizations.

199. Population should be seen as a central component in formulating and implementing policies and programmes for accelerated socio-economic development. National programmes to reduce current high levels of infant, childhood and maternal mortality and morbidity as well as fertility in women particularly in the rural areas should be implemented. A comprehensive rural development policy aimed at reducing the current high rate of rural-urban migration should be integrated into the overall development planning process. Equally, since the bulk of the population (over 75 per cent) of member States particularly in the rural areas is very unevenly distributed, the concerned Governments are urged to adopt pertinent population redistribution policies aimed at ensuring better utilization of available space.

200. Although most of the recommendations in the Kilimanjaro Programme of Action are addressed to African Governments, the regional and subregional organizations should assist member States, as may be required, to adapt them to their own socio-economic conditions.

201. In view of the importance of population issues in the development process, the international community is requested to increase its financial assistance to African countries in this field.

PART II. SPECIAL PROGRAMME OF ACTION FOR IMPROVEMENT OF THE FOOD
SITUATION AND REHABILITATION OF AGRICULTURE IN AFRICA

202. The poor performance of the food and agriculture sector, which as is well known, is the predominant sector, is at the root of the unprecedented economic and social crisis that Africa is presently facing. As indicated earlier 21 countries with a population of over 200 million are presently facing food emergencies with 30 million people being seriously affected and 10 million people forced to move in search for food, water and pasture for their cattle.

203. Indeed, the current drought-induced crisis has only aggravated an already deteriorating situation in the agricultural sector. Annual average growth rates of the sector decreased sharply from 2.7 per cent during the 1960s to 1.6 per cent in the 1970s. The deterioration is even more serious in food production which increased by only 1.5 per cent per annum during the 1970s. Between 1980 and 1984 agriculture performance further deteriorated. It was as low as 0.1 per cent for the period as a whole with negative growth rates in 1983 and 1984. According to ECA/FAO projections, Africa's self-sufficiency ratio in cereals will drop to about 71 per cent by the year 2008 as against 86 per cent in 1980.

204. Drought has plagued many countries for three years or longer periods. Even though the current drought seems to be an a - periodic phenomenon, as it has abated to some degree in parts of western and southern Africa in 1984, while eastern Africa was badly hit, it generally persists through much of Africa. It is therefore necessary to devise measures that would ensure that² the countries most affected by drought can cope not only with the planning and execution of relief operations but also with future emergencies through the strengthening of their capacity to respond and their state of preparedness. Drought and other natural calamities are not uniquely African problems. Many countries in both developed and developing countries are also affected by it. What makes the African case so glaring is their low capacity to respond efficiently both individually and collectively.

205. Beyond the immediate problems of survival of millions of Africans it is necessary to attack the root causes of Africa's declining food and agriculture sector, and this must begin now and be sustained in the short, medium and long-terms. Since Africa has adequate potential to feed its population, it is most urgent to launch a special Programme of Action that will address all aspects of the current food and agriculture crisis namely emergency, short, medium and long-term.

A. Immediate measures to combat food emergencies

206. The critical food situation now facing most Africa makes it mandatory to take immediate measures to deal with the problem. These measures should include better preparedness as well as improved planning and management of food relief operations. While these measures should be evolved and taken primarily at national, subregional and regional levels, the magnitude of the relief requirements call for international assistance to complement Africa's own efforts.

1. National measures

207. Experience during the past two years has shown that two aspects are particularly important in the current drought emergency situation. First, it is important for African countries to develop a system that would enable them to forecast the occurrence of food emergencies and their localization. Secondly, the affected countries should be in a position to plan and manage efficiently the delivery of food to the affected areas.

a. Establishment or Strengthening of National Early Warning Units

208. Early Warning Units should be established, and existing ones strengthened to make it possible for our countries to collect, process and disseminate information on such aspects as meteorological and topographical data and pastures conditions, price trends, displacement of population and livestock, evolution of the marketing system, nutritional status of the population, levels of food reserves and the magnitude of unrecorded trade in food. The collection of such information is intended to facilitate the monitoring of food availability and crop conditions in individual countries and to help alert planners to problems that may arise.

(i) The monitoring of crop conditions

209. Essentially the monitoring of crop conditions involves extensive analysis of agro-meteorological data such as rainfall data with a view to assessing the degree of satisfaction of the water requirements for the crops. It also should involve collection and processing of planting and harvesting data by zone as well as data on seeds and fertilizer use so as to forecast yield and production.

(ii) The analysis of price trends

210. The availability of food for households is mainly determined by retail food prices, while food supply, especially from small farmers which constitute the majority, is largely influenced by producer prices. It is therefore necessary for the Early Warning Unit to collect and process the information related to the retail and producer prices of the major food commodities. Such information would help to estimate short run changes in food demand and supply.

(iii) The monitoring of displaced persons

211. The current massive population movement in search of food and water is one of the main constraints in the planning and execution of food relief operations. It is therefore necessary for the Early Warning Unit to collect and constantly update data on displaced people from within and outside national boundaries. Such information is essential in forecasting food demand in various areas in individual countries.

(iv) The marketing system

212.. The structure and operation of the food market is as important as retail prices in determining the availability of food for consumers. Information required in this regard includes quantities and values of market flows, transaction prices as well as stocks held by the main agents (public and private) involved in food transactions.

(v) Nutritional status

213. Nutritional data on the most affected population especially the mal-nourished and undernourished infants and children in the total child population should be monitored by the National Early Warning Units. Such data will help in assessing the needs for supplementary feeding programmes to be launched and their localization.

(vi) Emergency food reserves

214. Establishment of food security reserves is also an important element for enhancing the preparedness of the countries for future emergency situations as such reserves could be used to meet the urgent food requirement of the affected populations, while the external aid (from other African countries or from other regions of the world) is being shipped. It is therefore essential for a National Warning Unit to collect and constantly update information of the levels of food and food reserves and indeed of other emergency reserves.

a. (vii) Unrecorded trade in food

215. In most African countries, "unofficial" or "illegal" markets often operate side by side with modern marketing organizations. Such situation occur frequently across borders. In many cases, this kind of trade can be an important source of food. However, in view of the fact that the "illegal" nature of these activities makes it difficult to obtain data on which quantitative estimates of food availability could be made, Early Warning Units whould monitor the operations of these markets in a qualitative way as well as the transaction prices.

b. Emergency measures

216. While the national/early warning units would help in strengthening the capacity of the countries to forecast future food emergencies, it is no less important for the affected countries to properly plan and execute relief operations. The following measures are particularly relevant:

- Establishment or strengthening of national mechanisms or structures that would ensure (i) the urgent announcement of food emergencies and the rapid assessment of the requirements of the affected people in terms of food, other emergency supplies such as medicines, vaccine, animal feed, etc.; (ii) the effective mobilization of emergency reserves of food and of other survival items including water, and a more efficient co-ordination of the assistance provided by donors; (iii) the continuous monitoring of logistics factors (transport equipment, spare parts, fuel, primary and secondary storage facilities) with a view to ensuring an accelerated distribution of the relief supply;
- Setting up of national emergency fund to be used for the purchase of emergency items as well as for carrying out relief operations.

2. Subregional approach to national survival

217. The current crisis had demonstrated that many African countries cannot, alone, cope with all aspects of emergency situations given their very limited resources and capacities. African countries must therefore realize that their national survival depends, not only on actions taken at the national level, but also on collective actions at the subregional and regional level.

218. At subregional level, emergency actions should aim at ensuring collective self-reliance in such areas as crop forecasting, food supplies to food-deficit countries including transportation, provision of essential agricultural inputs, and more generally, pooling of resources so as to bear the primary responsibility for relief operations. We therefore, recommend that the following measures, where they have not yet been initiated, should be taken at subregional level so as to minimize the magnitude of emergency situations in African countries:

(a) Co-operation among National Early Warning Units

219. National Early Warning Units should exchange information on:

- (i) weather conditions, rainfall data and prospects of food production in their respective countries;
- (ii) food availability in the countries of the subregion so as to identify countries that are likely to be food-deficit countries for a given marketing period and thus prepare for decision-making in regard to the possible supply of food grains from areas of surplus to areas of deficit.

(b) Multinational and/or subregional emergency reserves

220. Existing subregional or multinational groupings (i.e. CEAO, CILSS, ECOWAS, CEPGL, ECCAS, SADCC and PTA) should co-ordinate among themselves and initiate steps towards the establishment of subregional or multinational emergency reserves, in food grains, other survival items as well as essential inputs (seeds, fertilizers, pesticides and insecticides). Such an arrangement would strengthen the preparedness of individual countries in complementing their own national preparedness plans.

(c) Multinational logistics co-ordination mechanisms

221. The current emergency is made more dramatic by the land-lockedness of a large number of countries facing food emergencies in 1984/85. There is therefore a need for enhancing co-operation between land-locked countries and coastal countries in the form of co-ordinating mechanisms in the strengthening and use of port

facilities and inland transport corridors. Thus, the transportation of food aid and other emergency supplies to the affected population of the land-locked countries would be greatly facilitated and speeded up.

(d) Multinational and subregional emergency funds

222. Where they exist, multinational or subregional development banks (e.g. BOAD in West Africa, BDAC in central Africa, EADB in East Africa, BDGL in great Lakes countries and the newly established Development Bank of (PTA) should open emergency «windows» aimed at enhancing the capacity of the countries concerned to cope with future emergencies. Such «windows» would serve to finance such activities as the replenishment of emergency reserves, the digging of wells and boreholes and the carrying out of small irrigation schemes.

3. Measures at regional level

223. At regional level, an important step has already been initiated by the 20th Ordinary Session of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity in creating an emergency Fund for drought and famine in Africa. So far only few contributions have been announced. It would be a great set-back if African contributions to the Fund were not generous and massive. Should this be the case, the international community would have every right to doubt Africa's determination to cope with the crisis. All member States are therefore urged to contribute to the above Fund so that emergency measures could be implemented on a regional basis.

224. Along with the setting up and the putting into operation of the Fund, we request the ECA and OAU, in collaboration with relevant United Nations specialized agencies:

- (a) to periodically identify food surplus countries or subregions with a view to enabling, eventually through the Regional Emergency Fund, the supply of food aid by African countries or subregions that are in a position to do so;
- (b) to undertake periodic reviews of crop conditions in individual countries and subregions including weather data, data on price structures and trends as well as market conditions;

4. Measures at international level

225. As emphasized earlier, the international community has played a crucial role in the past two years in averting or reducing disaster situations in many African countries. Donor countries and institutions that have responded so generously, should continue to provide such support on an increased scale. In view of the determination of African countries to bear the primary responsibility in carrying out relief operations themselves in strengthening their preparedness for future emergencies and in laying the ground for a quick recovery and rehabilitation of the agricultural sector, donor countries and institutions should give full support to the emergency component of the special programme outlined in this report. Given the present limited resources of African countries, international support is essential for the successful implementation of the above measures. Therefore, the following areas are particularly relevant for increased international support:

- (a) Strengthening of co-ordination among donor countries and institutions, between donors on the one hand, and African aid-recipient and transit countries on the other hand, so as to ensure increased food aid and other emergency supplies, as well as their transportation, storage and distribution;
- (b) Technical and financial support to African countries individually or through subregional and regional emergency mechanisms in such areas as (i) the establishment or strengthening of early warning systems (provision of equipment, training of skilled personnel, etc.), (ii) the replenishment of emergency reserves of foodgrains, medical supplies and essential inputs, and (iii) the establishment or strengthening of mechanisms set up at national or subregional level for relief planning, management and co-ordination;
- (c) Financial support to national, subregional and regional Emergency Funds;
- (d) Adapting as much as possible food aid to the food habits of the population.

B. Rehabilitation of African agriculture

226. African economies have been devastated by the persistent drought as well as by an adverse economic environment. The most urgent task, after providing relief assistance to the affected population is, therefore, to launch intensive programmes of rehabilitation as bases for more fundamental long-term actions and structural reforms. In this regard there is no doubt that efforts to rehabilitate and reconstruct African economies will depend to a large extent on the recovery of the agriculture sector, which should therefore be the immediate and main focus. To rehabilitate the African agriculture, it is necessary to embark, not only on short-term measures, but also on some medium-term measures. This will ensure that the recovery of the sector will not be a temporary phenomenon that could be annihilated in the occurrence of external shocks. Therefore some fundamental medium-term actions must start now along with the short-term actions so as to strengthen the capacity of the agriculture sector to readjust to future shocks.

1. Short-term measures

227. Most of the short-term measures outlined below are to be implemented at national level. However, for the immediate measures outlined above provision of subregional and regional co-operation as well as international assistance will be essential for the support of the national rehabilitation programmes in agriculture.

(a) National measures

228. Four basic elements should be immediately addressed as first components of an efficient agricultural policy in Africa. These are (i) incentive measures to increase production and productivity in agriculture; (ii) rehabilitation and strengthening of agricultural infrastructure and institutions; (iii) rehabilitation of water resources infrastructures and better use of water resources and (iv) rehabilitation and resettlement of displaced persons.

(i) Incentive measures to immediately increase food and agricultural Production and productivity, with the following minimum packages:

- appropriate producer prices regularly kept under review for adjustments;
- adequate access to farm credit facilities;
- establishment of effective extension services and efficient delivery systems of agricultural input and services notably seeds fertilizers, repair and maintenance of implements to meet need of producers especially small farmers, youth and women;
- adequate marketing stem of agricultural output;
- adequate supply of essential consumer goods to the rural people and measures to ensure better integration between urban and rural areas.

(ii) Rehabilitation and strengthening of agricultural infrastructure and institutions including:

- small irrigation schemes;
- small bridges as well as access and service roads;
- livestock infrastructures;
- agricultural planning services;
- storage facilities.

(iii) Rehabilitation of water resources infrastructure and better use of water resources with the following main elements:

- rehabilitation of existing wells and boreholes and increasing their number;
- rehabilitation and strengthening of rural water pumping systems;
- mobilization of surface - waters through hill dams;
- establishment or rehabilitation of above-ground and underground water storage.

(iv) Rehabilitation and resettlement of displaced persons including:

- their installation on new arable land;
- the provision of farm inputs, seeds, animal health supplies etc. as well as materials for constructing small-scale irrigation and storage facilities.

(b) Subregional and regional co-operation for the recovery of the agriculture sector

229. Beyond the emergency measures needed at subregional and regional levels, there should be more effective subregional and regional approaches to the food situation. In this regard the following elements should be urgently implemented in the context of existing bilateral, subregional and regional agreements or organizations:

- (i) Harmonization of production, marketing and pricing policies of agricultural, livestock and fishery products in view of improving collective self-sufficiency in these productions;
- (ii) facilitate the movements of food and livestock across borders through appropriate relaxation of transit controls, and development all-weather feeder roads and inter-country roads;
- (iii) exchange of information and technical assistance at the subregional and regional levels

(c) International assistance

230. To ensure the success of the revitalization programme in the food and agriculture sector, there will be need for increased international support that goes beyond the emergency assistance. International assistance packages should include the following:

- (i) concessional finance to national rehabilitation programmes in agriculture, including the increase in net capital flows through inter alia, additional debt relief measures;
- (ii) provision of seeds, fertilizers and agriculture implements;
- (iii) provision of livestock feed, vaccines, equipment and related facilities;
- (iv) construction of wells and small irrigations system for family farms and improvement of water management.

2. Medium-term measures

231. As indicated earlier, medium-term measures are also required for the strengthening of the rehabilitation process of the food and agriculture sector. As is the case for short-term measures, medium-term measures should be taken primarily at national level, and also at subregional/regional and international levels. They should start now so as to be able to bear fruit in the process of longer-term development.

(a) National measures

232. There are two areas that need to be addressed namely (i) the qualitative and quantitative improvement of food and agricultural production, and (ii) the necessity to ensure security. They should form the second stage of an efficient agricultural policy in Africa.

(i) Improvement of food and agricultural production

233. Measures in this area should aim at ensuring a sustained growth in agricultural, forestry, animal and fishery production as well as giving high priority to soil conservation, to research and development and to drought and desertification control.

- Agricultural production policies must give priority to food crop production and irrigated farming so as to reduce the negative impacts of the recurrent drought and also increase the cultivated areas by making available additional land for farming, and by making greater use of trained manpower resources, as well as to appropriate choice of techniques, increased use of inputs, and the adoption of policies which provide inducements to investment in agriculture;
- Animal production policies must aim at developing small family livestock within the framework of mixed farming, improving the collection, conservation and marketing of dairy products, veterinary services, livestock breeds and livestock infrastructures access of pastoralists to range resources including water points.
- Fishery production policies should include a better assessment of stocks and more rational exploitation and protection of fishery resources, the development of coastal and maritime fishing by the multiplication of small artisans' trades, the development of aquaculture and fish farming, the improvement of processing and conservation systems;
- Soil conservation policies should aim at putting an end to the present husbandry practices of overcrowding, overproduction, overgrazing and soil erosion in order to increase the productivity of farm lands;
- Research and development in agriculture should be given high priority especially in the three areas of alternative food crops, agricultural implements and appropriate food storage and preservation technology;

- Drought and desertification control policies in a medium-term perspective, should aim at stepping up current reafforestation efforts through social or mass forestry and the encouragement of farmers to raise trees as crops, as a remunerative activity.

(ii) Food security

The second component of the medium-term measures required for the rehabilitation and reconstruction of the food and agriculture sector is food security. There are two sets of actions that need to be taken namely the planning of food requirements, including the formulation of food security stocks:

- The planning of food requirements includes the use of national early warning system for forecasting the supply of food resources, the drawing up of multi-year food requirement plans, and the formulation of food security programmes as part of national development plans;
- The establishment of food security stocks should be both at the level of individual farmers and at national levels, the latter to cover at least 10 per cent of minimum needs in staple products as recommended in the Lagos Plan of Action.

(b) Bilateral, subregional and regional co-operation

234. As indicated earlier, subregional and regional co-operation is essential in ensuring successful implementation of national efforts. Although such co-operation could be as comprehensive in scope as possible, there are some areas deserving particular attention given the limited impact of national actions therein. Therefore, existing bilateral, subregional and regional schemes should include in their co-operation programmes or where this is already the case place greater emphasis on the following areas:

- (i) co-ordination of veterinary services so as to control animal diseases across borders;

- (ii) co-operation in fishery production including the establishment of joint fishing corporations;
- (iii) exchange of information and pooling of resources in research and development in agriculture;
- (iv) co-ordination and reafforestation programmes to ensure a more efficient control of drought and desertification;
- (v) establishment of food security stocks at subregional level in support of national food security stocks.
- (vi) intra-African technical assistance

(c) International assistance

235. At international level, the main assistance required is the provision of adequate financial resources to assist African countries in (i) increasing investment in agriculture; (ii) training of skilled manpower; and (iii) building or strengthening agricultural institutions. In this regard, bilateral financial assistance as well as assistance from multilateral financial institutions especially from the World Bank and the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), should be substantially increased.

C. Structural reforms: Long-term measures

236. The root causes of Africa's poor performance in agriculture are well known. In addition to incentive policies and other rehabilitation measures outlined earlier, there are other areas identified in the Lagos Plan of Action that should be addressed in a long-term perspective as they constitute the basic factors of sustained growth in agriculture, irrespective of the climatic vagaries and other natural calamities. At national level, these are (i) agricultural research; (ii) manpower training and improvement of living conditions in rural areas; (iii) increased investment with a view to extending cultivable areas and improving rural infrastructure; (iv) strengthening institutional and management capacity; (v) agricultural support activities in other sectors; (vi) restoration of ecological balance and (vii) monitoring changes in food habits. At bilateral, multi-country, subregional and regional levels, efforts in the long-run, should aim at pooling resources in various areas.

1. Actions at national level

(a) Agricultural research

237. The stepping up and more effective use of agricultural research is a basic element in the policy package of long-term development in agriculture. Research should vigorously address itself, not only to the development of cropping patterns and farming systems that maximize output of agricultural produce but also to the promotion of appropriate technologies that suit the local conditions. Such technologies should be developed particularly for rain-fed small holdings and the transhumant agriculture that prevails in the fragile ecosystems typically found in Africa. The following elements should therefore form the basis for agricultural research:

- (i) development of basic scientific and applied research capabilities
- (ii) development of quick-maturing as well as drought, diseases and pest resistant crop varieties;
- (iii) development of new species/varieties of crops adopted to different agro-ecological zone;

- (iv) selection and development of animal species, resistant to climatic conditions;
- (v) adoption of an integrated farming system which is most adaptable to different agro-ecological zones;
- (vi) improvement of post-harvest technologies especially for storage facilities;
- (vii) strengthening of the links between research training institutions, extension services and farms community.

2. Manpower training and improvement of living conditions in rural areas

238. Policies with regard to labour are also important. The labour force in the agricultural sector is growing slowly in comparison with overall population growth. It is therefore necessary not only to improve the skills of extension service personnel and farmers through appropriate training but also to devise policies aiming at increasing labour force in all areas of food and agriculture including animal production, fishery and forestry. Assuming that, food production should at least keep pace with the population growth of 3 per cent per annum and with the growth in labour force of only 1.3 per cent at present, the implication is that labour productivity must increase by at least 1.7 per cent, a level that generally cannot be obtained with current technologies. It is therefore imperative to make life in rural areas more attractive, so as to retain sufficient labour including exrusion services workers. For the above considerations, the following measures are proposed:

- (i) drawing up and implementing of policies of better utilization of labour in all areas of the food and agricultural sector: institution of similar price incentives in all areas, extension services, provision of equipment etc.

- (ii) improvement of skills of agricultural staff including women and the youth: strengthening of existing agricultural training institutions, dissemination of research outputs to farmers through pilot farms or ad hoc training programmes;
- (iii) improvement of living conditions in rural areas: provision of essential services (education, health, water supply, housing) and adequate supply of basic consumer goods (clothing, household goods etc.)

(b) Investment in agriculture

239. In Africa, particularly sub-saharan Africa, agricultural land has the potential to support more than three times the population of the mid-1970s. However, land in production has increased only slowly, by less than 1 per cent per annum. The development of basic rural infrastructure such as roads, irrigation system and storage facilities is inadequate in many other respects. For example, the current bottlenecks encountered in transporting food to the population affected by drought are clear manifestation of transport inadequacy. Also, irrigated land account for only about two per cent at a time of rain scarcity because of drought. Similarly, the high percentage of post-harvest losses (40 per cent in some countries) calls for a dramatic increase in storage facilities. It is therefore necessary that investment resources in agriculture be increased and primarily directed to the above three areas. In this regard, the following measures are proposed:

- (i) harnessing the waters of rains, rivers and lakes for irrigation development through the construction of suitably designed dams especially in the semi-arid areas;
- (ii) reclaiming vast tracts of African land presently made unproductive due to tse-tse infestation and incidence of onchocerciasis;
- (iii) striking a proper balance between activities relating to forestry, crop and livestock;
- (iv) improvement of feeder roads and increase in their number;
- (v) improving storage facilities for agricultural production including for meat and fish and increasing their number;
- (vi) increasing irrigated land to achieve the target of 3 per cent by 2008.

(c) Strengthening institutional and management capacity

240. Measures in this area should aim at removing the factors that have led to the current deterioration of agricultural performance especially inadequate policies in such areas as input distribution, price setting, marketing, land reform etc. They should include:

- (i) restructuring and rationalization of the activities as well as the management of agricultural organizations, to render them more efficient;
- (ii) decentralization of agricultural support activities;
- (iii) decentralization of decision-making levels and of responsibilities, including pricing policies;
- (iv) proper co-ordination, monitoring and evaluation of projects and programmes; and
- (v) training and re-training in the management and administration of programmed activities including financial and budgetary practices;
- (vi) programmes for adequate agrarian reforms consistent with political and social conditions prevailing in the respective countries;
- (vii) reform of policies and institutions in rural areas.

(d) Agricultural support activities in other sectors

241. There is no doubt that the development of the agricultural sector should be the main focus in a long-term perspective. However, for the agricultural sector to record a sustained growth and development, some activities in other sectors such as industry and infrastructure should be removed. The organic links between agriculture and industry are clear and well known.

242. It is indeed a fact that industrial inputs are essential for agricultural development and that industry relies on the agricultural sector both for its markets and for raw materials.

243. On the basis of the above considerations, the following measures in the industrial sector, would greatly contribute to increasing food and agricultural production:

- (i) Provision of incentives such as concessional loans, tax exemptions, special preference for the allocation of foreign exchange; for domestic production of agricultural tools, implements and equipment and of equipment for food processing and packaging to reduce post-harvest food losses;
- (ii) Research aimed at reducing varieties of equipment, spare parts and implementes imported or produced domestically, so as to facilitate economies of scale, make full use of the equipment available and reduce imports;
- (iii) Intensification of R & D production and rationalization of activities in the development of small-scale irrigation equipment systems, and establishment of national irrigation associations where these do not exist;
- (iv) Intensification of efforts to implement already identified fertilizer and pesticide projects;
- (v) Reduction of wheat imports through local production of composite flours from local tubers and grains;

244. In the area of infrastructure, in addition to feeder roads that should be developed, measures should also aim at:

- (i) improving planning/management and monitoring of transport activities so as to facilitate the movement of agricultural products; and
- (ii) improving the utilization of shipping, road, rail and air fleets for the transport of agricultural products.

245. There are other agricultural support activities that need to be addressed in a long-term perspective of agricultural development. These are:

- (i) the development of new sources of energy to meet the growing energy needs and arrest the deforestation of the rural areas;
- (ii) the pursuit and improvement of adult literacy, rural health and other related rural services such as rural housing community, water supply and rural trading centres; and

- (iii) the rapid dissemination through appropriate channels, including mass media of vital agricultural information beneficial to small farmers in such areas as the prevention of food losses, pricing and other improved agricultural practices.

(e) Restoration of Ecological balance

246. The restoration of ecological balance is another area of focus in the context of long-term development of the agricultural sector. Measures should aim at putting an end to such practices as overcrowding, over production, overgrazing and soil erosion in order to increase the productivity of Africa's farm land. They should aim at arresting the growing aridity in Africa along with the desertification process. The following measures are therefore proposed:

- (i) efficient management of natural resources;
- (ii) introduction of suitable farming system;
- (iii) rehabilitation and conservation of natural resources including water, soil, forestry and wildlife; and
- (iv) application of scientific techniques for combating the impacts of drought and desertification

(f) Monitoring changes in food habits

247. In order to reduce the growth of imports of non-locally produced food and to promote the consumption of alternative local food, the following measures are proposed:

- (i) a comprehensive survey and analysis of consumers behaviour;
- (ii) promotion through the mass media of the general use of composite flour and other products resulting from agricultural research.

3. Measures at bilateral, multi-national, subregional or regional level

248. There are many areas in which African countries can co-operate among themselves in order to speed up the process of growth and development of the agricultural sector. Some of these areas relate directly to the agricultural sector while other activities are to be undertaken in other sectors.

(a) In the agricultural sector, the following measures are required:

- (i) establishment of multinational or subregional food security schemes;
- (ii) exchange of information on or pooling of resources in the fields of agricultural research and technology;
- (iii) Co-ordination of training activities including the pooling of training facilities;
- (iv) intensification of joint exploration of river basins for irrigation;
- (v) joint control of animal diseases and pests across borders;
- (vi) promotion of intra-African trade in food products.

(b) In the industrial sector, the following measures would, in the long-term contribute to the development of agriculture:

- (i) Co-operation in the production and in the supply of the required raw materials, subcontracting and joint training and supporting of ARCEDEM;
- (ii) Rationalization of existing facilities for the efficient utilization and urgent development of engineering core industries for the production of tools, equipment and machinery, namely: machine tools, foundry, forging, machine shops and tools rooms, heat treatment and metal coating facilities;
- (iii) Multi-country production of industrial raw materials, incentive basic need goods and equipment and inputs in food production, energy and transportation;
- (iv) Sub-regional and regional co-operation to try and rationalize varieties of products and as well as the production of spare parts, optimize the use of maintenance facilities and achieve economies of scale in local production;
- (v) Reduce costs through co-operation in industrial production and trade in industrial products and equipment;
- (vi) Promotion of intra-African trade in fertilizers.

D. DROUGHT AND DESERTIFICATION CONTROL

249. As stated in the report of the Ministerial Steering Committee, drought and desertification have become a serious issue in Africa's economic development. This section is intended to elaborate on this basic issues and to propose appropriate action. To start with, 34 African countries are currently affected and a study shows that the desert is encroaching on other lands at the rate of 8 to 10 kilometres per annum. It is depressing to note that severe and prolonged drought accentuate the desertification process as a result of which arable land is lost to desert wasteland and creeping sands. The awareness of the 1968-1973 Sahel Drought led to the United Nations Conference on Desertification and the adoption of a Plan of Action to Combat Desertification. During the Sahel Drought, fifteen African countries in the Sudano-Sahelian region were severely affected. However, a decade later, by 1983, the prolonged drought was severely affecting 36 African countries, that is 21 Sudano-Sahelian countries as well as several in the hitherto sub-humid areas in West Africa, Eastern and A southern Africa, where bush fires suddenly become common in the coastal areas during the dry season, destroying precious cocoa and coffee farms. The impact of the prolonged drought on agricultural development has been a short-fall in cereal production of three and half million tons between 1981 to 1983, with 21 countries still facing very serious food deficits so much so that they require emergency food aid.

250. The prolonged drought has also worsened the desertification process in the 36 affected African countries, that is: 5 in the northern Sahara, 21 in the Sudano-Sahelian zone and 10 in the Southern and Kalahari Desert area. The first seven year review (1978-1984) of the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification carried out by the United Nations system indicated that since monitoring of desert creep began in 1977, the desert sand was still encroaching on agricultural land at an average of 7 to 8 kilometres per year; that six million hectares of valuable agricultural land is lost to desertification every year, with a total of 21 million hectares now permanently lost; that the urban and rural production new affected by desertification has risen three fold, from 80 million in 1977 to about 230 million in 1984 due to a population

growth rate of 2.4 per cent in the arid lands and the spread of drought and desertification to the sub-humid tropical countries. Whilst the development of agricultural land under irrigation to supplement rain-fed agriculture in arid lands has only increased by 10 per cent, the trade deficit in 10 Sudano-Sahelian countries has multiplied five fold during the period.

251. Some of the short-term measures required to deal with this problem were discussed under agricultural rehabilitation. The following long-term measures for drought and desertification control are recommended to be taken at the national level, the sub-regional, regional and international levels:

A. At the national level:

(a) Strategies

- (i) Need for a commitment and a strong national policy to adopt appropriate legislative, statutory, financial, technical and social measures to face this scourge;
- (ii) Drawing up or strengthening, at the level of each state, of a national drought and desertification control plan or programme of action;
- (iii) Launching of campaigns for a systematic dissemination of information, sensitization and mobilization of people in order to promote popular participation in desertification control;
- (iv) National support seminars should be organized by government officials for planners, field workers and managers, and the general public on desertification control problem;
- (v) The establishment of Nature Protection Associations should be encouraged for the conservation, development and rational utilization of a country's natural resources such as forests, wildlife, fisheries, soils and water, especially in drought-prone areas;
- (vi) Establishment of national machinery for co-ordination and evaluation of activities within the country for desertification and drought control;

(v) Manpower and Institutional Development

Encourage the organization of training workshops and seminars for manpower development as well as the establishment of institutions for research and training, marketing and for information exchange to combat drought and desertification.

B. At the subregional, regional and international levels:

- (i) Promotion of exchange of information on technological innovations, local expertise and competence and of techniques for desertification and drought control;
- (ii) The establishment of an early warning system for drought and desertification control involving the collection, analysis and dissemination of information on socio-economic indicators, weather and climatic data, crop yields, market prices of local foodstuff, agricultural export statistics, human nutrition, demographic trends, local perception and traditional adaptation to drought and famine;
- (iii) Establishment of regional networks in Africa to co-ordinate the activities of stabilization of sand dunes, reafforestation, research and training in the field of desertification and drought control;
- (iv) Technical assistance and co-operation are required for the pursuit of efforts aimed at establishing a North African green belt and other green belts, including reafforestation programmes;
- (v) Implementation of OAU resolution CM/Res.450 (XXV) of November 1976, on the establishment of an International Hydrogeological Map for Africa to locate the underground water resources to control the effects of drought and desertification;
- (vi) Implementation of ECA Resolution Res. 499 (XIX) of May 1984 entitled Regional Plan of Action to control the impacts of drought in Africa and ECA Resolution 528 (XIX) of May 1984 of Meteorological services to control drought in Africa;

- (vii) Increased and active participation of the OAU, ECA and other United Nations organizations and agencies whose terms of reference cover the field of drought and desertification;
- (viii) Promotion of South-South co-operation in the planning and implementation of desertification and drought programme;
- (ix) Mobilization of international aid for the execution of programmes particularly with reference to the 39th United Nations General Assembly Resolutions 39/168, 39/205 and 39/208;
- (x) Need for the promotion of technical co-operation with the developed countries for provision of bilateral or multilateral assistance to combat drought and desertification, not only through emergency food aid but also for implementing long term measures;
- (xi) Support to the work of the OAU Standing Committee for the Control of Drought and Natural Disasters in Africa established by resolution CM/Res.336 (XXIII) of 1974, especially for the project on the Integrated Biological Development of the Fouta Djallon Highlands in Guinea.

E. REFUGEES, DISPLACED PERSONS AND VICTIMS OF NATURAL DISASTERS

252. African refugees can be divided into the following four major categories:

- (a) people who have fled the stranglehold of the Apartheid regime in South Africa; (b) people who could be regarded as the remnants of the struggle against the colonial rule; (c) people who are the victims of internal strifes and social unrests; and (d) people who cross boundaries because of inter-State problems.

253. Displaced persons and victims of natural disasters, include other asylum-seekers in Africa who, are not covered by the existing international or regional instruments (on refugees) and whose living conditions and possible productive activities are seriously impaired such as the following categories of persons:

(a) people who cross internationally-recognized boundaries because the persistent drought has decimated all that was sustaining them in their increasingly impoverished environment; and (b) people victimized by famine or by natural disasters.

254. In recent years, the problem of refugees and displaced persons has reached alarming proportions. For instance, in 1983, it was estimated that there were only about 1,480,000 persons who were displaced. However, as a result of the drought, it is now estimated that there are over 10 million of whom an unknown number have no organized shelter, food or clothing and are often living near cities or towns.

255. It cannot be over-emphasized that it is difficult to list comprehensive measures to be taken during the emergency phase, because each emergency situation has its own specificities that cannot be listed in advance to relate them to action to be taken. Unpredictable and sudden population movements, once emergency requirements are met, call the following actions to be taken, at the national, regional and international level, these are reviewed hereinafter.

At the national level

- (a) Short-term measures
 - (i) Collection and dissemination of reliable information and accurate statistical data on refugees and displaced populations to better monitor the situation, determine the needs, and secure the assistance required;
 - (ii) Quantitative and qualitative assessment of the additional burden which the population influx represents for the national economy, and of the social and economic implications of such burdens. Such an exercise may include the preparation and rapid implementation of assistance projects;
 - (iii) Accelerated implementation of ICARA II humanitarian and developmental projects, for a more effective assistance to refugees (and eventually to other displaced populations);

- (iv) Creation of favourable conditions for the voluntary repatriation of refugees;
- (v) Formulation and definition of rehabilitation and settlement policies, strategies and programmes;
- (vi) Adaption of existing national legislation to the situations obtaining either through its revision or through enactment of provisional stipulations better suited to the needs of displaced populations;
- (vii) Setting-up of a central body to evolve a national policy of assistance to all groups of displaced persons, and to monitor programme implementation, so as to ensure mobilization of all resources available and to guarantee co-ordination of all activities and inputs for the relief and rehabilitation of the populations concerned.

(b) Medium-term measures

- (i) Training of personnel responsible for the implementation of programmes in favour of refugees, displaced persons and victims of natural disasters, for counselling and orientation services, for law enforcement (training to include special exposure to emergency situations, to rehabilitation techniques; such training should be carried out on-the-job, and as frequently as required);
- (ii) Preparation of national manuals/handbooks for the use of the staff involved in emergency situations, based on readily available information on procedures to be followed and actions to be taken, as contained in existing handbooks, it being understood that these should be adapted to suit local conditions and be in line with national legislations;
- (iii) Adhesion to existing regional instruments on refugees, human rights, protection and welfare of the individual, the community, special social groups;
- (iv) Settlement of rural refugees and rural asylum-seekers, within the framework of agricultural development programmes and projects to rapidly achieve self-reliance, in cases where repatriation is either quite remote or impossible;
- (v) Employment placement of qualified refugees and economic asylum-seekers in suitable jobs within the settlements, or in other income-generating

activities conceived for the displaced and local population, in such a way as to avoid competition for scarce employment opportunities, and to enhance harmonious relations between the displaced and local populations.

(c) Long-term measures

- (i) Definition of the role to be played by individuals, the community, the various social groups in evolving and implementing national development policies and programmes, to foster genuine popular participation in the development process, thereby mitigating the impact of man-made or natural disasters;
- (ii) Enactment of national legislation, or revision of the already existing ones, as the case may be, to define, guarantee and promote the rights of the individual and the community, as well as those of the various social groups, including the refugees, displaced persons and victims of natural disasters.

At the regional level

- (a) Establishment of a suitable mechanism for Research and Dissemination of information on matters relating to:
 - (i) Refugee problems;
 - (ii) Refugee and humanitarian laws;
 - (iii) The nature and magnitude of population movements attributable to man-made or natural disasters.
- (b) Strengthening the existing regional structures and/or institutional bodies, especially within the OAU secretariat;
 - (i) To monitor all issues pertaining to refugees, displaced persons and victims of natural disasters, as well as human and people's rights, and natural disaster prevention and preparedness;
 - (ii) To evolve policies, strategies and programmes commensurate with the situation being faced;

- (iii) To follow-up on all relevant resolutions adopted with regard to those issues;
- (c) Implementation of inter-country or collective programmes and projects related to natural disaster prevention and preparedness.
- (d) Comparative study of existing African national legislations regarding refugees and displaced persons, towards their harmonization.
- At the international level
- (a) Concerted efforts towards the identification, preparation and implementation of projects to benefit all segments of displaced (and local) populations, with the active assistance of the international community, IGOs and NGOs.
- (b) Setting-up of international early-warning systems to help prevent or prepare for natural disasters in Africa.
- (c) Relief and rehabilitation programmes for the displaced populations and victims of natural disasters, conceived in the light of available local means, and taking into account available or possible international assistance, and possible technical, material and financial contributions from IGOs and NGOs, the basic principle being that assistance should always be development-oriented, and that humanitarian and developmental assistance should be closely inter-related.

PART III: AFRICA'S EXTERNAL DEBTS

256. The following three major critical issues are of great concern with regard to external debts of African countries:

(a) The individual as well as the combined external debts of African countries have increased dramatically in recent years. At the end of 1984, the total debt of African countries was estimated to stand at \$US158 billion and it is expected to exceed \$US170 billion by the end of 1985. Africa's external debt problem is alarming not only because of the volume of the debt but also especially because of the increasing debt service burdens (repayment of principal exports plus interest rates and any other charges). For instance, the ratio of debt service to goods and services for developing Africa soared from 7.4 per cent in 1974 to 27.4 per cent in 1983. Moreover, there has been increased "privatization" of external debts and the rates of commercial borrowing from private lenders have dramatically increased during the past five years at the expense of concessional loans from multilateral institutions. Indeed the debts of developing African countries as a percentage of the total exports of goods and services was estimated to have reached 190 per cent in 1984 reflecting the acceleration of the debt burden and the fall in the relative prices of African exports.

(b) The major lenders have in the past deliberately left Africa out of the debt renegotiation mechanism established for Latin America. The international community continues to give low priority to Africa's external debt crisis compared with that being faced by major borrowers in other developing regions. This is notwithstanding the fact that the total external debt of all developing African countries is currently about 20 per cent of the total global debt and is therefore significant. Considering the relatively low income per capita in most African countries, particularly as they include 26 of the 30 least developed countries, the African region suffers a much more severe debt crisis than other developing regions. Moreover, the dimension of the debt problem in Africa must take account of the fact that many millions of people in Africa are presently living at or even below mere subsistence

levels. What the international community seems to be unaware of is that the external debt of many individual African countries is beyond their capacity to pay if the limited economic possibilities of most of the countries coupled with the problems of drought, desertification and, the general ongoing economic crisis are taken into consideration.

(c) Current debt rescheduling machineries and practices are not suited to the critical socio-economic situation and structural imbalances of the economies of African countries. Indeed, debt rescheduling is granted on a yearly and case-by-case basis within the framework of the Club de Paris and are subject to the signing of a standby agreement with the IMF. Moreover, although many African countries have on several occasions approached the Club de Paris, their external debt problems have not been eased.

257. As was stated in the annex to the Special Memorandum, several critical factors have combined to aggravate the present debt crisis. These include:

(a) The collapse in the prices of major commodities exported by African countries which has resulted in drastic decline in the export earnings and hence foreign exchange reserves;

(b) The persistent high interest rates in the major lending countries exacerbated by fluctuations in exchange rates of major world currencies both of which have increased the cost of borrowing by the African countries, aggravated the problems of the flight of capital from the region and have serious destabilizing impacts on trade and investments;

(c) The sharp decline in the flow of capital and development resources to Africa on concessionary terms from the developed countries has forced many African countries to resort to borrowing from private sources at high interest rates;

(d) The loss of huge amounts of resources through the activities of transnational corporations and their transnational banks by means of

manipulation of commodity prices, e.g. transfer of pricing deliberate depression of the world prices of primary commodities through the operations of commodity exchanges:

(e) Excessive transfers of profits and other capital gains by trans-national corporations especially in the absence of effective national policies compelling foreign companies to re-invest a given portion of this profit in the African countries; and

(f) The persistent and severe drought, desertification and other natural calamities which have made it difficult for many countries to increase their agricultural production for exports as well as for domestic consumption thereby reducing their export-earning capacity while at the same time increasing their food imports.

258. The problems arising from the international economic environment have been exacerbated by unsystematic management of national debts. These include difficulties encountered by many African countries in adopting national policies to ensure:

(a) The evolution of economic management systems to avoid misallocation of resources and wastage of public funds;

(b) The effective utilization of external aid to generate surpluses that would enable African countries to repay loans and pay service charges;

(c) The adoption of national monetary, fiscal and financial policies which are consistent with development resources and which encourage foreign investment without jeopardizing national interests;

(d) The effective mobilization and management of domestic resources especially domestic savings, as a means of reducing external debt;

(e) The development of adequately trained personnel to administer external debts and domestic resources; and

(f) The effective co-ordination of creditors' policies and activities to ensure maximum positive impact of external debts on the economies of the borrowers.

259. The following emergency measures to deal with the external debt crisis are envisaged over a period of one to three years. Such measures ought to be taken at four complementary levels - national, subregional, regional and international.

A. Emergency and short-term measures

(a) At the national level

- (i) Our Governments should, where such machinery does not exist, consider the creation of a body responsible for external debt management and of a mechanism for the co-ordination of external assistance;
- (ii) African countries should enact legislation governing foreign investment;
- (iii) A thorough inventory should be made of all external debts contracted by the State, public, semi-public and private institutions to determine more accurately the quantum of external debt, the purpose for which the debt was contracted and how it was to be paid as one way of determining the amount of foreign exchange reserves to be allocated for external debt servicing incurred by the public and the private sectors, so as to avoid the accumulation of debts and arrears beyond the capacity of the countries to repay;
- (iv) The external borrowing policies of transnational commercial banks, discount houses, insurance companies as well as other local commercial banks should be reviewed so as to institute appropriate measures to halt the excessive drain of resources from Africa by transnational corporations. Immediate legislation should be enacted, where this does not exist, requiring

such companies to consult the Government before deciding to borrow externally since such borrowing increase the pressure on foreign exchange allocations.

(b) At the subregional and regional levels

- (i) African Governments with surplus funds should, within the spirit of collective self-reliance, urgently consider lending such funds to other countries in need, especially those affected by the drought and other natural calamities, instead of investing such funds outside Africa;
- (ii) African countries should do everything possible to exchange information with each other on alternate sources and conditions of loans and credits from overseas lenders. Such information should include terms for rescheduling and the use of loans, grace periods and how other countries have tackled their debt servicing problems.
- (iii) An ECA/OAU Conference of Ministers of Finance should be formally established to meet regularly to deal with external debt as well as other monetary and financial issues.
- (iv) The existing subregional payments and clearing arrangements should be strengthened towards promoting increased intra-African trade thereby reducing the need for foreign exchange and hence external borrowing;
- (v) A new system of incentives should be instituted immediately to encourage African individual private investors, to invest their resources in other African countries, either on a bilateral basis or through the existing subregional monetary and financial institutions. This would not only improve the liquidity of the borrowing countries thereby reducing the need for external borrowing, but would also promote intra-African monetary co-operation as envisaged in the Lagos Plan of Action.

(c) At the international level

- (i) The African countries should press for an international Conference on Africa's External Indebtedness to be convened as a matter of urgency to provide a forum for international creditors and African borrowers to discuss Africa's external debt with a view to arriving at appropriate emergency, short-medium- and long-term measures to alleviate Africa's debt problems as proposed in the "Addis Ababa Declaration on Africa's External Indebtedness";
- (ii) An appeal should be made to all government and private leaders, for total or partial cancellation of debts of developing African countries in particular, the least developed countries and those seriously affected by the drought and other natural disasters and countries most seriously affected by the economic crisis. Special consideration should be given to loans contracted for agricultural development and food production where the drought, desertification and other natural calamities have made it impossible for such projects to be duly implemented and to yield any returns;
- (iii) An appeal should be made to all government and private lenders that all accumulated arrears on foreign debts by African countries, especially for agricultural rehabilitation purposes, including food producing self-sufficiency and food security, should be either written off or converted into soft loans and grants. In this respect, special consideration should also be given to the drought-affected countries and the least developed countries. This would assist borrowing African countries to rehabilitate their economies devastated by the current drought and other natural disasters or those suffering from serious chronic balance-of-payments deficits arising from high interest rates;

(iv) Creditor countries should adopt international financial and monetary measures to relieve the debt service burdens of African countries in view of the difficult financial and economic conditions of African debtor countries as well as the relatively low income per capita in most African countries which leaves the African region with a much more severe debt service crisis than other developing regions.

E. Medium- and long-term measures

260. The medium- and long-term measures for ameliorating Africa's external debt burden were outlined in the "Addis Ababa Declaration on Africa's External Indebtedness". In addition, the following measures should be implemented.

(a) At the national level

- (i) Our countries should adopt, without delay, new and more vigorous domestic resource mobilization policies and programmes specifically geared towards the improvement of domestic investment performance thereby reducing the dependence on external debt for financing major investment projects. This should be accompanied by more dynamic fiscal and monetary policies which would encourage domestic private and public participation in income-generating programmes as a more lasting solution to the mounting external indebtedness;
- (ii) A more rational utilization of external credits and loans should be made through an immediate review of the national development plans to introduce short-, medium- and long-term policy on external debt management mechanisms linked with productive ventures such as proper project selection, preparation, implementation, monitoring and evaluation. This should also ensure that any loans previously contracted should, where

possible, be re-linked with the viability and profitability as well as the country's resources absorptive capacity and its ability to repay past, current and future debt obligations.

(b) At the subregional and regional levels

- (i) That African parastatal organizations should be encouraged, through appropriate incentives, to invest their resources in public and private projects of other African countries. This would improve the liquidity of the countries thereby reducing the need for external borrowing;
- (ii) That subregional and regional African institutions, such as the trade and development banks, the African Development Bank Group or the Arab Bank for Economic Development in Africa (BADEA), and the Association of African Development Finance Institutions should also be urged to continue to re-examine their lending policies to see whether special action can be taken to increase their financing of investment activities which would assist in alleviating the external debt burden. They should also play an increasing role in the identification and preparation of sound and economically viable investment projects in the member States,

(c) At the international level

- (i) The implementation of the internationally agreed features for debt reorganization for a substantial contribution towards improving the process of debt rescheduling (UNCTAD resolution 222 (XXI). In this connection, the period for consolidating debt service due be at least five years and repayment period for the consolidated amounts be not less than 15 years (including substantial grace periods). The process of debt reorganization should have a longer perspective designed to provide sufficient time over which economic reformation measures can be implemented;

- (ii) The debt service should not be allowed to exceed a reasonable percentage of the export earnings or the Gross National Product (GNP) of each country. This should enable the country concerned to obtain the much needed financing of structural adjustment programmes thereby improving its credit-worthiness;
- (iii) The international community should immediately implement UNCTAD resolution 161 (VI) (see annex III) as a common basis for guidance in dealing with the external debt problems of developing countries. The developed countries should adopt measures to ameliorate the debt burdens of the poorer developing African countries particularly the least developed countries;
- (iv) There should be a retroactive adjustment of the public external debt, and total or partial cancellation of external debt of developing African countries, in particular the least developed countries and those most seriously affected by natural calamities such as drought ;
- (v) An international conference on development-related monetary and financial questions should be convened under United Nations auspices.

PART IV

PROPOSALS FOR A COMMON PLATFORM FOR ACTION

261. The issues identified with regard to the implementation of the Lagos Plan of Action and the Final Act of Lagos call for a review of the existing subregional and regional machinery for consultations. Similarly, the failure of various international forums to deal adequately with the critical issues of Africa's development is a matter of grave concern to Africa. New measures must be adopted to strengthen the existing platforms for international negotiations and consultations and to establish new ones as appropriate. This section, therefore, reviews the measures that need to be taken in relation to (a) A platform among the OAU member States at the subregional and regional levels; (b) A common platform with the non-aligned and other developing countries members of the Group of 77; (c) a common international platform for action; and (d) The economies of the Front-Line States and the destabilization policies of South Africa: Proposals for action (subregional, regional and international).

(a) Among OAU member States

262. The proposals for common action among OAU member States are envisaged at both the bilateral, subregional and regional levels. At the subregional level, a common platform already exists among institutions such as the Preferential Trade Area (PTA); the Southern African Development Co-ordination Conference (SADCC); the Economic Community of the Great Lakes Countries (CEPGL); the Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS); the West African Economic Community (ECOWAS); the Central African Customs and Economic Union (UDEAC); de Communauté économique des Etats de l'Afrique de l'Ouest (CEAC); and the Mano River Union (MRU), to name only a few. Promising initiatives towards co-operation have also been made in the Maghreb countries. In monetary and financial co-operation, subregional institutions such as the subregional Association of African Central Banks (AACB), the West African Clearing House (WACH), the Central African Clearing House (CACH), and the Clearing House of the Preferential Trade Area for Eastern and Southern African States have been created. In addition, the Central Bank of West African States (BCEAO) and the Bank of Central African States (BEAC), which were established much earlier, have continued to serve their members with varying degrees of effectiveness.

263. At the regional level, there are institutions such as the African Development Bank Group; the Association of African Central Banks; the Association of African Development Finance Institutions; the African Civil Aviation Organization; the African Coffee Organization; the Cocoa Producers Alliance; the African Groundnut Council.

264. A review of the above institutions should be made on a priority basis to gear them towards assisting the member countries in attaining the following objectives:

(i) Bilateral trade and co-operation

265. African countries are urged to intensify their efforts to negotiate new bilateral agreements with each other, resuscitate old agreements that are still relevant to the issues at hand, or strengthen existing ones in the major critical sectors. These include trade, monetary and financial aspects; transport and communications, customs and tariff arrangements; food supply and food security; industrial development; energy (including oil, hydro-electricity, hydrocarbons etc.); the supply of raw materials for the rehabilitation and reconstruction of devastated industrial and agricultural production facilities; maintenance; and the supply of spare parts. African countries can also share, on a bilateral basis, information on how to equip themselves to deal with the crisis as well as on the establishment of early warning systems.

(ii) Intra-African trade in manufactured goods
including capital goods

266. African countries should devise new measures to promote intra-African trade in manufactured goods as well as capital goods which are or can be manufactured in African countries. These include a whole range of products such as plastic goods, shoes, cotton textiles, primary health care medicines (e.g. aspirins, cough syrups, vaccines, antibiotics etc.), soaps and detergents, insecticides, toilet paper, beer, wines and other alcoholic beverages, blankets and breakfast cereals, butter and cheese, school items such as pencils, rulers, note books, chalk, as well as intermediate and capital goods, to name only a few.

(iii) Intra-African trade in food

267. History shows that during natural disasters and wars, the countries that fare best are always those that are able to feed themselves using domestic food production. If this can be taken as a lesson for Africa, then in order to deal with the present food crisis, action must be undertaken at these levels to determine the production, distribution and marketing of all food grains including staple crops. Therefore, as was stated in the Lagos Plan of Action, OAU, in co-operation with ECA, FAO, IFAD, WFP and other relevant international organizations, should carry out studies on the establishment of regional food trade and distribution organizations and make recommendations to the next economic summit. Such studies should also focus on a comprehensive inventory of food production and eating habits, especially of staple food grains and root crops. These should be matched against existing production, storage and distribution structures in all African countries. An intensive training campaign should then be mounted in all countries, especially the drought-stricken areas, to introduce new staple food grains and dietary habits in places where the traditional food grains can no longer be grown. It should be stressed that hitherto no co-ordinated action has been taken in this field and the ad hoc measures that have been instituted at national level have often failed to produce the required impact.

(iv) Intra-African trade in energy and raw materials

268. African countries should explore new areas for increasing their collective self-sufficiency in energy and raw materials. It is self-evident that any measures for the rehabilitation or reconstruction of the African economies would require huge quantities of energy (coal, hydrocarbons, electricity and fuel oils) as well as locally produced raw materials. Therefore the development of and trade in these commodities should be part of the emergency measures. Hitherto, many of these items have been destined for South-North trade and did not significantly contribute to intra-African trade and co-operation. An inventory of all energy and raw material production and consumption of the African countries should be urgently prepared as a basis for such trade.

(v) Intra-African monetary co-operation

269. With regard to African monetary and financial co-operation, it is proposed that the following measures be undertaken without delay:

(a) Governments should encourage all commercial banks in their countries to begin immediately to use the existing subregional payments and clearing institutions for the settlement of intra-African trade transactions. This should have the effect of releasing foreign exchange which could be used inter alia for the importation of goods urgently needed for rehabilitation purposes; (b) those countries which do not belong to any subregional payments and clearing arrangement should consider joining without further delay and those countries which have not yet done so, should establish their own payments and clearing arrangements; (c) countries should fully support the establishment of the proposed African Monetary Fund as an institution which would ensure regional autonomy in devising a monetary and financial policy. Its establishment should be accelerated.

(b) At the international level

270. In view of the growing inter-dependence among countries, the inter-relationship between economies and the sustained efforts by developing countries to establish a just and equitable new international economic order which would meet the legitimate aspirations of people for better living conditions in line with the objectives of the United Nations Charter, African States are called on to play an active role in the restructuring of the world economy in order to safeguard their interests and win acceptance for their claims.

271. The African States reaffirm their commitment to constructive dialogue between developed and developing countries (North-South) and to the promotion of economic and technical co-operation among developing countries (South-South) as components of the New International Economic Order.

North-South Dialogue

272. Multilateral economic co-operation is currently undergoing a serious crisis of confidence marked by a withdrawal from multilateralism to bilateralism which does not foster true international co-operation. The crisis has also been characterized by unjustified attacks on bodies of the United Nations system such as UNESCO, UNCTAD and IFAD.

273. The African countries should therefore appeal to the political will of the developed countries to revive the North-South dialogue especially economic recovery in some developed countries can be sustained only accompanied by international measures to promote development such as an increase in official development assistance, substantial debt relief, the abolition of protectionist measures, and the implementation of the Agreement establishing the Common Fund for Commodities.

274. The African States reaffirm their commitment to the United Nations system and to its universal character as an appropriate framework for giving international development co-operation new impetus through an integrated approach which takes into account the interests of all parties involved in international economic negotiations. On the basis of this principle, the African States stress the need and urgency to:

(a) Institute global negotiations for international co-operation based on the recommendations of the Seventh Summit of the Conference of Non-Aligned countries;

(b) Convene an international conference on monetary and financial matters related to development;

(c) Ensure implementation by the developed countries of policies likely to attain the objectives of the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade;

(d) Strengthen the operational activities of the United Nations system for development.

275. In order to give a new impetus to the North-South dialogue, African States should participate fully and effectively in international economic negotiations to highlight their concerns and sensitize the international community to the seriousness of Africa's economic and social situation so as to reap the greatest benefit from assistance programmes and existing facilities provided by the organs and specialized agencies of the United Nations system and other relevant institutions. The ECA and OAU secretariats are requested to provide the logistic and technical support needed by the African Group in international negotiations.

276. African States are also urged to participate more fully in international fora dealing with international co-operation and development, especially at New York, Geneva, Washington, Brussels, Rome, Nairobi and Vienna, to ensure that negotiations therein are followed-up and that African interests are properly represented.

South-South co-operation

277. Although intra-African co-operation is one form of South-South co-operation, Africa as a developing region must also make its contribution to promoting economic and technical co-operation with other developing regions. Such co-operation not only strengthens the bargaining power of developing countries, including African countries, in international economic negotiations, but more specifically makes it possible to enhance the potential of the developing world in connection with the restructuring of international economic relations.

278. The Non-Aligned Movement and the Group of 77, of which African countries are members, have given horizontal co-operation a gathering momentum which should be strengthened and consolidated. They should be encouraged by ECA and OAU to foster a common approach to all economic issues involving industrial countries they may face. Implementation of the Caracas Programme of Action on

Economic and Technical Co-operation among Developing Countries, based on collective self-reliance, has begun and should be encouraged. The Intergovernmental Follow-up and Co-ordination Committee of the Group of 77 on South-South co-operation is an effective instrument for promoting such co-operation to the benefit of all countries concerned.

279. African countries are therefore urged to join fully in that process by participating in the activities for co-operation contained in the Caracas Plan of Action such as the Global System of Trade Preferences among Developing Countries (GSTP) and the multi-sectoral information network.

280. African countries are also recommended to follow-up at the national level activities related to South-South co-operation in order to make the most of them and to benefit from the support of other developing countries.

281. The ECA and OAU secretariats are requested to intensify their efforts to promote both intra-African co-operation and South-South co-operation in the light of the Lagos Plan of Action and the Caracas Programme of Action,

(c) The economies of the front-line States and the destabilization of South Africa: Proposals for action (subregional, regional and international)

282. The destabilization policy and measures taken by South Africa against the Front-line States have far greater implications than are usually appreciated at first glance. The challenge to economic independence and national sovereignty is a formidable one. Critical issues which have far-reaching consequences include:

(a) increased security expenditure on military and the consequent diversion of resources from economic development to defence and counter-terrorist measures;

- (b) the slowdown in development and rehabilitation efforts;
- (c) the destruction of economic and social infrastructure; and
- (d) loss of human lives, property and livestock as a result of military operations, which also act as a brake in development.

283. There is no doubt that African countries are resolved to protect their economies from South Africa's disruptive measures. However, the adoption of adequate responses to destabilization policy is very challenging, complex and indeed costly. The issues are fourfold. Firstly, South Africa's destabilization is not always direct or readily recognizable and is often carried out in an indirect and subtle manner. Secondly, some of the countries are also faced by the drought and other natural calamities and externally imposed wars which make them more vulnerable to external machinations. Thirdly, the international community has hitherto generally ignored the plea by the front-line States for support to deal with the issue. Fourthly, except through the front-line States and the Southern African Development Co-ordination Conference, (SADCC), not much has so far been achieved at the African level to give material support to the States directly affected by the destabilization policy.

284. The following measures, some of which are already being implemented, should be carried out at the national, subregional, regional and international level:

(a) At national level

- (i) Each front-line state should immediately begin an inventory of existing production and manufacturing enterprises, both locally owned and those owned by transnational corporations, so as to determine accurately the types of goods available locally, including food. Such an exercise would also identify the goods directly imported from South Africa and the extent of which a reduction or ban on such imports would affect the economy. This should be complemented with a more vigorous system of domestic trade, and resources should be mobilized to increase their degree of self-reliance especially in food production;
- (ii) In the case of those countries depending on South Africa for the supply of petroleum and other essential imports and in marketing their exports, an intensive search should be made for alternative sources of supply and alternative outlets for their exports so as to reduce dependence on South Africa;
- (iii) Each front-line State, especially the land-locked countries, should search for alternative means of transport and communications outlets, away from South Africa. All member States are urged to assist them to attain economic independence from South Africa.

(b) At subregional and regional levels

- (1) African countries should lend full support to the Preferential Trade Area for Eastern and Southern African States (PTA) and the Southern African Development Co-ordination Conference (SADCC) in their struggle to find an effective response to South Africa especially in the trade, monetary, transport and communications and economic fields. In fact, SADCC was established.

explicitly for the purpose of responding to South Africa by ensuring (a) a reduction of external dependence and, in particular, dependence on the Republic of South Africa; (b) operational and equitable regional integration; (c) the mobilization of domestic and regional resources to carry out national, inter-State and regional policies to reduce dependence and build genuine regional co-operation; and (d) joint action to secure international understanding of, and practical support for, the SADCC strategy:

- (ii) The two major subregional groupings in the area (PTA and SADCC) should provide a joint effective platform in which responses to South Africa can be made. What is required, therefore, is to strengthen these subregional co-operation efforts, bearing in mind the effects of the destabilization policy by South Africa, so as to ensure that the impact of such policies on the economies concerned is minimized. It is doubtful that each of these institutions working in isolation can readily help the front-line States to move quickly out of the direct economic clutches of South Africa. It is therefore, the combined forces of PTA and SADCC, with the tremendous potential for economic co-operation and trade among their member States, that can really lead to meaningful economic independence from South Africa;
- (iii) The provisions of the Lusaka Manifesto on Southern Africa should be implemented without delay. In addition, there should be created an information network on the policy of South Africa vis-à-vis the front-line States so as to inform and sensitize the masses in all African countries about this policy.
- (iv) Another aspect of the campaign against South Africa should be to mobilize resources at both the African and international levels to assist the front line States in their struggle for survival in the wake of intensive destabilization activities by South Africa.

- (v) The secretariats of ECA and OAU should be requested to prepare a comprehensive study on the full nature and impact of South Africa's destabilization policy in the neighbouring States and report its findings at a subsequent meeting of the ECA Conference of Ministers.
 - (vi) African countries should consider establishing a common subregional and regional defence system, to protect the front-line States against military attacks from South Africa.
- (c) At the international level
- (i) African countries should increase their pressure on developed countries to persuade those governments that still do so, to stop their moral, economic and military support of South Africa;
 - (ii) Governments of industrialized nations which have not yet done so, should take appropriate and immediate measures to prevent their transnational corporations from investing or operating in South Africa;
 - (iii) The international financial institutions, such as the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund, should desist from further project or programme financing in South Africa. Instead, they should increase programme lending, especially to the front line States, and other similarly threatened States, as well as lending to projects directly affected by South Africa's economic or political destabilization policy.

PART V - FOLLOW-UP AND MONITORING

285. The priority programme is made up of actions that are within the means of the African countries with the necessary political will at national, subregional and regional levels. However, in view of the many factors that are beyond the control of African countries (e.g. national calamities especially drought, international economic environment, etc.), it is essential that follow-up and monitoring mechanisms be set up so as to assess periodically the implementation of the programme and, if necessary, formulate adjustment measures. Such mechanisms are required at national, subregional and regional levels.

1. National level

286. Follow-up and monitoring mechanisms will vary from country to country, depending on the existing structures. However, since the programme has two components namely emergency and preparedness on the one hand, and rehabilitation and reconstruction on the other hand, the monitoring activities will have to be based on such distinction. Moreover, most countries have established, in addition to their planning offices, special mechanisms to deal with current or future emergency situations. However, because of the need for co-ordination between rehabilitation and reconstruction efforts on the one hand and emergency situations, a special mechanism should be set up to follow-up and monitor both components and their interactions.

2. Subregional level

287. The existing multinational and/or subregional groupings (e.g. OMVS, OMVG, Mano River Union, Niger Basin Authority, CILSS, CEAO, ECOWAS in West Africa; CEPGL, UDEAC, CEEAC, in Central Africa; SADCC and PTA in East and Southern Africa) represent the appropriate fora for undertaking, during their annual meetings, the necessary follow-up and monitoring of the implementation of the priority programme.

288. For North Africa, the ECA Multinational Programming and Operational Centre based in Tangiers (MULPOC) should be used for such purpose. The follow-up and

monitoring activities at multinational or subregional level should be based on reports from individual countries and on the one hand from assessments made by the organizations concerned especially with respect to the subregional actions that are contained in the programme. Multinational or subregional evaluation report should be used for necessary adjustments both in national and subregional components of the programme.

3. Regional level

289. At the regional level, as for the biennial report on the implementation of the Lagos Plan of Action, the secretariats of ECA and OAU should prepare a joint annual report on the implementation of the above Special Programme to be submitted to the ECA Conference of Ministers and subsequently to the annual session of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the OAU through the Council of Ministers of the OAU. The report will take into account assessments made at national and subregional levels.

Part VI : CONCLUSIONS

290. The recommendations proposed in this document constitute a concrete programme for reconstruction, rehabilitation and survival of those of our economies now devastated by the drought, desertification and natural calamities. These recommendations constitute a sound basis for medium-and long-term structural adjustment of the African economies towards self-sustaining growth. We believe that, if these measures are seriously implemented by our Governments, Africa can dislodge herself from the current economic and social crisis. At the same time, new and firm foundations can be laid down for ensuring that African economies become self-sustaining and that they would be able to effectively deal with the crisis, should it occur again in the future.

291. Indeed, we the Africans, have the will, capacity, and determination to transform the present calamities and degradation into prosperity and hope for our future generations. Since the majority of the programmes contained in this proposal are intended for implementation by our Governments, Africa has the primary responsibility for dealing with the economic and social crisis. However, the magnitude of the problems facing the African countries calls for international understanding and support. It is, therefore, hoped that bilateral donors, individual governments, multilateral agencies and other international organizations would continue to be generous in their assistance in the implementation of this programme.