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**ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR AFRICA**

**June 1980**

**African Institute for Higher Technical Training and Research**

**SUMMARY RECORDS OF THE SECOND SESSION OF THE GOVERNING COUNCIL**

**(Nairobi, 14 - 17 May 1980)**

**I. ATTENDANCE AND ORGANIZATION OF WORK**

**(a) Attendance**

The Second Session of the Governing Council of the African Institute for Higher Technical Training and Research was held at the Kenyatta Conference Centre, Nairobi, from 14 to 17 May 1980. It was attended by the representatives of the following member States: Algeria, Congo (Brazzaville), Ghana, Guinea, Guinea Bissau, Kenya, Nigeria, Togo, Niger, Central African Republic, Representatives of the following collaborating organizations, namely IJNDP, UNIDO, UNESCO, UNEP, ILO, the Commonwealth Secretariat and the Agence de Cooperation Culturelle et Technique also attended.

**(b) Opening of the Meeting (Agenda Item 4)**

The meeting was formally opened at 3.15 p.m. by the Vice-President of Kenya and Minister for Finance, H.E. Hon. Mwai Kibaki. In his speech the Vice-President, on behalf of the Government and the people of Kenya, welcomed both the delegates and the observers. He drew attention to the historic nature of the occasion when African States were trying to establish an institution designed to foster a technological break-through in Africa. He traced the various stages already accomplished in order to demonstrate Africa's desire for collective self-reliance in technical manpower resource. In that regard he commended the ECA for its groundwork which brought the Institute into being.

The Vice-President further went on to ask such vital questions as what the objectives of the Institute were and whether in the circumstances of the present-day world economic situation all the stated objectives could be fulfilled. He noted that the Institute would train technical manpower, train technical teachers and operate a production workshop. Essentially, the mission of the Institute was to develop a new crop of innovative African technologists and its programmes would be closely oriented to practical problems. He remarked the unique nature of the Institute in being also concerned with the development of indigenous technologies, and noted with satisfaction that the Institute would operate in complementary relationship with the African Centre for Technology in Dakar (Senegal) and the Engineering Design and Manufacturing Centre in Ibadan (Nigeria).

In the opinion of the Vice-President the creation and operation of the Institute would enable Africa to go a long way towards achieving a technological revolution. He therefore urged all OAU member States to support the Institute and emphasized that its financing should remain primarily the responsibility of member States although financial aid from outside would be welcome. He also congratulated the UNDP for supporting the Institute right from its birth.

Kenya on its part as host country fully accepted its responsibility, he assured the audience. To that end, Kenya was going to pay up its assessed contribution during the current session of the Council. It has set aside adequate land for the permanent site of the Institute, and has assured the use of the facilities of Kenyan training institutions in order to facilitate the work of the Institute.

Finally, he urged the Council to concentrate on the following concrete matters in order to achieve positive results: decision on programmes and the timing of the payment of member States' contributions; appointment of the core staff of the Institute; mobilizing funds for programme operation; country visits to secure the support of member States and seek the collaboration of interested organizations.

Mr. Adebayo Adedeji, ECA Executive Secretary, also addressed the Council and thanked His Excellency, the Vice-President for his very pertinent address as well as for the generosity of the Government of Kenya in hosting the Institute and providing ample facilities for the meeting.

He emphasized three significant things about the meeting, namely:

- (i) the consistency of the Government of Kenya and its senior officials in giving support to the idea of establishing the Institute; (ii) the fact that the Institute was a practical demonstration of Africa's involvement in technical cooperation among developing countries to foster development; (iii) the assurance coming from the Vice-President that Kenya would immediately pay up its contribution to the Institute.

Mr. Adedeji then drew attention to the strategic role and importance of the Institute in the context of the requirements and challenge for the realization of the Lagos Plan of Action. The Institute would be required to produce technical manpower for various sectors of African economies. It was no longer the time to take things easy. African States have resolved to engage in a war of economic independence and have to realize that development must be based on hard work and sweat.

In outlining the main management problems and issues requiring the attention and consideration of the Council, he drew attention to:

- (i) the interim report of the technical feasibility studies providing a basis for the planning and design of the Institute;

- (ii) the effort Kenya Government has made through offering the use of its institutional facilities in the initial stages; providing the services of a Liaison Officer; provision of land; and arrangements to have the headquarters agreement signed, hopefully during the current session;
- (iii) the disappointing lack of response by member States to ECA's appeal to them to subscribe to the constitution of the Institute and pay up members' contributions;
- (iv) the inability to pursue work on curriculum and course programmes development simply because funds were not yet available;
- (v) the need for setting up an Executive Committee of the Council in the formative years to provide proper guidance to the Director-General of the Institute and to facilitate decision making.

In concluding his address, Mr. Adedeji assured the Council of ECA's continued collaboration in getting the Institute operational as soon as possible.

**(c) Election of Officers**

Council took note that the current Chairman had indicated his inability to attend the Session. As the Vice-Chairman was not also present and in accordance with the provisions of Section (b) of Rule 7 of the Rules of Procedure, the Council elected the following interim officers to conduct the business of the current session:

**Chairman: Mr. J.J. Kamotho, Hon. Minister of Higher Education (Kenya)**

**Vice-Chairman: Dr. I.C. Madubuike, Hon. Minister of Education (Nigeria)**

Council also took note of the absence of most of the countries expected to serve in the Selection Committee. To enable the Committee to function and report to the current session, Council decided that two other countries (Kenya and Togo) be coopted to serve in the Committee ad interim. That decision was subsequently amended to make Kenya, as host country, a regular member of the Committee.

**(d) Adoption of the Agenda (Agenda item 5)**

Council agreed to adopt its agenda as presented, subject to appropriate modifications to allow for the conclusion of formal business on 16 May.

II. SUMMARY OF PROCEEDINGS

1. Adoption of the Report of the First Session (Agenda item 6)

Council considered the summary records of the minutes of the first session and adopted the records without amendment.

Under matters arising from the summary records the following points were raised:

- (i) Whether the Institute's vacancy announcements were circulated to collaborating agencies that were in a position to assist in giving publicity to the vacancies. It was explained that although such action was not taken in general, the vacancies were circulated to UNESCO Regional Office for Science and Technology for Africa which assisted in publishing them.
- (ii) On questions relating to housing allowance for staff and duty-free privileges, a member called the attention of Council to the need to include locally recruited staff in granting housing allowances. Council agreed that such considerations should await the discussion of the Institute's conditions of service, but expressed reservations on the provisions of Annex IV of document GC1-79/Rev.1, (Senior Staff Allowances and Benefits) pending enquiries into the conditions applicable in other international organizations based in Nairobi.

Council therefore decided:

that a new proposal should be submitted to the Third Session for consideration.

2. Progress Report on the Establishment of the Institute (Agenda item 8)

Council took note of the progress thus far made towards the establishment of the Institute and the constraints hindering the efforts to get it operational early as elaborated in documents SC.4/80 and 10/80. It urged full support for the Institute by all African States in order to get it operational as soon as possible.

3. Membership of the Academic Board (Agenda item 11)

Council considered the report of the Selection Committee in respect of membership of the Academic Board as contained in Section I of document SC/1 and noted that Prof. Cheikh A. Diop (Senegal) in the reserved list has declined the opportunity to serve.

**Council Decided:** In accordance with the requirements of paragraph 1 of Article X of the Constitution to appoint as members of the Academic Board for an initial period of two years the following persons:

<u>Sub-region</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Country</u>
East	1. Mr. Philip M. Githinji	Kenya
	2. Dr. John Mwabula	Zambia
West	3. Prof. Abderhamane Baba Toure	Mali
	4. Dr. N.J. Garber	Sierra Leone
North	5. Prof. Mahdi Elmandjra	Morocco
	6. Dr. Benini Abdelivahab	Algeria
Central	7. Mr. Ngwaba Muyolo	Zaire
	8. Mr. Ngandjui Cyprian	Cameroon

(a) Interim Report on the Technical Feasibility Studies on the Structure, Design and Requirements of the Institute (Agenda item 12)

(b) Institute's Philosophy, Planning and Structure (Agenda item 13)

The interim report prepared by Educansult on the Institute was presented by the Secretariat. Council was invited to react to the conclusions in the report and particularly the assumptions which formed the basis of the report. At that juncture some members proposed and Council agreed that in view of the inter-dependence of agenda items 12 and 13, the latter should first be considered and discussions on both items should be taken together.

After the general consensus that at the appropriate time the detailed planning of the Institute's buildings would be advertised widely and full use made of resources, in Africa, the Secretariat introduced the document on the philosophy, planning and structure of the Institute (document GC 9/80). This gave the background to the concept, mission and design of the Institute and the functions of its proposed ten centres. Further elaboration was given on the purpose of the Industrial Production Centre. It was stressed that the Institute would be practice-oriented and would emphasize quality in training and practical application in research. It was intended that its innovative leadership would influence national technical institutions. A member commenting on the two agenda items drew attention to the fact that Africa had too many areas calling for immediate action and should therefore determine its "priorities among priorities". Attention was also drawn to the Monrovia strategy for African development and to the Lagos Plan of Action which was recently adopted by the OAU Economic Summit, and which placed food production among the first category of priorities. These elements constituted the basic strategy and goals to which the Institute must relate in its design, mission and programmes, it was stressed. Other points that were stressed and agreed were:

- (a) The need to be realistic in determining the scope of the Institute and the timing of action; and
- (b) the advisability of aligning the Institute's training and research programmes with those of sister institutions referred to earlier in this report;
- (c) the Institute should limit its activities during Phase I to the selected "priority of priorities" in determining the areas in which it should endeavour to achieve some impact by 1985/86 before embarking on the establishment of other centres under Phase II;
- (d) the Institute should be practice-oriented and really seen to be a problem solver; accordingly, research per se should receive lower priority except in so far as applied research in problem-solving would receive high priority.

The case for the inclusion of electronics and communications technology was made as it related to the priority attached to technical manpower requirements for the Transport and Communications Decade for Africa. Business and Social Studies Centres and the Physical Sciences were seen as supporting services to the basic centres.

In concluding the discussions on the structure of the Institute and phasing of action, Council decided as follows:

- Phase I programme should concentrate on the establishment of the top priority Centres in the following order:
- 1st Centre for Agricultural Engineering and Food Technology
  - 2nd Technical Teacher Educator/Instructor Training Centre
  - 3rd Centre for Electromechanical Engineering
  - 4th Interdisciplinary Industrial Production Centre
  - 5th Electronics and Communications Technology Centre

The establishment of the other five centres would fall under Phase II, except that the Business and Social Studies Centre could be included under Phase II activities if circumstances and resources proved favourable. Accordingly, the Centres to be established during Phase II would be: Business and Social Studies Centre; Centre for the Physical Sciences and Medical Technology; Centre for Chemical and Non-metaliferrous Technologies; Centre for Natural Energy Resources and Minerals Exploitation; Centre for Environmental and Infrastructural Studies.

Council noted with reassurance the statement of the representative of the Commonwealth Secretariat that as indicated in 1978, his organization shared the priority accorded to technical teacher and technical educator training. It further noted that the Commonwealth Secretariat was prepared to collaborate with the Institute through bursaries and fellowships in realizing the planned activities of the Technical Teacher Educator/Instructor Training Centre.

There was consensus on the philosophy of the Institute with its emphasis on problem-solving training and research programmes. Stress was placed on the need for the Institute to evolve a strategy of interacting and collaborating with similar institutions in all developing countries such as the Colombo Plan Staff College for Technician Education.

Questions were raised regarding admission requirements in the Institute's programmes, certification and recognition of diplomas. It was noted that educational systems and examinations practices varied among member States and it was necessary to take that into account. As to level of admission, it was stressed that the Institute should not duplicate what could be done by national institutions. In that connection it was suggested that it might be helpful for a conference of technical institutions and polytechnics to be convened at the appropriate time by the Institute in order to consider areas of cooperation and specialization.

Council decided that the Academic Board should look carefully into questions of admission requirements, certification and recognition of certificates and diplomas for different levels of student intakes to the Institute and submit specific recommendations to the Third Session of the Council.

#### 5. Institute's Courses and Commencement Programmes (Agenda item 14)

In introducing this item of the agenda it was indicated that the purpose of document GC 12/80 was to specify the course content and subject structure of the initial programmes to be offered by the Institute. While the analysis covered three of the priority Centres, similar exercise would need to be undertaken in respect of the other two centres for development during Phase I. The document was technical and needed the guidance of the Academic Board.

Council took note of the document and directed as follows:

- (i) The documents should be circulated to Ministries of Education in member States with an invitation to submit comments thereon.
- (ii) The Academic Board should carefully examine the document and submit its recommendations for the consideration of Council

#### 6. Policy on Students, Boarding, Fees and National Distribution (Agenda item 15)

(a) Council considered document GC 2/80 and attention was drawn to the suggested criteria for the distribution of students intake, the basis for charging fees and the question of accommodation and feeding of students.

Council members stressed that clarifications were necessary on the principle of charging students 50% of the cost of training; the need to establish data on the make-up of that cost; and what comparable costs prevailed in other countries as well as in African States for similar training programmes.

**Council decided:**

- (i) To defer decision on the subject till a full study was undertaken which took into consideration the prevailing costs in other countries and practices in similar institutions;
- (ii) to leave to the Executive Committee and the Secretariat the task of determining the level of fees payable for courses during the initial phase of the operations of the Institute.

(b) The question of the criteria for the distribution of students intake by the Institute was considered. One member pointed out that every African State has training needs and that those who contributed most need not be the same as those who had most students for the Institute. It was necessary to take into consideration the index of contribution to the budget of the Institute in determining the allocation of students' places while leaving a certain proportion of intake to cater for those countries with greater needs for training and to other interests such as African States not yet members of the Institute.

**Council directed that:**

- (i) The Executive Committee should study all the administrative and other implications of the proposals, including criteria for equitable allocation of students places and submit feasible recommendations.
- (ii) For the initial intake of students in 1980/81, admission should be made on the basis of available students and their competence.

**7. Institute's Banking Arrangements (Agenda item 16)**

Council considered the proposal presented in document GC 5/80(Rev.1) and approved it.

**8. Institute's Building Plan: Request for Technical Assistance - Proposal (Agenda item 17)**

In the presentation of document GC 6/80 it was explained that while African States accepted collective responsibility for financing and managing the Institute they nonetheless required the support of non-African donor governments and organizations particularly in providing funds for the Institute's permanent buildings, machinery and equipment and for specific training and research programmes.



Comments on the proposal included the need to broaden the organizations to be approached for support, elimination of specified amounts in the request and the elimination of any loan request however soft. Council agreed that all member States, particularly Kenya as host country should play a positive role in seeking financial support for the Institute.

Council decided that:

- (i) ECA should prepare a technical cooperation project document for seeking funds for the development of the Institute.
- (ii) A fund-raising mission at ministerial level, comprising the Chairman, Vice-Chairman and two other members of the Council should be undertaken in due course to interested donor countries and organizations on behalf of the Institute.
- (iii) EEC should be requested to provide for the Institute out of its regional funds a substantial grant; similar requests should also be addressed to COMICON, and other regional organizations and financial institutions, as well as to other bilateral and multi-lateral donor organizations and agencies.

9. Signing of the Constitution by new Members (Agenda item 2)

Council noted that Nigeria has already mandated its plenipotentiary in Addis Ababa to subscribe to the Constitution as soon as possible. It further noted that the Togolese delegation wanted to consult with his Government before subscribing to the Constitution as Togo took membership of the Institute very seriously. The Algerian delegation also assured the meeting that his country had shown keen interest in the Institute from the very beginning and that Algeria through its plenipotentiary in Addis Ababa would sign the Constitution in due course.

ECA Executive Secretary pointed out that verbal support for the cause of technical cooperation was not enough and such manifestation of the will to cooperate must be backed up by the early signing of the Constitution and by financial support. He appealed to Council members to urge their governments which had not yet signed to instruct their accredited representatives in Addis Ababa to sign the Constitution early. The appeal was fully endorsed by Council.

Council also noted that although 16 countries participated in the First Session with declared intention to become members only Ghana, Kenya, Egypt, Upper Volta, Mali, Niger and Senegal had signed the Constitution.

**10. Payment of Member States' Contribution (Agenda item 3)**

Council took note with appreciation that Kenya had already taken steps to pay its 1979/80 contribution of KSh 332,740 1/ during the course of the current Session. The Nigerian delegation indicated that their payment would be made very soon when arrangements were completed. As no Institute's expenditure was incurred in 1979 against member States' contributions payments of 1979/80 assessments would be credited against 1980/81 assessments.

Council drew attention to the urgent necessity for the Institute to have its own staff on board in order for it to get operational as scheduled. It again appealed to all member States to pay up their contributions and support the Institute financially.

**11. Meeting of the Selection Committee (Agenda item 7)**

The Selection Committee met at 5 p.m. on 15 May. The report of its deliberations and recommendations are contained in Annex I of this report. The report was considered under agenda item 10 below.

**12. Institute's Programme and Budget, 1980-81 (Agenda item 9)**

Working documents GC 8/80 and 10/80 Annex were presented. Attention was drawn to the Institute's planned recruitment programme during 1980-81 which was designed to provide core staff for three teaching centres and the divisions of administration and finance. Council was assured that with the assistance of member States in publicising vacancies the required staff could be secured. It was further explained that as no expenditure on the Institute's account was incurred in 1979, the 1979-80 budget has been rephased to a 1980-81 budget with additional expenditures. Member States paying the old 1979-80 assessment would have their payments credited against the 1980-81 budget assessment. It was also pointed out that were all member States to become members of the Institute which was the assumption of the Constitution in setting the quorum, the scale of assessment for the contribution of US\$2,960 million in 1980-81 would be as shown in the Annex to document GC 10/80.

Council considered the budget proposal, sought clarifications and wanted to know when member States would be informed of any upward adjustments in contributions in the event that all the 49 or 50 African States did not become members of the Institute; to what account was UNDP contribution being paid; and whether member States would pay into the Institute's Nairobi or New York accounts.

In response it was explained that any upward revision of member State's assessment would first be presented to the Executive Committee and subsequently to the full Council before such assessment became effective.

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1/ Equivalent to US\$45,032.

UNDP contribution, Council was informed, was being paid to ECA as Executing Agency through a New York account for the Institute's project by an accounting arrangement of the United Nations system. Member States' contributions, being in foreign exchange, would be paid direct to the Institute's foreign currency account in either Nairobi or New York, except that Kenya might pay in Kenyan shillings to the Institute's local currency account to avoid the cost and inconvenience of reconversions.

Finally, Council approved the 1980-81 Programme and Budget.

**13. Cooperation in Developing a Clearing House Facility on National Needs in Specific Technical Services and Manpower (Agenda item 18)**

Document GC 3/80 outlining proposals to ensure cooperation between the Institute and national and other regional institutions concerned with training and research in technical and technological fields was presented. To facilitate that objective, the Institute proposed the establishment of a small unit in its campus to serve as a clearing house and meeting point on important development activities of technological interest to training and research institutions in the region.

Council considered the proposal and approved it.

**14. Establishment of an Executive Committee of the Council (Agenda item 19)**

Document GC 7/80 was presented, elaborating the case for establishing an Executive Committee to guide the Director-General and take early decisions on urgent matters. The need was particularly great during Phase I of the Institute's planning and development. Regarding the composition of the Committee, Council was invited to consider an alternative option of having ECA take an active and coordinating role and of using senior government officials on a subregional basis in the membership of the Committee.

Council agreed on the need for an Executive Committee, debated its composition and functions and decided as follows:

- (1) To establish an Executive Committee of the Council with membership as follows:
  - (a) Chairman of the Governing Council as Chairman of the Executive Committee;
  - (b) Vice-Chairman of the Governing Council as Vice-Chairman of the Executive Committee;
  - (c) Five members representing the subregions as follows: East Africa 1; Southern Africa 1; Central Africa 1; West Africa 1; North Africa 1;

- (d) The Executive Secretary of ECA, as ex-officio member without the right to vote;
- (e) The Secretary-General of the OAU as ex-officio member without the right to vote;
- (f) Such selective representatives of collaborating international organizations as may be invited from time to time in a non-voting observer capacity for the consideration of specific items on the Agenda;
- (g) The Director-General of the Institute, without the right to vote and who shall provide secretarial services to the Committee.

(ii) Powers and Functions:

The Executive Committee shall have powers to deliberate on all matters that may be specifically assigned to it by the Governing Council and on urgent matters the Director-General might present to it. It shall also have powers to take decisions on policy, financial and personnel matters and report to the full Council. It shall take final decisions in respect of executive and operational matters and simply report to Council for information but in matters of fundamental policy issues, budget and member States' assessment and the appointment of key personnel (Heads of Centres/ Administration/ Finance and higher level staff) it shall report to the full Council for consideration and endorsement.

(iii) Membership of the Executive Committee:

The following countries were unanimously elected to serve in the Committee for the duration of the life of the present Council:

- Chairman (Niger)
- Vice-Chairman (Upper Volta)
- East Africa: Kenya
- West Africa: Nigeria
- Southern Africa: Mozambique
- Central Africa: Zaire
- North Africa: Algeria

- (iv) The Executive Committee shall meet at least once a year.
- (v) The Executive Committee shall function as an interim measure and shall operate for the duration of the life of the current Council unless its life was further extended.
- (vi) The travel fair (first class tickets) for voting members of the Executive Committee, their accommodation and subsistence shall be met from the budget of the Institute; no sitting allowance shall be paid.
- (vii) A simple majority of its voting members shall constitute a quorum.

15. Appointment of Institute's Staff: Reports of the Selection Committee (Agenda item 10)

Council considered the two reports submitted to it by the Selection Committee (documents SC/1 and Annex I of this summary records).

Regarding the post of Director-General Council noted that the two recommended candidatures were earlier brought to the attention of all member States since October 1979. After considering the interview reports on both candidates, Council decided that:

Professor Mark O. Chijioke (Nigerian) be offered an appointment as Director-General of the Institute for four years in the first instance.

Council further decided to defer consideration of other appointments and mandated the Executive Committee at its first meeting before September 1980 to review candidatures for recruitment as core staff and to offer appointments to suitably qualified candidates.

Council also considered document GC 11/80 on Staff Designation and approved the proposals contained therein.

16. Report on Mission to India (Agenda item 21)

A brief presentation was made of document GC 13/80 on the mission to India and Council took note of the report.

17. Date and venue of the next Session (Agenda item 22)

Council agreed to have its Third Session held in Nairobi in the 3rd week of July 1981. Council further agreed on the following calendar of meetings:

- (a) Selection Committee on staff recruitment: last week of July 1980
- (b) Academic Board: last week of July 1980 or 3rd week of August 1980
- (c) Interview of Candidates for appointment: August 1980
- (d) Executive Committee: last week of August 1980

18. Any other Business

The Kenyan delegation, on behalf of its Government, presented to the ECA representative a cheque for KSh.332,740 1/ in payment of its contribution to the 1980-81 budget of the Institute, thus becoming the first member State to pay its contribution. Council noted the payment with appreciation and expressed gratitude to the Government of the Republic of Kenya for the payment as well as for the land made available for the Institute's permanent site.

1/ Equivalent to US\$45,032.

One Council member called for an acronym for the Institute since its present title was rather long. Some suggested shorter titles were:

"African Institute of Technology" (AIT); "African Higher Technical Institute" (AHTI). Council however agreed that the question of a shorter name or an acronym for the Institute should be left to the Director-General and ECA to consider and submit a recommendation.

19. Draft Report (Agenda item 24)

Draft Summary Records of the Second Session were circulated to delegates for information.

The delegation of Togo observed that the Draft Summary Records were too brief and deliberately omitted the attention he had drawn to the legal and constitutional issues in the work of the Council. He therefore pressed for his observations to be recorded. A summary of his written reservations is contained in Annex II of this Summary Records.

20. Visit to Institute's Temporary and Permanent Sites (Agenda item 20)

Council members on 17 May visited the Institute's temporary site as well as the 300 acres site allotted for its permanent buildings.

21. Closing of the Meeting (Agenda item 25)

At the closing meeting the Chairman briefly outlined the achievements of the Council in terms of vital decisions made and in particular the appointment of the Director-General of the Institute. He also noted specific areas of the work of the Council where action was yet to be taken. He urged Council members to implore their governments to subscribe to the Constitution and pay up their contributions. He called upon the observers to assist the Institute in mobilizing resources for its development.

The Chairman then thanked Council members for their contributions and urged them to continue working for the permanent interest of the Institute. He also thanked the Government of Kenya and the Ministry of Higher Education for all the facilities and assistance which made it possible for the Council to achieve positive results. The services of support staff were also appreciated. He reiterated Kenya's determination and commitment in ensuring that the right environment prevailed for the effective operation of the Institute. Finally, he brought the meeting to a close.

**REPORT OF THE MEETING OF THE SELECTION COMMITTEE (Agenda item 7)**

The Selection Committee met on 15 May with the following participating:

Mr. S.I. Edokpayi (ECA; in Chair)  
Mr. Chakouri Abderrezak (Algeria)  
Mr. Fonnety Mensah (Togo, Coopted)  
Mr. James Kamunge (Kenya)

Absent:

Swaziland, Uganda, Upper Volta and Zaire.

The business of the Committee was to review the candidatures of applicants and submit recommendations to the Council. The Committee however noted the paucity of candidatures from French-speaking African States' and the inadequate attendance of its regular members. Accordingly, it concluded to recommend as follows:

- (i) Post of Director-General: Since candidatures for that post were short-listed last October, the results since then made known to all member States, the recommended candidates interviewed, and having regard to the necessity of proceeding with the work of the Institute in earnest, it considered the immediate appointment of a Director-General particularly important. Accordingly, it recommended that Council should proceed with making the appointment of the better qualified candidate.
- (ii) Appointments to other posts: Although the recruitment of other core staff was very important and urgent, and having regard to the paucity of French-speaking candidates and the inadequate attendance, the appointments to other posts should be deferred to the next meeting.
- (iii) Vacancy announcements should be readvertized through appropriate channels of member States.
- (iv) The Selection Committee should be reconvened for two working days by the last week of July or early August 1980 in Nairobi to review candidatures and submit recommendations.
- (v) Council should mandate the Executive Committee, when set up, to review the recommendations of the Selection Committee and make appointments of suitable persons to meet the immediate core staff requirements of the Institute.

(vi) The Secretariat should plan to have the meetings of the Executive Committee, the Academic Board and the Selection Committee in a manner that all three would take place in August 1980. In fixing the exact dates for these meetings account should be taken of the dates of other international meetings in the field of education, especially those of the UNESCO General Meeting and the Commonwealth Secretariat's Meeting of Education Ministers.

The Secretariat should also consider the possibility of holding the meetings of the Executive Committee, the Academic Board and the Selection Committee in a manner that all three would take place in August 1980. In fixing the exact dates for these meetings account should be taken of the dates of other international meetings in the field of education, especially those of the UNESCO General Meeting and the Commonwealth Secretariat's Meeting of Education Ministers.

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Position of the Togolese Delegation at the Second Session of the  
Governing Council

At the closing meeting the Togolese delegation expressed reservations as follows:

theTogolese delegation thought it right not to sign the Constitution in view of the reservations he made concerning the non-juridical character of the work of the second session of the Governing Council until the Togolese authorities have had the opportunity to consider the report he would present to them.

In logical consequence, he declared, the participation of the Togolese delegation at the work of the Selection Committee should be considered null and void. It was juridically normal that Togo did not appear in the reports as a signatory and member of the Governing Council.

In conclusion, he also asked the Council to remove Togo from the report of the Selection Committee.