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PROGRAMME OF WORK AND PRIORITIES INCLUDING PROGRAMMES OF THE  
INSTITUTIONS FOR THE BIENNIUM 1982-1983

## INTRODUCTION

At the Inaugural Conference of Chief Executives of ECA-Sponsored Regional and Subregional Institutions, it was decided that each institution should review its work programme with a view to ensuring that it was realistic and consistent with the Lagos Plan of Action. The Inaugural Conference also decided that the work programmes of the institutions should be prepared in close co-operation with ECA and with institutions which have related or complementary objectives and activities. As a step towards implementing these decisions the institutions were asked to submit their work programmes for the year 1982-1983, to ECA for preliminary collation and analysis which would then be considered at the Second Conference of Chief Executives of ECA-Sponsored Regional and Subregional Institutions to be held from 1-5 December 1981, at the headquarters of the ADB in Abidjan. The work programmes so far received have been analysed and commented on with the following points in view:

- (a) do they conform to the Lagos Plan of Action: if not, in what ways do they not and suggest remedies;
- (b) do they cover similar areas of activity: if so, how can they be harmonized and implemented in co-operation by some or all of the institutions;
- (c) are there similar activities which could be advantageously included in the work programme and implemented in co-operation by some or all of the institutions;
- (d) do they or do they not cover similar activities being undertaken by ECA and how can this be remedied and their formulation and implementation be effected with ECA's participation;
- (e) any other relevant matter.

ACARTSOD

Generally speaking, the programme of work of ACARTSOD is in consonance with the Lagos Plan of Action, and is likely to constitute a sound introduction to its social implications as defined by the Third Conference of African Ministers of Social Affairs, and later endorsed by the ECA Conference of Ministers (Cf. Res. 423(XVI)).

The research programme would, however, require priority determination so that projects are undertaken according to the priorities defined in the Lagos Plan of Action, as the financial means and human resources available at this stage to ACARTSOD are limited. It is, therefore, suggested that, once the Surveys are completed, ACARTSOD devotes its time and efforts to the following projects:

- i. Indigenous teaching/learning materials and curricula.
- ii. Evaluation of African Social development strategies.
- iii. Food self-reliance in Africa

#### iv. Technology and rural development in Africa

The other projects listed in the programme of work could be taken up at a later stage, except for the social security project which should constitute an exception because of the decision adopted by the Governing Board in May 1931.

The Surveys which are of vital importance and priority to ACARTSOD should, at a certain stage, relate to PADIS for computerization of findings, and thereafter regular data up-dating.

The training programme of ACARTSOD is conceived in such a way that it will help fill gaps identified in the field of social development education and training, while initiating a cross-fertilization exercise which will widen the experiences of participating social change agents. As such it constitutes a positive contribution to human resources development retained as a priority area in the Lagos Plan of Action. The conceptual framework for social development in Africa, and the social implications of the Lagos Plan of Action need to be properly instilled in the minds of policy-makers and senior executives. The workshops and meetings envisaged by ACARTSOD are geared towards this objective. Needless to underscore that ECA/SDD should be closely associated with the implementation of these projects. ASWEA's role, as a regional professional body concerned with social work education, should be recalled in connection with ACARTSOD's programme of work, because the co-operation between the two institutions, the inter-governmental one (ACARTSOD) and the non-governmental one (ASWEA), will certainly be beneficial to the countries' endeavours in the field of social development research and training.

The three institutions listed (IFORD, IDEP and AIHTTR) have only personnel training in common and are strange bedfellows. AIHTTR naturally goes with the sister institutions ARCT and ARCEDEN. In the same technological institutions group could be added ESATRDC Dodoma and the Nairobi Photo-Interpretation and Mapping Centre.

#### IFORD

This should be compared with RIPS and the Cairo Demography Centre in terms of training and research programmes. The training activities accord with the Lagos Plan of Action. Possibility of duplication exists in respect of research programme activities as between IFORD, RIPS and ECA Population Division. Hence the need for programmes harmonization and the initiative for this should rest with ECA Population Division. Consideration could be given to co-operation in publishing research results, with say all three organizations contributing materials to a bilingual bulletin or journal.

#### IDEP

With regard to the nine months Programme for training in Development and Planning, it is only a small part of the training and research programmes that relates to ECA work programmes.

- (a) Demographic factors and projections in manpower planning is of interest to Population and Manpower Development Programmes in ECA.

- (b) Administrative aspects of planning is related to ECA programme in development administration.

Training in development policy, strategy and planning is particularly relevant to the development of self-reliance in manpower resources and therefore fully in accord with the Lagos Plan of Action.

ECA has for some years not offered courses in manpower planning; later however, action is being taken to help member States improve the relevance of their manpower planning machineries and provide national training workshops for manpower planning officers. ECA and IDEP's efforts in this field are complementary. ECA is already exploring with IDEP the possibility of mounting a specialization programme in human resources planning when USAID financial support becomes assured. Similarly, IDEP's course in administrative aspects of planning does not duplicate ECA programme in public administration and finance which is much more comprehensive, covering the whole range of administrative structures and reform, public finance and public enterprise.

The Introductory course in technology for planners is not more than an introduction and it is only marginal to the interest of either AIHTTR or ARCEDEM.

#### AIHTTR

The so-called programme is really a calendar of its activities. The details of its training programme were not attached.

Its training of technicians, technical teachers and engineers are fully in accord with the Lagos Plan of Action emphasis on technical manpower development for self-reliance and for the exploitation of Africa's natural resources. Its planned training activities or what initial courses it has begun, will not duplicate other regional efforts. There may be a duplication possibility with training at ARCEDEM but this will not be if the latter concentrated on on-the-job practical training and subcontracted to AIHTTR more fundamental, long-term formal training of design engineers and technologists. ECA should ensure that this is done.

In research programme it is complementarity that should be stressed. ARCT could subcontract research projects to either AIHTTR or ARCEDEM; AIHTTR could approach ARCT or ARCEDEM to take over to develop and manufacture prototype machinery and equipment that resulted from its training/research activities. ECA also has a role here to encourage this complementarity of functions.

In respect of AIHTTR planned research projects, it would be necessary that Projects II & IV be executed in collaboration with PARI Division of ECA and project IIIA in collaboration with ARCT.

#### I. West African Clearing House (WACH)

It would appear that the proposed work programme for WACH is based on the aims and objectives of the Clearing House and that:

- (a) they conform to the Lagos Plan of Action,
- (b) they do not cover similar areas of activity

- (c) there are no similar areas of activity which could be included in the work programme and implemented in co-operation with other institutions and
- (d) they do not cover similar activities being undertaken by ECA.

It is assumed, however, that the WACH work programme will be undertaken in close collaboration with ECOWAS and the African Centre for Monetary Studies.

## II. African Centre for Monetary Studies (Association of African Central Banks)

The proposed work programme for the African Centre for Monetary Studies (ACMS) does indeed conform to the Lagos Plan of Action and does not cover similar areas of activity. Furthermore, taking into account the resources available to ACMS, it would appear that there are no similar activities which could be included in the work programme and implemented in co-operation with other institutions.

It should be noted, however, that some of the proposed programme of activities are already included in ECA's work programme. It is therefore proposed that the following research activities be undertaken in close collaboration with other organizations as follows:

- (a) Monetary and Financial Obstacles to Intra-African Trade - ECA (Intra-African Trade and Finance Section)
- (b) Parallel Markets in Africa and their Implications for Co-operation and Development - ECA (Intra-African Trade and Finance Section)
- (c) Development of Capital Markets in Africa - ECA (Intra-African Trade and Finance Section)
- (d) Establishment of an African Monetary Fund - ADB, OAU and ECA (Intra-African Trade and Finance Section)
- (e) Foreign Investments in Africa: Possibility of Harmonization of Investment Codes of African Countries - ECA (Joint ECA/CTIC Unit on Transnational Corporations)
- (f) The Structure and Role of Interest Rates in Africa - ECA (Trade and Financial Relations with the Developed World Section)
- (g) The African Mutual Guarantee and Solidarity Fund, - OAU, ADB and ECA (Intra-African Trade and Finance Section)
- (h) Establishment of a Trade and Investment Bank for the ACP Group of Countries - ECA (Trade and Financial Relations with Third World Countries Section).

## III. African Development Bank (ADB)

In the absence of detailed information on ADB's lending programme and priorities, we are not able to comment on the Bank's work programme.

Port Management Association of Eastern and Southern Africa

The programme of the Association conforms to the Lagos Plan of Action but it is not possible in the absence of information to state whether it covers similar activities being undertaken by other institutions. All the five projects contained in the programme however, cover activities envisaged in the United Nations Transport and Communications Decade programme and since these projects were formulated, its implementation will be effected with ECA's participation.

African Regional Centre for Engineering Design and Manufacture (ARCEDEM)

The work programme of ARCEDEM relates to the following:

- (i) training of senior level engineers and machine designers;
- (ii) manufacture of capital goods and implements;
- (iii) development of indigenous African entrepreneurship;
- (iv) dissemination of knowledge of machine manufacture;
- (v) import substitution and attainment of industrial self-reliance.

These activities are dealt with in the following paragraphs of the Lagos Plan of Action: paragraphs 148, 159, 192, 196, 156, 167 for manpower build-up, paragraphs 189, 196, 519 for priority production development, paragraph 153 for promotion of entrepreneurship, and paragraphs 21 and 22 for industrial self reliance.

ARCEDEM being a medium-size design-based industrial unit with teaching-learning-production-demonstration matrix, there is wide scope for close collaboration with the Regional Centre for Technology (ARCT) in Dakar in the field of dissemination of knowledge, of design and machine manufacture, technology adaptation and unpackaging and with the Higher Institute for Technical Training and Research (AHTTR) in Nairobi in the field of manpower build-up at higher technical and managerial levels for basic industries.

The three institutions, i.e. ARCEDEM, ARCT and AHTTR could co-operate and pool efforts in assisting the formulation and implementation of the project on iron and steel for Eastern and Southern Africa in the fields of design of products and production lines, transfer and adaptation of appropriate technology, dissemination of technical know-how and the training and build-up of skilled manpower. They could also assist member States in the implementation of the Lagos Plan of Action at national level.

Regional Centre for Training in Aerial Surveys (RECTAS)

The adopted five year development programme 1981-85 is in full consonance with the objectives of the Lagos Plan of Action.

It devotes its activities to producing the badly needed manpower in the fields of aerial surveys, photogrammetry and photointerpretation for the whole of the Africa region. With the inclusion of remote sensing training in the courses offered by the Centre, RECTAS will as well fulfill the objectives of the ARSC. The activities of the Centre in the field of cartography are complementary to those of ECA.

Regional Centre for Services in Surveying and Mapping (RCSSM)

Recalling that this Centre was established to provide specialized services in surveying and mapping for member States the eastern and southern Africa sub-region its activities conform with the LPA's objectives.

Moreover, the Centre has among its activities, been designated as the executing agency for the continent wide geodetic network using Doppler position fixing. It also offers short courses and user assistance services in remote sensing thus fulfilling the objectives of the ARSC.

Its activities do not overlap with those of ECA or of any other institutions in the field of surveying, regional mapping and related subjects. Both for RECTAS and RCSSM, ECA is involved in providing guidance concerning policy matters and programme implementation by being an ex-officio member of their respective governing councils of which it holds the Chairmanship.

Centre Regional de Teledetection de Ouagadougou (CRTO)

The Centre Regional de Teledetection de Ouagadougou's work programme for 1982 and 1983 is in line with the objectives of the LPA. It is with the Nairobi Centre RCSSM/RRSF - a fully operational Centre at subregional level in the field of remote sensing.

Its activities are part of the African Remote Sensing Programme and do not conflict with those of ECA.

### African Remote Sensing Council (ARSC)

The African Remote Sensing Council was established to co-ordinate the remote sensing activities within member States, provide through its five regional centres training and user assistance services to the Africa region. Under the aegis of ARSC the ground receiving stations are in the process of being set up thus establishing the self-reliance of the region.

A team of experts led by ECA recently visited the five centres and had examined the training programmes in remote sensing with a view to harmonization and avoidance of possible duplication. The team had run up a five year programme of work which is in consonance with the requirements of the Lagos Plan of Action. Notwithstanding the information contained in this submission the Directors General will have the opportunity to discuss the programmes when the appropriate item on the agenda is being discussed.

### The African Association of Cartography (AAC)

It will be recalled that the AAC was primarily established to play an active role in the co-ordination of cartographic matters, keep the member States informed of professional developments within its terms of reference and to work closely with both international, regional and national institutions in the development of cartography in general.

The report of the third session of the AAC seems to indicate areas of doubt about its operations which need to be re-oriented to zero in the Lagos Plan of Action. On the part of the ECA, the AAC is complementary rather than duplicative. With the strengthening of the AAC, the ECA will have an effective arm to implement provisions in cartography as indicated in the LPA.