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Multinational Programming and Operational  
Centre (ECA/MULPOC) for Eastern and  
Southern African States

Fifth Meeting of the MULPOC Committee of Officials  
March 17-22, 1982

Fifth Meeting of Council of Ministers  
March 23-25, 1982

Salisbury, Republic of Zimbabwe

FOOD AND AGRICULTURE  
(LUSAKA MULPOC)

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Regional Food Plan for Africa (AFPLAN):  
FOLLOW-UP OF AFPLAN/LPA AND AFPLAN SUBREGIONAL REPORT  
EASTERN AND SOUTHERN AFRICA (Lusaka MULPOC SUBREGION)  
(Activities 9211.07 and 9211.12)

BACKGROUND

1.1.1 In view of the deteriorating food situation in Africa which led to the Freetown Declaration of the FAO Regional Conference of Ministers of Agriculture in 1976, the Regional Food Plan (AFPLAN) was drawn up jointly by FAO and ECA and adopted by the FAO Regional Conference of Ministers of Agriculture in Arusha in 1978. The Arusha Conference recommended action should be taken at two levels: (i) at the national level, the preparation and implementation of appropriate policies and projects for food self-sufficiency by Governments; and (ii) at the intergovernmental level, joint ventures for increased food production and intra-subregional and regional trade.

1.1.2 The Fifth ECA Conference of Ministers in Rabat in March 1979 appealed to member States to effectively implement the Regional Food Plan for Africa and urged African Governments to give full support to subregional and regional intergovernmental organizations in their efforts to increase food production and trade among African countries.

1.1.3 The African Heads of State who met for their first Economic Summit in Lagos in April 1980, recommended, in their Lagos Plan of Action (LPA), measures for food development in the key areas - reduction of food losses, food security and increase in production - both at the national and intergovernmental levels.

1.1.4 The above resolutions called on the ECA to assist in their implementation.

1.1.5 In order to assist food development at the subregional and intergovernmental level, the ECA undertook an evaluation of the ongoing programmes and projects of the subregional and regional intergovernmental organizations with a view to help in reorienting them if necessary and to lay down guidelines for new programmes and projects involving financial and technical assistance. Results of the ECA undertaking were presented in 5 AFPLAN Subregional Reports, one for each MULPOC area. The results were also submitted in a summary report to the Sixth ECA Conference of Ministers in Addis Ababa in March-April, 1980.

1.1.6 The AFPLAN Subregional Report for the Eastern and Southern Africa was submitted to the Fourth Meeting of the Lusaka MULPOC held in Maseru in January 1981.

#### IMPLEMENTATION

1.2.1 In line with the AFPLAN/LPA and the AFPLAN Subregional Report for the Eastern and Southern Africa, the Fourth Meeting of the MULPOC Council of Ministers incorporated four projects in the work programme of the Lusaka MULPOC. The projects incorporated in the work programme and the action already taken, are given below:

- (i) Subregional consultations on increased food availability through waste reduction and improvement of marketing systems in Eastern and Southern Africa.

Working papers are being prepared including contributions by various countries. The seminar is planned to be held in Addis Ababa in late 1982.

- (ii) Mass media campaign for the prevention of food losses.

In this connection a project has been prepared which includes Lusaka MULPOC area. ECA is seeking funds to put the project into effect.

- (iii) Improvement of agricultural marketing institutions for food crops and livestock produced by small farmers.

Preparatory phase of the project will be over by June 1982. A document on full scale project has been submitted for funds to the USAID.

- (iv) Holding of the first ECA/FAO Project Analysis Course in the subregion.

The project analysis course is scheduled to be held in late 1982 or early 1983, subject to funds being available.

#### ASSESSMENT AND EVALUATION

1.3.1 Except for the limitation of resources, the activities did not encounter any major difficulty.

## PROPOSALS FOR ACTIVITIES DURING 1982-83

1.4.1 As a follow-up of the AFPLAN Subregional Report, ECA has identified projects for Intergovernmental Organizations in the Eastern and Southern Africa. This project identification report which is under preparation lays particular emphasis on two projects namely Training in Agricultural Project Analysis and Feasibility Study of Subregional Maize Research Centre. While the activities referred to above under item "Implementation" should be continued, the emphasis given on these two activities should be borne in mind.

## CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

1.5.1 The project on the "Improvement of agricultural marketing institutions for food crops and livestock produced by small farmers" is scheduled to enter the full phase in July 1982. "Subregional consultation on increasing food availability through waste reduction and improvement of marketing systems", preparation for the holding of which are underway, will be held in Addis Ababa late in 1982. The first ECA/FAO Project Analysis Course will be held in late 1982 or early 1983. As soon as funds become available the project on Mass Media Campaign for the prevention of food losses, the document for which has already been prepared, will be undertaken.

1.5.2 The emphasis given in the project identification report, on the training in agricultural project analysis and on the new project feasibility study of subregional maize research centre, should be borne in mind in the preparation of the new programme.

THE FEASIBILITY OF DEVELOPING A SUBREGIONAL MAIZE RESEARCH  
CENTRE IN EASTERN AND SOUTHERN AFRICA MULPOC

(Activity 9.212.08)

BACKGROUND

2.1.1 The third meeting of the Council of Ministers of the Multinational Programming and Operational Centre (MULPOC) for Eastern and Southern African States (Lusaka-MULPOC) held in Gaborone, Botswana, on 28 and 29 January 1980, decided that the Economic Commission for Africa should undertake a study to determine the feasibility of developing a subregional Maize Research Centre in the Subregion, bearing in mind the existence of similar research centres in that area, within the context of the implementation of the Regional Food Plan for Africa (AFPLAN). Though no specific resolution was adopted on the issue, the decision is clearly stated in paragraph 30 of the report of the meeting.<sup>1/</sup>

2.1.2 The Joint ECA/FAO Agriculture Division, (JEFAD) the substantive division in the secretariat responsible for agricultural affairs, was entrusted with the co-ordination and implementation of the project and, accordingly, prepared a draft project document, in close collaboration with the Economic Co-operation Office and the Lusaka-MULPOC Office, which was submitted to the fourth meeting of the Council of Ministers held at Maseru, Lesotho, from 12 to 22 January 1981. At that meeting the Delegation of Zimbabwe requested that the experience of that country be considered in the course of the study because, as stated by the delegation, Zimbabwe had a very highly developed maize seed production network; quality control; and distribution schemes.

2.1.3 The main objectives of the project may be summarized as hereunder:

- (i) Analysis of present situation in terms of maize production and consumption.
- (ii) Assessment of future demand and production potential.
- (iii) Appraisal of existing research network, programmes and activities in the subregion.

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<sup>1/</sup> ECA/MULPOC/Lusaka/III/37.

- (iv) Recommendations on ways and means of setting up a subregional multidisciplinary research network for the expansion of the production of hybrid maize seed with wider adaptability and to improve the cultural and husbandry practices.
- (v) Preparation of a project for strengthening the existing research stations; co-ordinating their programmes and activities and for establishing new ones, if technically required and feasible; and
- (vi) Recommendations on modalities of co-operation among the member States of the subregion.

2.1.4 The duration of the project is two years as from October 1981, when it became operational. Its total cost is US\$117 000 and will be implemented with funds provided by the United States AID.

#### IMPLEMENTATION

##### Organization of the Work

2.2.1 The activities for implementing the Project have been sequentially distributed and will be carried out in three phases: first, preparatory; second, implementation proper; and third, reports and preparation of project document(s). Phase one is to be completed by August 1982 and will consist of: (i) desk work (ii) exploratory missions (iii) recruitment of project personnel, especially consultants (iv) organization of field missions of consultants. Phase two will consist of field missions by consultants to study and appraise existing conditions (research network and research programmes) and possibilities for developing a subregional centre for production of hybrid maize. Phase three will comprehend preparation of reports and project documents.

##### Measures taken

2.2.2 JEFAD has already fielded one exploratory mission that visited Botswana, Kenya, Madagascar, Mozambique, Swaziland and Zambia from 16 June to 12 July 1981.

2.2.3 Letters were sent to member States requesting basic information on research institutions, programmes and projects. IITA, CIMMYT, ICRISAT and FAO headquarters were also approached with requests of co-operation and detailed information on hybrid maize programmes of their respective institutions.

2.2.4 Desk studies on Angola, Ethiopia, Kenya, Madagascar, Malawi, Mauritius, Mozambique, Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe based on information available in ECA headquarters were completed.

2.2.5 Experts were approached and negotiations are proceeding for the selection of qualified consultants, preferably who have experience in tropical agriculture, particularly in Africa.

#### Progress achieved to date

2.2.6 The first exploratory mission mentioned above signaled that countries have reacted favourably to the project.

2.2.7 Replies were received from Angola, Botswana, Somalia, Swaziland, Uganda and Zambia confirming interest in the project and providing basic information that had been requested. FAO, IITA and CIMYT, have reacted favourably. FAO and IITA has expressed interest in participating in the field missions to be mounted by ECA.

2.2.8 At the time of writing this report, (December 1981) a second exploratory mission was being organized to visit Angola, Botswana, Ethiopia, Kenya, Malawi, Mozambique, Swaziland, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe, to make the arrangements for the visits of the consultants.

#### Proposals for follow-up

2.2.9 Countries are requested to:

(a) provide all available information and data on maize production, demand and consumption, price and marketing structures;

(b) appoint a focal point (organization or person) for liaison with ECA and to assist the field mission of the consultant(s);

(c) extend all possible facilities for the missions to visit organizations, research centres and projects, and make the appropriate arrangements for the missions to meet with relevant government officials.



## ASSESSMENT/EVALUATION

2.3.1 The activities undertaken by ECA to date received the full support of member States, FAO and IITA. It would be most helpful that such support be continued and extended to all subsequent activities that are to be undertaken until the termination of the project. ECA hopes that countries will continue to co-operate with the staff in charge of the project, especially by providing logistic support.

## PROPOSALS FOR ACTIVITIES DURING 1982-1983

2.4.1 Please refer to attached schedule of implementation.

## CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

2.5.1 The initial delays in starting the implementation of the project notwithstanding, all activities to date have been completed as planned and have achieved their limited targets thanks especially to the support given by the countries of the subregion.

2.5.2 The meeting may wish to consider the recommendations made by the secretariat during the present session for the follow-up of the project; approve the schedule of implementation of 1982/83 and support the proposals for follow-up indicated in section 4 above.

THE FEASIBILITY OF DEVELOPING A SUBREGIONAL PRIZE RESEARCH  
CENTRE IN CENTRE AND SOUTHERN AFRICA WULPOC  
Implementation Schedule - 1982/84

Activity	Work Content	Period Year Month	Output	Officers-in-Charge
1. Preparatory Mission	(i) briefing government officials and contacts for consultants	1982 05/01 to 28/02	(i) terms of reference of consultant(s)	JEFAD
2. Recruitment of Consultants	(i) establishment of a preliminary profile of experts (ii) search of qualified experts and preliminary contacts (iii) selection of consultants (iv) adoption of terms of reference (v) recruitment	March April 1982 July 1982 August	(ii) travel schedules and contacts of consultants	JEFAD and ECA Administration
3. Mission to selected countries	Assessment of research network; Programmes; projects and activities	1983 Sept. to Dec. 1983 Jan. to March	Reports	
4. Writing of reports by Consultants and submission to Governments for comments	Assessment of research staff needs Assessment of facilities and resources available	1983 April to May	Reports	JEFAD Countries concerned Consultant (s) JEFAD Consultants
5. Report submission to WULPOC Official Organs		1984 February		ECO, JEFAD, and Lusaka/WULPOC

INSTITUTIONAL PROBLEMS OF SMALL FARMERS:

Burundi, Rwanda, Tanzania and Zambia

(Activity 9.212.01 a. 1)

BACKGROUND

3.1.1 The study originated from resolutions of the ECA Conference of Ministers, relating to integrated rural development. The study also derives its origin from the recommendation contained in the African Strategy for Development in the 1970s, and the African Regional Food Plan and the Lagos Plan of Action which give importance to the strengthening and improvement of agricultural support institutions.

3.1.2 The conclusions and recommendation of the study are being brought to the attention of the Fifth Lusaka MULPOC Meeting for information and, if the officials/Ministers consider it fit, they may like to recommend the extension of the investigation to the other countries of the subregion which were not covered in the study.

3.1.3 In Africa more than 70 percent of the population earn their livelihood from agriculture and the small farmers are responsible for as much as 80-90 percent of the total food production. The productivity of small farmers has, however, remained low and stagnant.

3.1.4 One of the major reasons for lack of progress in the productivity of small farmers and that of the overall agriculture is the weakness of agricultural support services. This study assessed the organization and structure of agricultural service institutions (research, extension, marketing, credit and related activities) and how far their activities involve the small farmers.

It is hoped that the result would help to:

- (i) improve the capacity of the concerned Governments to provide better agricultural services to small farmers;
- (ii) improve knowledge on the situation of small farmers so that Government decisions, plans and policies would reflect the needs of small farmers;
- (iii) indicate areas where further and in-depth researches and investigations are required.

## IMPLEMENTATION

3.2.1 As a result of desk study and missions by consultants to countries in question, the study has been completed. A draft report has also been distributed to relevant institutions of Burundi, Rwanda, Tanzania and Zambia.

3.2.2 Follow-up activities will actually be determined after consultation with the Governments of the four countries concerned. If recommended by these countries concerned and the Officials of the MULPOC approve, a workshop(s) can be organized for rural development officers of the subregion.

## ASSESSMENT/EVALUATION

3.3.1 The study has not actually met with any critical problem.

## PROPOSALS FOR ACTIVITIES DURING 1982-1983

- 3.4.1 (i) In early 1982 consultation with concerned Governments; and
- (ii) if supported by the Governments and Officials of the MULPOC:
- (a) preliminary arrangements for the workshop - June to August 1982;
  - (b) finalization of arrangements - September to October 1982;
  - (c) holding of the workshops - January - February 1983.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

3-F-1 The study revealed that:

- (i) Agricultural support institutions are generally weak compared to the task they are entrusted with;
- (ii) Small farmers have limited access, if any, to the services of these institutions; and in fact in some countries the extension and research actually by-pass small farmers;
- (iii) Due to financial limitations, problems of transport and inadequacy of manpower, rural development officers have limited contact with small farmers;
- (iv) Improved techniques of production suitable to specific regions are not generally available; usually blanket recommendations are made for large geographic zones;

- (v) Evaluations, to determine their effectiveness, of rural development programmes such as extension, credit, etc. are rarely made;
- (vi) Coordination of rural development organizations, with the view of benefitting from their complementarity are generally lacking which contributes to duplication of efforts and uneconomic use of scarce resources;
- (vii) Working conditions, salaries and opportunities for self-improvement do not compare with urban centres, thereby contributing to low morale and lack of enthusiasm in their work.

3.5.2 In view of the above it is recommended that:

- (a) Rural development institutions particularly research, extension, marketing and credit be improved and strengthened, and their activities be coordinated to increase efficiency and avoid waste;
- (b) Research and extension should give more emphasis to the problems of small farmers and food crops;
- (c) Research and extension should include farm management studies in their programmes;
- (d) Further and in-depth studies should be made of farmer's attitudes to innovations and the rate of acceptance of certain innovations, and investigations on the labour profile of farm families should be made to aid planning of alternative production systems; and
- (e) Agricultural systems studies should be encouraged and developed.

INTEGRATED RURAL DEVELOPMENT  
(Activity 2.212.01)

I. Tanzania/Zambia Project

BACKGROUND

4.1.1 The third meeting of the Council of Ministers of the Lusaka UNDAT 1/ held in Mbabane from 26 to 28 April 1976, approved UNDAT proposal for multinational co-operation in rural development between the Northern Province of Zambia and the Mbeya and Pwera region in the United Republic of Tanzania.

4.1.2 Subsequently the UNDAT Supervisory Committee of Officials at their meeting held at Lusaka, Zambia on 15 and 16 July 1976 approved the proposal and authorized the inclusion of the project in the Programme of Work and Priorities for 1976 and 1977.

IMPLEMENTATION

4.2.1 Organization of the work

The project was implemented in Phases as follows:

- (a) Phase I - desk study;
- (b) Phase II - field mission;
- (c) Phase III - identification of priority projects and the establishment of intergovernmental liaison committee;
- (d) Phase IV - implementation of project.

Measures taken

4.2.2 (a) Feasibility study: in accordance with the recommendation of the Committee of Officials a survey was conducted to:

- (i) identify the resource base and other factors which might be relevant in deciding on the location of specific rural settlements and the related agricultural projects;
- (ii) evaluate the on-going programmes in the project areas in order to facilitate the formulation of future projects;
- (iii) identify possible sources of domestic and external resources that would be required for the implementation of the project that will be recommended;
- (iv) ascertain the possibility of exchanging experiences between the two countries.

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1/ Now Multinational Programming and Operational Centre, (MULPOC)  
UNDAT - United Nations Development Advisory Team.

## (b) Establishment of Permanent Liaison Committee

Progress achieved to date

4.2.3 (a) An Intergovernmental Meeting of Officials of the two countries was held at Mbeya on 27 and 28 April 1976. The Officials at that meeting agreed on:

- (i) establishment of Permanent Liaison Committee on Co-operation in integrated rural development;
- (ii) the terms of reference of the Permanent Intergovernmental Liaison Committee;
- (iii) the composition of the Permanent Intergovernmental Liaison Committee; and
- (iv) ECA/MULPOC/Lusaka Office to serve the Committee as co-ordination and secretariat.

(b) The Tanzania/Zambia Permanent Intergovernmental Liaison Committee met at Kasama, Zambia from 25-29 June 1979 and identified the following priority projects:

- (i) control of animal diseases in the border region;
- (ii) livestock research and development in the border region;
- (iii) fisheries development in Lake Tanganyika;
- (iv) normalization of border trade;
- (v) establishment of joint processing agro-industries; and
- (vi) exchange of information on agricultural research and joint programmes for researchers and extension officers in the project area.

(c) The Council of Ministers of Lusaka MULPOC at its meeting held at Gaborone, Botswana from 28-29 January 1980 endorsed the projects and recommended the following:

- (i) the fisheries development on Lake Tanganyika to be expanded into a Multinational Fisheries Project in all Lakes of the subregion;
- (ii) the bilateral animal diseases control project to be undertaken in conjunction with the subregional Multinational Animal Disease Control Project;

- (iii) the ECA/MULPOC/Lusaka in close collaboration with the FAO/ECA Advisory Group on Food and Agricultural Industries Development in Africa, undertake a feasibility study on the establishment of a bilateral fish-meal processing plant and that this project to be included in the industry section of the Lusaka/MULPOC Work Programme;
- (iv) the rationalization of border trade to be included in the relevant protocol and provisions of the Treaty establishing the Preferential Trade Area in the subregion;
- (v) the ECA/MULPOC/Lusaka, in collaboration with FAO and other relevant UN agencies, arrange for workshops and/or seminars for the research and extension personnel working in the project area.

Proposals for follow-up or possible date of completion:

4.2.4 (a) control of diseases in the border area-the Intergovernmental Liaison Committee had agreed to establish dips in the border areas and setting a disease free zone along the borders;

(b) steps are being taken to organize the first workshop dealing with animal diseases and production techniques suitable for the area and agronomic aspects of tea and coffee development.

ASSESSMENT/EVALUATION

4.3.1 The MULPOC has carried out the instructions of the Council of Ministers of the Lusaka MULPOC to the extent resources are available. The major activities were:

- (a) completion of the feasibility study;
- (b) establishment of the Permanent Intergovernmental Liaison Committee;
- (c) identification of priority projects. Owing to lack of funds and shortage of manpower the implementation of the bilateral projects has been minimal so far.

PROPOSAL FOR ACTIVITIES DURING 1982-1983

4.4.1 The Council of Ministers at their meeting of January 1980 at Maseru, Lesotho had recommended that the two countries implement the bilateral projects with their own resources and manpower. The secretariat will provide assistance if and when requested by the two governments to the extent funds are available.

4.4.2 The decisions of the Council of Ministers of the Lusaka MULPOC at the Gaborone meeting had been carried out, i.e. the fisheries project had been expanded to cover all Lakes in the subregion; establishment of food industries for fish, cereals and vegetable oil processing have been incorporated in the Industry Section work Programme; and rationalization of border trade has been included in Article 4 of the Protocol relating to customs co-operation and in Article 21 of the provisions of the Draft Treaty.



## CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

4.5.1 As indicated above implementation of the Tanzania/Zambia Integrated Rural Development Project has been minimal so far due to lack of finance and manpower.

4.5.2 Regarding the expanded fisheries project the Lusaka MULPOC had made arrangement with the Gisenyi MULPOC, for the latter to provide a fisheries expert. This, however, did not materialize. Thus, in order to hasten the implementation of this project, the officials meeting may recommend the recruitment of a consultant to undertake the study and request financial agencies to provide the necessary fund.

## II. Other integrated rural development projects

### ETHIOPIA/KENYA PROJECT

4.6.1 Ethiopia/Kenya Project for prefeasibility and feasibility studies for the joint development of the sub-basin of Dawa River through irrigation; Omo Turkana/Rudolf Basin by means of development of wildlife, fisheries and tourism; and the Isiolo/Moyale Road network, was originally to be carried out by the ECA with funds from European Economic Communities (EEC). However, the Governments of Ethiopia and Kenya later agreed that the project be carried out by EEC. The project will therefore have to be eliminated from the work programme of Lusaka MULPOC.

### KENYA/UGANDA PROJECT

4.7.1 Kenya/Uganda Project for Human Re-settlement and Integrated Development of Nomads has not been put into operation because of the obvious civil war in Uganda. The project will also have to be eliminated from the work programme of Lusaka MULPOC until a more stable political atmosphere is established.

### MOZAMBIQUE/ZAMBIA PROJECT

4.8.1 Meetings have been held between Mozambique and Zambia for collaboration in livestock health development, but no definite programme has been established. It is apparent that there is no consensus between the two countries on this project. It should be eliminated from the work programme of the Lusaka MULPOC.

IMPROVEMENT OF AGRICULTURAL MARKETING INSTITUTIONS FOR FOOD CROPS AND  
LIVESTOCK PRODUCED BY SMALL FARMERS: LUSAKA MULPOC (Activity 9.214.04)

BACKGROUND

5.1.1 The activity is a part of ECA regional project for the Improvement of Agricultural Marketing Institutions for Food Crops and Livestock Produced by Small Farmers. This project is financed by USAID.

5.1.2 To assist member Governments in identification and formulation of effective marketing improvement programmes for small food producing farmers with particular emphasis on adoption of appropriate policy measures and rationalization and modernization of marketing institutions catering for small producers. The general aims are increase in food availability and creation of a marketable surplus to improve the food situation in the country and the socio-economic conditions of the small farmers through higher income, more employment opportunities and above all more equitable distribution of income as well as better nutrition. The underlying objective of this sub-regional work programme is the promotion of agricultural trade among the countries of the subregion through creation of viable subsets and conditions conducive to intra-subregional trade.

IMPLEMENTATION

5.2.1 The work is based mainly on information available with ECA and sister organization (background studies) and from member countries mainly through field missions countries visited (Benin, Cameroon, Ghana, Nigeria and Sierra Leone), where more detailed information is collected and the concerned individuals in the marketing field are interviewed. The problem was first identified through field visits, collection and analysis of basic data and background studies. A detailed work programme was prepared. To avoid unnecessary duplication, co-operation and co-ordination was established with regional and international organizations interested in the subject. To promote the project and integrate it in the regional and subregional development plans for the countries concerned, substantive contribution was made on agricultural marketing as part of the regional plans (Lagos Plan of Action) and intergovernmental international, regional and subregional meetings were attended. The progress achieved could be described as fairly satisfactory. Field missions are planned for the member countries of MULPOC (1982-83).

## ASSESSMENT/EVALUATION

5.3.1 The Lusaka based MULPOC Ministers Conference of January 1980 decided to put this project in the Lusaka MULPOC programme of work for the year 1980/81. As a preliminary (preparatory) phase of the project, the progress has been satisfactory. Substantive contribution has been made to the agricultural marketing aspects of regional plans (Lagos Plan of Action) and subregional plans (ECOWAS Agricultural Ministers Special Conference on Food Self Sufficiency with emphasis on Common Agricultural Policies). The preparatory phase is completed where project idea is now well accepted, dialogue is established with member governments and problems are more clearly defined. The activities and the operation of the project have been reviewed and evaluated. On the basis of all the above, a full scale project has been prepared and submitted for approval. In addition, in the context of over-all development of agricultural marketing in the region, and on the basis of the finding of the project and in line with Lagos Plan of Action a marketing project for UNDP Third Regional Programme for Africa (1982-86 Cycle) has been prepared, and submitted for approval. A preliminary report on the first phase is being compiled.

5.3.2 The output and activities as defined in the project could have been realized in a more satisfactory manner had it not been for inadequacy of funds particularly for travel which was only (\$US 7,000).

## PROPOSAL FOR ACTIVITIES DURING 1982-83

5.4.1 (i) Subject to approval, continuation of the project through initiation of the second and major phase of the full scale project.

(ii) Following the decision of Lusaka MULPOC Ministers Conference of January, 1980 on putting this project on Lusaka MULPOC Programme of Work and the main guidelines of Lagos Plan of Action, efforts would be continued to carry out problem oriented studies in the field of marketing with the view of improving the food situation, and generating adequate marketable surplus from small producers which would go a long way in improving the food situation to reduce dependency on outside world and to encourage flow of agricultural crops among the countries of the subregion. Particular emphasis would be given to the policies and programmes requirement for the improvement in the marketing system serving small producers. Problem solving approach involving rationalization, modernization, productivity and efficiency of the present and new institutions would be followed. Development of a marketing system in line with announced objectives of the countries concerned and the advances made on the production side would be formulated. The streamlining of the present marketing institution and the rationalization of the whole marketing system in each individual country would be the first logical step for promotion of co-operation in the field of agriculture on solid basis which could facilitate development in the subregion in mutually beneficial and equitable manner.

The project orientation is towards food self sufficiency from subregional point of view rather than on country basis. Complementarities among the countries of the subregion would be analysed with a view to facilitate subregional flow of agricultural commodities. Emphasis would be given to possibilities of subregional marketing projects and joint ventures in the fields of food security, storage food preservation, reduction of food waste and losses, market information, and research with particular emphasis on trade plans, efficiency, pricing policies and the required supporting services.

#### CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION

5.5.1 The preparatory phase of the project has been completed in a satisfactory manner. The proposed full scale project if approved would make possible the realization of its objectives and have the desired impact.

5.5.2 To facilitate smooth implementation of the project and to continue the useful dialogue with member governments, each government is requested to designate a contact officer in all ministries directly related to the project (Agriculture, Commerce, Planning etc.). Governments of the subregion are also requested to consider the feasibility of establishing an intergovernmental marketing committee to help in executing this project and promote co-operation in the field of agriculture particularly marketing and trade of agricultural crops.

SUBREGIONAL CONSULTATION ON "INCREASING FOOD AVAILABILITY THROUGH  
WASTE REDUCTION AND IMPROVEMENT OF MARKETING SYSTEM" IN EAST AND  
SOUTHERN AFRICAN SUBREGION 1982 (Activity 2.214.01)

## BACKGROUND

6.1.1 The resolution No. 3362(S-VII) of the Seventh Special Session of the general Assembly of the United Nations stated that post-harvest food losses in developing countries should be reduced by 50 percent by the end of 1985. In addition, the nineteenth session of the FAO Conference held in November 1977, approved the Director-General's proposal to establish an Action Programme for the Prevention of food losses to be financed from a special account created for this purpose from voluntary contribution of member governments, under FAO's own jurisdiction.

## IMPLEMENTATION

6.2.1 In 1976, ECA staff members made field visit to selected West African countries: questionnaires were prepared and distributed, annotated outlines were sent to the member countries in the Western African Subregion (Niamey MULPOC) for the preparation of country reports leading to the Workshop. In October 1976, the Division convened in Monrovia (Liberia) the first of a series of consultation on post-harvest losses reduction for the Western African Subregion. A report reflecting the salient issues discussed and the conclusion reached at the consultation was prepared in May 1977.

6.2.2. At the end of 1977, it was decided to hold a similar seminar for the East and Southern African Subregion (Lusaka MULPOC). Detailed questionnaires were formulated and transmitted to all member countries in Africa with a view to compiling various marketing data on food losses, input supply and agricultural marketing.

6.2.3 Outlines were prepared and sent to all countries in the East and Southern African Subregion in order to help them draw up country papers on food losses and agricultural marketing for the proposed workshop scheduled to take place in Lusaka (Zambia) in 1978. However, this consultation has been postponed three times owing to the lack of enthusiasm of some of the member countries to submit the required written contribution in time.

6.2.4 In June of this year, the Division mounted a two man mission to selected countries in the subregion to discuss, inter alia, the feasibility of holding the consultation some time next year. The mission's findings suggest that now most countries in the subregion are interested in participating at the consultation. Consequently, the Division is currently planning to convene the consultation in November 1982. This meeting should be held or effort should be intensified to hold the meeting in 1982.

6.2.5 The meeting would take the form of a workshop to inform the participants on the economic aspect of food losses and to give them opportunity to exchange views and experience.

6.2.6 A number of papers relating to the subject would be prepared by experts to form the basis for the discussion.

6.2.7 In addition, country reports would be presented.

#### Measures taken

6.2.8 As indicated above, since 1978, information forms were prepared and sent to member States in the subregion. Reminders were sent as well as outline to prepare country papers including deadline for their submission. Moreover, an ECA field mission visited six countries in the subregion in June 1981.

#### Progress to date

6.2.9 Of the 16 countries of the subregion which plan to participate in the workshop, only four responded and prepared country reports - more are expected to come.

#### Proposals for follow-up or possible date of completion

6.2.10 The availability of the country papers would greatly facilitate holding this meeting. ECA should also provide fund for interpreters, translators, stationery etc.

6.2.11 As part of its activities to minimize food losses in the Region, the Division has also embarked upon the development of new projects. One of these is the project on mass media campaign for the prevention of food losses. Nevertheless, the implementation of this project is pending due to resource constraints.

## ASSESSMENT/EVALUATION

6.3.1 About \$38,000 is needed to organize the workshop.

## PROPOSALS FOR ACTIVITIES 1982/83

- 6.4.1 - Follow-up actions for preparation of country papers according to the outline.
- Preparation of the leading papers for the discussion in the Workshop.
  - Field visits to make the necessary preparation for the workshop and assist countries which do not have the necessary manpower to write the reports.
  - Identifying projects and programmes on food waste and losses.
  - Finally publication and distribution of the reports.

## CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

6.5.1 The national activities for the prevention of food losses in African countries must be considerably increased if the target of 50 percent is to be achieved. While most countries in Africa have programme to "grow food" few have initiated national campaign to "save food". The first element of a country's policy in Africa for the prevention of food losses must be a strong commitment to reduce food loss, entailing the establishment of national plan of action and the provision of necessary resources to implement the plan. Unfortunately, one of the major bottlenecks obstructing the implementation of projects on post-harvest food losses is the low priority which member countries seem to assign to the reduction of food waste and losses.

6.5.2 The countries in the region need to recognize the significance of reducing post-harvest losses as a useful mechanism increasing food availability and promoting food security.

Project for the Improvement and Development of Agricultural  
Statistical Institutions and Services in four countries of  
East and Central Africa (Zambia, Tanzania, Burundi, Rwanda)  
within the framework of the MULPOCS (Activity 9.211 01)

BACKGROUND

7.1.1 The project originated from the recommendations of the Regional Food Plan for Africa (AFPLAN), the Lagos Plan of Action (LPA), the Tenth and Eleventh FAO Regional Conferences for Africa, the Conferences of African Planners, Demographers and Statisticians, and the African Commissions on Agricultural Statistics; and from the resolution 14/75 of the Eighteenth Session of the FAO Conference, concerning the development and improvement of agricultural statistics and statistical systems in developing regions.

7.1.2 The conclusions and recommendations of the project so far completed are being brought to the attention of the Fifth Lusaka MULPOC Meeting for information and, if the Officials and Ministers consider it fit, they may like to recommend the extension of the project to the other countries of the subregion which have not been so far covered under the project.

7.1.3 The objective of the project is to organize, improve and increase the capacity for the agricultural data collection and processing, particularly of institutions interested with the carrying out of agricultural national census and surveys in order to provide timely and reliable agricultural statistics for planning and implementation of national, subregional and regional development programmes.

IMPLEMENTATION

7.2.1 The execution of the project so far completed for the four countries (Burundi, Rwanda, Tanzania and Zambia) necessitated the employment of the services of an experienced statistician, as consultant. His task was to visit and make a detailed study and assessment of the functions and modus operandi of all agricultural statistical institutions in each country as well as make appropriate recommendations for improving the functions of these institutions. The ultimate objective is to carry out this exercise for each country in the Africa region. This is to be achieved by dividing all the countries in subregion. The choice of the countries constituting a group being primarily according to the MULPOC groups.



7.2.2 Measures taken: The consultant was recruited and as a start, visited the four countries, Zambia, Tanzania, Burundi and Rwanda in early 1980. Prior to the visits, the consultant visited the Research Development Centre of the FAO in Rome, the FAO Regional Office in Accra and the Joint ECA/FAO Agriculture Division of the ECA in Addis Ababa for orientation, information and advice as well as to prepare a co-ordinated documentation on related works in these countries on the development of their agricultural statistics institutions. Also a questionnaire on the type of information needed for his work was prepared and circulated to the countries well in advance of his visit.

7.2.3 Progress achieved to date: The consultant finished his work in 1980 and a report was produced containing a detailed review and assessment of the agricultural statistical situation in each of the four countries visited. An action programme was suggested for each country consisting of recommendations on ways of making for better utilization and development of the infrastructures and services responsible for agricultural statistics. The reports have been circulated in mid-1981 to the countries concerned for their comments as well as to other interested parties.

7.2.4 Proposals for follow-up: The follow-up activity to the Agricultural Statistical Institutions project contemplated is the formulation of a statistical assistance project for all countries identified in the study, in which it is established that there is need for streamlining their agricultural data collection activities. Such assistance will take the form of a workshop under the auspices of the MULPOCs at which responsible officers engaged in the senior positions in governmental and non-governmental organizations in the countries concerned and who are responsible for the collection of agricultural statistical information, will be exposed to techniques for co-ordinating and harmonizing agricultural data collection activities in their respective countries. There will of course be exchanges of ideas and experiences at the workshop by the participants and they will be presented with methodologies in a practical way, for the scientific consolidation of statistical data from various sources. This proposed follow-up activity will of course only be implemented after all the comments received have been analysed.

#### ASSESSMENT/EVALUATION:

7.3.1 In the study, it was found out that in each of the four countries, agricultural statistical information of various kinds does exist, and which are being collected by a plethora of institutions, using various methodologies. Most of these information are duplicated and are of varying degrees of accuracy and reliability. Such activities of the institutions involved could be co-ordinated so as to reduce the inconsistencies in the data they produce, thus making their results more timely and reliable.

7.3.2 In Zambia, it was found out, an attempt has been made by the Central Statistical Office (CSO) to establish good linkages with some of the other institutions that collect agricultural statistical information and to use their results. However, there is still a lot more to be done in order to establish maximum co-operation and there are problems such as the lack of sufficiently qualified personnel, etc. The recommendation in the case of Zambia is thus that the CSO tries to acquire the required resources to establish its objective of co-ordinating and harmonizing the collection and processing of all agricultural statistical information in the country.

7.3.3 In the case of Tanzania, it was found out that the Bureau of Statistics, which apparently is the only institution that should be in a position to co-ordinate and harmonize the activities of the various agricultural statistical institutions in the country, was greatly handicapped through lack of resources, both financial and manpower, and stature. The status of the Bureau of Statistics vis-à-vis other institutions that collect agricultural statistical information should be greatly enhanced if it is to fulfil its role effectively. There is a lot of scope for increased co-ordination between the activities of the Bureau of Statistics with other relevant institutions in the field of agricultural statistics.

7.3.4 In the case of Rwanda and Burundi, there is no one such institution as at present constituted that is sufficiently capable to fulfil the role of co-ordinating and harmonizing the agricultural statistical activities of institutions that do carry out such activities. The collection of agricultural statistical information in these countries is not very satisfactory except in the case of a few institutions whose activities do not directly concern the collection of the usual basic agricultural statistical information. There are a host of constraints - mostly related to lack of manpower and financial resources.

7.3.5 In Burundi, either the National Bank or the Ministry of Agriculture could be entrusted with the task of co-ordinating and harmonizing the agricultural statistical activities of institutions throughout the country but this can be attained only with a lot of external assistance. For the moment, adequate training of staff seems to be the most pressing problem that requires urgent solution in order to resolve the problem of inadequate collection of agricultural statistical data. It would be of tremendous help if in future, better educated field personnel could be recruited for undertaking survey work.

7.3.6 A USAID financed agricultural statistical survey project is in the offing and further activities should await the execution of this project.

7.3.7 The problem of identifying a national institution that could possibly be entrusted with the task of co-ordinating the agricultural statistical activities of all institutions, either with or without external assistance, is more difficult in the case of Rwanda. All the various reasons for the lack of co-ordination, dispersion and organization of the agricultural statistical activities existing in the country cannot be diagnosed and explained in full. Undoubtedly, one such reason is the absence of an agricultural statistical unit in the Ministry of Agriculture officially established and empowered to carry out its functions in full.

7.3.8 To summarize, the study found out that necessary actions for improving and developing the agricultural statistical institutions in the countries, though well known, were either not being efficiently implemented or not being implemented at all. The countries were confronted with the problems of lack of trained manpower, lack of expertise with the resulting adverse consequences of inadequate planning, ineffective co-ordination and lack of the proper priorities.

7.3.9 However, it is recommended that priority should be given to the agricultural statistical survey project and should be executed soonest with external help.

#### UNCOMPLETED TASKS, DELAYS, ETC:

7.4.1 As indicated in the preceding paragraphs, the first phase of the project, which consisted of the preparation of a report containing an assessment of the current situation in four countries of the Eastern and Central African subregion as well as recommendations for improvement was undertaken by a consultant in 1980. However, the follow-up action, consisting of a Workshop to discuss the recommendations and institute implementation of the recommendations had to be abandoned because of lack of funds. Also the extension of the project to other subregions was also abandoned for lack of funds.

#### PROPOSALS FOR ACTIVITIES DURING 1982-1983:

7.4.2 The continuation of the project is now being proposed, both in regard to the implementation of the workshop and in extending it to other parts of the subregion.