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Item 4 of the provisional agenda*

ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR AFRICA
Twenty-first session of the Commission
Twelfth meeting of the Conference
of Ministers
Yaounde, Republic of Cameroon
Item 5 of the provisional agenda*

**BIENNIAL REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY
(1984-1985)**

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**BIENNIAL REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY
(1984-1985)**

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FOREWORD

This biennial report on the years 1984-1985 is the fourth in the series which I started in 1978 as a vehicle for reporting to member States on the activities of the Commission and its secretariat to promote economic growth and development in the region and to assist member States individually and collectively through their intergovernmental organizations not only to formulate appropriate policies but also to solve specific problems and implement projects. As indicated in the 1982-1983 report, the present report which is on the biennium 1984-1985 covers the same biennium as that of the Secretary-General's proposed programme budget for the biennium 1984-1985 and, the report on the implementation of the programme of work and priorities contained in chapter III is the relevant component of the programme performance report of the Secretary-General which will be submitted to the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination at its twenty-sixth session in May 1986.

In the report on the 1982-1983 biennium, I said, inter alia, that the review of economic and social conditions in the two years demonstrated clearly that the socio-economic conditions in the region during that period deteriorated mainly because of natural disasters and external conditions and policies. In the biennium 1984-1985, the two causal factors became intensified and the biennium can without exaggeration be termed a "disaster and crisis" biennium par excellence. Indeed, as I said in my 1984 end-of-year assessment of Africa's socio-economic performance and the prospects for 1985, "1984 will go down in history as Africa's worst year in the economic domain since the great depression".

The first problem was the drought and the associated famine. As I further said in my end of 1984 press conference, "... Africa of 1984 was invariably associated in the mind of the public with drought and desertification, famine and hunger, diseases and deaths for both human beings and livestock and a massive displacement of population from drought-affected regions in search of food, water and pasture. Africa was in 1984 the very sick child of the international economy". And for the first time in African history, there was a solid international response mainly in 1985 from governments, multinational aid agencies, non-governmental organizations and individuals that went a long way to reduce the misery and sufferings.

The good rainy season of 1985 broke the intensity of the 1983-1985 drought. But that did not mean that the economic crisis was over. Indeed as indicated below in the chapter on "Review of economic and social conditions in Africa, 1984-1985", while the food situation improved significantly in 1985, the recovery in export crops coincided with drastic falls in the prices of primary commodities, including minerals excluding tropical beverages; government outlays declined due to shortfalls in foreign exchange earnings as well as to the series of adjustment programmes undertaken in response to the advice of the International Monetary Fund

(IMF) and the World Bank or undertaken by some governments independently of such advice; unemployment increased; official development assistance remained stagnant in real terms; overall capital inflows declined; and the burden of external indebtedness increased as the terms of borrowing worsened and the capacity to repay decreased.

Against the background of the unprecedented crisis, my first major assignment in early 1984 was to accompany the Secretary-General of the United Nations on a tour of eight West African countries which were reeling under the deleterious effects of drought and famine. The West African tour was a follow-up to the one which the Secretary-General had undertaken in Eastern and Southern Africa in 1983 and on which I had also accompanied him. We went, we saw and we were appalled. Indeed, in December 1983 and February 1984, the Secretary-General held meetings at United Nations Headquarters with representatives of Member States. The purpose was to increase the international awareness of the situation, to explain the need to mobilize additional resources in support of appropriate national policies, and to seek ways and means of improving the effectiveness of efforts of the international community.

At its organizational meeting in February 1984, the Economic and Social Council decided to devote a major portion of its second regular session of 1984 to a discussion of the African crisis. But earlier on, the Conference of Ministers of ECA, at its ninth meeting in May 1983 had requested the Executive Secretary of ECA to organize a Special Scientific Round Table to which African and other international experts on climate, land, water and soil resources, ecology and the environment should be invited to "examine the causes, periodicity, trends and effects of drought on the African economies and to propose measures that can be taken in the short, medium and long term to deal with the problem" and to submit the report to it at its tenth meeting/nineteenth session of the Commission in 1984.

The main result of these decisions and discussions was that the Conference of Ministers had no choice but to focus its tenth meeting on the African economic crisis. Specifically, the Ministers, among other things, examined such burning issues as the critical situation of food and agriculture in Africa, the causes of discrepancy between the increasing resource allocation to food and agriculture and the declining performance of the sector, the climatic situation and drought in Africa, natural disaster prevention and preparedness in Africa, Africa's external debt and its impact on the current economic crisis. Following their fruitful discussions and exchange of views, the Ministers adopted a Special Memorandum on Africa's Economic and Social Crisis for submission to the 1984 second regular session of the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations and to the twentieth ordinary session of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity. The memorandum discussed the crisis in all its multiple dimensions, and proposed emergency as well as short-, medium- and long-term measures for dealing with the crisis and the root

causes of underdevelopment in Africa. An annex attached to the memorandum contained proposals on ways and means of dealing with the problems of Africa's external indebtedness, prepared by African Ministers of Finance at their Regional Ministerial Meeting on African External Indebtedness in June 1984.

Unfortunately, in spite of the overwhelming verbal support for the recommendations contained in the memorandum, as evidenced by the speeches and the number of speakers at the second regular session of the Economic and Social Council, all attempts to get such expression of support concretized into a resolution expressing the commitment of the international community proved abortive. However, the Council did agree that the issue should be discussed at the following session of the General Assembly. Accordingly, the critical economic situation in Africa featured prominently on the agenda for the thirty-ninth session of the General Assembly which adopted resolution 39/29 on the critical economic situation in Africa and a Declaration on the critical economic situation in Africa, outlining an agenda for international support for economic recovery, rehabilitation and development in Africa.

At the twentieth ordinary session of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of OAU in November 1984, the Heads of State and Government not only adopted a declaration on the critical economic situation in Africa which endorsed the ECA Special Memorandum and outlined emergency, recovery and long-term development measures at the national, regional and international levels, but also decided to set up a special emergency fund for drought and famine in Africa. It further decided to devote its twenty-first session, in 1985, to Africa's economic problems with particular emphasis on (a) the progress made in the implementation of the Lagos Plan of Action and the definition of measures for an earlier attainment of the objectives of the Plan; (b) the formulation of an emergency programme for Africa, comprising immediate measures in the priority economic areas, and particularly in the agricultural and food sectors; and (c) the establishment of a common platform for action intended for the specialized agencies of the United Nations system on international economic issues of crucial interest to Africa. To prepare the documents for the summit, the Heads of State and Government set up a Steering Committee of seven member States, to which the secretariats of OAU and ECA were requested to give technical support.

As part of the Secretary-General's determination to leave no stones unturned in his efforts to make the crisis situation known to the international community and ensure constant monitoring of the needs of member States seriously affected by the crisis, he appointed me as his Special Representative in Africa on the African economic crisis. In this connection, a small office was established in Nairobi to which I seconded one of my senior staff members to help me oversee the office and co-ordinate the activities of the agencies that agreed to participate in the collection

and analysis of data on member States' needs and donors' responses, with a view to providing information to the international community on the gaps to be filled. In carrying out this task, we worked closely with the UNDP resident representatives/United Nations resident co-ordinators whose assistance was invaluable. We also worked with bilateral donors and non-governmental organizations. The Office in Nairobi was also responsible for preparing some of the documents that went to the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly. In addition to my regular duties as the Executive Secretary of ECA and the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on the African Economic Crisis, I also participated in the work of the Task Force of Senior Officials which the Secretary-General had established in New York to help him deal with the crisis.

With the decisions of the Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity to devote the greater part of their twenty-first ordinary session to economic issues, and to create a Steering Committee to prepare appropriate documentation with the technical support of the secretariats of OAU and ECA, the two secretariats had to continue in 1985 the activities which they had started jointly towards the end of 1984. At its forty-first meeting in February 1985, the Council of Ministers of OAU in its resolution CM/Res.963(XLI), urged the ECA Conference of Ministers responsible for economic planning in Africa to focus its deliberations, at its eleventh meeting, on the issues on the draft agenda of the twenty-first ordinary session of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government and to recommend concrete measures to be taken including proposals for the follow-up and monitoring, urged further the Steering Committee at its second meeting to take fully into account the recommendations emerging from (that) session as well as the forthcoming ECA Conference of Ministers and to finalize the preparatory arrangements including documentation for the twenty-first Assembly of Heads of State and Government, and requested the Secretary-General ad interim of OAU and the Executive Secretary of ECA, to continue to provide technical support to the Steering Committee.

Meanwhile, at its organizational session in February 1985, ECOSOC decided to give priority consideration to the question of the review of the immediate and long-term aspects on the critical economic situation in Africa and the follow-up on the response of the international community and the United Nations system to the resolution and Declaration on the Critical Economic Situation in Africa (General Assembly resolution 39/29 and annex).

In response to the call by the Council of Ministers of OAU and the decision of ECOSOC, the provisional agenda for the eleventh meeting of the Conference of Ministers/twentieth session of the Commission was reorganized to reflect faithfully the issues to be discussed by the Heads of State and Government of OAU at their twenty-first ordinary session in July 1985, and ECOSOC at its second regular session of 1985. The Conference of Ministers, on the advice of the sixth meeting of the Technical Preparatory Committee of the Whole, adopted three important documents. The first

contained recommendations of the ECA Conference of Ministers concerning the economic issues on the draft agenda of the twenty-first ordinary session of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity. The second was the Second Special Memorandum by the ECA Conference of Ministers on international action for relaunching the initiative for long-term development and economic growth in Africa which was to be presented to the 1985 second regular session of the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations. The third document was the Memorandum on the mid-term review of the implementation of the Substantive New Programme of Action for the 1980s for the Least Developed Countries in Africa.

Simultaneously, as we were preparing for the eleventh meeting of the ECA Conference of Ministers/twentieth session of the Commission, the OAU and ECA secretariats were jointly giving technical support to the work of the Steering Committee by preparing documents for and servicing their meetings. The recommendations of the ECA Conference of Ministers were made available to the Steering Committee which took them into account in finalizing the documentation and in the formulation of its own recommendations on economic issues for the twenty-first ordinary session of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity. The Steering Committee's recommendations were later examined and adopted by the OAU Council of Ministers at its forty-second session. The decision of the Heads of State and Government on the Steering Committee's recommendations led to the adoption by them of "Africa's Priority Programme for Economic Recovery: 1986-1990".

The Assembly of Heads of State and Government took three other important decisions at its twenty-first ordinary session: a call for an international conference on Africa's external indebtedness to be convened as a matter of urgency to provide a forum for international creditors and African debtor nations to discuss Africa's external debt with a view to arriving at appropriate emergency short-, medium- and long-term solutions to alleviate the problems; a call for the convening of a special session of the United Nations General Assembly to deliberate on the issues of the critical economic situation in Africa; and the establishment of a new and enlarged Steering Committee - now called Permanent Steering Committee - to be responsible, among other things, for following up the decisions of the twenty-first Assembly of Heads of State and Government of OAU on economic issues and monitoring the implementation of the declaration and resolutions of the twenty-first Assembly on the critical economic situation in Africa, and Africa's Priority Programme for Economic Recovery: 1986-1990. The Heads of State and Government requested the Secretary-General of OAU, the Executive Secretary of ECA, African economic organizations and others, including the relevant institutions of the United Nations system, to provide all possible assistance to the Permanent Steering Committee. Similarly, they requested the Secretary-General of OAU, in co-operation with the ECA Executive Secretary, to initiate the necessary preparations for the special session of the United Nations General Assembly.

The discussions at the second regular session of 1985 of the ECOSOC took place after the twenty-first ordinary session of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government, as requested by the ECA Conference of Ministers. The debate was generally favourable to and in support of the decisions of the Heads of State and Government, including the Priority Programme. Similarly, the subsequent debate at the fortieth session of the United Nations General Assembly was favourable and supportive of the call for a special session of the General Assembly on the critical economic situation in Africa. Indeed, in its resolution 40/40, the General Assembly decided to have a special session on Africa's economic situation from 27 to 31 May 1986 focusing on its 1984 Declaration on the Critical Economic Situation in Africa and taking into account Africa's Priority Programme.

In effect, at the time of writing this foreword, the ECA and OAU secretariats are deeply engaged in assisting member States to prepare for the special session, particularly by helping them to translate the Priority Programme into operational terms for submission to the Preparatory Committee for the special session. In this exercise, we are being greatly assisted by the agencies and organs of the United Nations system. The document containing our proposals will be submitted to an extraordinary session of the ECA Conference of Ministers which has been scheduled for 28 and 29 March 1986 and to an extraordinary session of the OAU Council of Ministers scheduled for 30 and 31 March 1986, which will not only have the opportunity to examine the proposals themselves but will also have before it the views and recommendations of the Ministers responsible for economic development and planning. The African submission is to be sent to New York in early April 1986.

In addition to these activities connected with preparations for the special session at the African level, the ECA secretariat is also collaborating with the Director-General for Development and International Economic Co-operation whom the Secretary-General has charged with the responsibility for co-ordinating the activities of the United Nations system for the special session.

Another arrangement which the Secretary-General made early in 1985 to deal with the emergency situation in Africa was the establishment of the Office for Emergency Operations in Africa (OEOA) under his direct supervision and with Mr. Bradford Morse, UNDP Administrator, as its Director. Mr. Abey Farah, Under-Secretary-General for Special Political Questions and myself were appointed as Deputy Directors with Mr. Maurice Strong, former Executive Director of UNEP, as the Executive Co-ordinator of the Office. Apart from general co-ordination of the efforts of the United Nations system and mobilization of support from the international community, the Office was responsible for organizing the Secretary-General's Conference on the Emergency Situation in Africa in March 1985 in Geneva, at which a number of donors pledged financial resources for the emergency operations.

The activities which I have just briefly narrated are not in the proposed programmed budget for the 1984-1985 biennium whose implementation is reported on in this report. Yet, they constituted significant parts of our activities and provided the milieu within which the activities programmed were implemented. The result was that some of the activities programmed and approved in December 1983 by the General Assembly, for implementation in the biennium 1984-1985, had to be reformulated so as to respond to the changing situation, while others were terminated or postponed in order to undertake new activities which the new situation demanded. For most of these, we had to redeploy resources from some activities to others and to stretch our meagre resources in order to reach farther than we had originally planned. In various parts of chapter III, references are made to such departures from the activities originally programmed.

One other feature of the chapter on programme implementation is the reference in many places to collaboration with other agencies, both within and outside the United Nations system, in the implementation of certain activities. Indeed, inter-agency collaboration and co-operation has been very instrumental in the successful implementation of some of our activities and programmes. Such collaboration and co-operation has been particularly important in the framework of the Joint Divisions/Units such as we have with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, the Centre on Transnational Corporations, and the United Nations Environment Programme. Other mechanisms for collaboration and co-operation which we have found useful are the Joint Concertation Meeting between us and UNESCO and the Joint Inter-secretariat Committee of the secretariat of the Organization of African Unity and the secretariat of the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa, whose activities, as I reported in the 1982-1983 report, the Secretary-General of OAU and I direct and supervise.

With respect to this particular Committee, I should like to say that the work which the two secretariats did in connection with the twenty-first ordinary session of the Assembly of the Heads of State and Government of OAU, the technical support which we gave to the seven-nation Steering Committee and which we are now giving to the new and enlarged Committee as well as the activities which we are now carrying out jointly in connection with the preparation for the forthcoming special session of the United Nations General Assembly, would have been extremely difficult if not impossible, if the Joint Inter-secretariat Committee had not been in existence. In this regard, my deep gratitude goes to my colleagues of the secretariat of OAU, particularly the Secretary-General.

One other important aspect of our work is the promotion of economic co-operation and integration among African countries on the one hand, and between them and the countries of the other regions of the world, on the

other. In this connection, it will be found in the chapter on the implementation of the work programme and priorities that, almost in every programme, reference is made to this. Specifically, we have intensified our technical support to the activities of the subregional groupings such as the Preferential Trade Area for Eastern and Southern African States which, in the period under review, has made further strides in its effort to integrate the economies of that subregion; the Economic Community of Central African States which is already establishing a capacity to address the tasks defined for it; and the Economic Community of West African States which is beginning to play an increasingly important role within the broad framework of rationalizing economic co-operation and integration in that subregion. Significant progress was also made in North Africa to support the activities of the countries of the subregion to promote co-operation among themselves, particularly in the crucial areas of food and agriculture and trade. In all these co-operation and integration activities the five ECA MULPOCs played prominent and crucial roles.

Interregional co-operation between Africa and the other regions - Latin America, Western Asia, Asia and the Pacific, and even Europe - also increased as is indicated in various parts of the chapter. However, the most significant aspect of this interregional co-operation during the biennium was my participation in the work of the executive secretaries of the regional economic commissions, one of whose meetings ECA had the honour of hosting in Addis Ababa in February 1985.

In the 1982-1983 report, I did refer to the divergent views between the Economic Commission for Africa and the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (the World Bank) about approaches to African economic growth and development. Through dialogue and discussion, those divergent views were considerably narrowed during the biennium 1984-1985. There are now more and frequent exchanges of views between our two organizations on African development problems. Indeed, we had the opportunity to discuss with the staff of the Bank the draft of the publication entitled "Toward sustained development in sub-Saharan Africa: A joint programme of action". We are also undertaking more and more joint activities.

As is very clear in the preceding paragraphs, collaboration and co-operation are very important in the formulation and implementation of our programmes of work. But so also are resources - human, material and financial. Chapter IV of this report gives an overview of the resources available to us in the biennium 1984-1985 for carrying out the activities we have reported upon. While resources from the regular budget increased slightly, resources from extrabudgetary resources decreased drastically. This was particularly the case with resources from UNDP and under the United Nations Trust Fund for African Development whose downward trend continued with the low level of contributions during the Fifth Biennial Pledging Conference in 1985. No doubt, the difficult economic situation of the

period under review has contributed largely to the small number of member States that pledged for the Fund and the low level of such contributions. However, I am convinced that where there is a will, there is always a way. Indeed, if some of our least developed countries can contribute their widow's mite, I find it difficult to believe that others, particularly those member States which have never contributed to the Fund since its inception in 1977, are totally incapable of contributing to it, particularly in view of the profession by all member States in support of collective self-reliance. Contributing to funds such as the United Nations Trust Fund for African Development is one means of strengthening collective self-reliance in Africa. Therefore, I should like to appeal once again to those member States which have never supported the Fund to do so and those who have pledged but have not honoured their pledges to do so. To non-member States and institutions which are already supporting the Fund, I should like to say "thank you" once more.

As far as bilateral aid donors are concerned, generally, not many of them have supported multilateral institutions for economic and technical co-operation. And with the continuing problem of financial and budgetary constraints all over the world, the few that have supported such efforts are changing their approaches in favour of bilateral assistance, although the agreements which I signed with some Governments during the latter part of 1985 have encouraged me to believe that provided our case can be properly put, there are still some Governments that are prepared to support our activities.

The focus of this report is basically the past. However, in ending this foreword I have judged it essential to refer briefly to the future, particularly in the context of the various decisions which have recently been taken with a view to relaunching the initiative for economic growth and development in Africa. Already, the decisions are many and they may yet increase. In this context, one has in mind not only the decisions taken by our own Heads of State and Government, but those that have emanated from such organizations as the European Economic Community, the World Bank and the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries. However, as far as we are concerned, the most important decision was of course that of our Heads of State and government to focus on a Priority Programme for Economic Recovery in the period 1986-1990, which member States are already translating into operational programmes and projects. My charge to member States is that whatever other programmes may be available or forthcoming, they will have to take their cue from the Priority Programme. In other words, all these other programmes will have to be examined critically and harmonized with the Priority Programme.

Such analysis and harmonization require a competent central co-ordinating unit with the capacity to lead, and direct not only the other departments of government but also the growing number of donors - multilateral, bilateral, governmental and non-governmental - so that the objectives being pursued can be made clear to all and the resources required can be co-ordinated and distributed accordingly.

Increasingly such central co-ordinating unit is being identified as the Ministry of Development and Planning with the close collaboration of the Ministry of Finance. I should only like to add that member States should use more and more the secretariats of their relevant regional or subregional intergovernmental organizations in the basic work connected with such co-ordination and harmonization.

Adébayo Adedeji
Executive Secretary

Economic Commission for Africa,
Addis Ababa.

February 1986.

CHAPTER I

REVIEW OF ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS IN AFRICA IN 1984 AND 1985 IN THE LIGHT OF DEVELOPMENT OBJECTIVES, AIMS AND STRATEGIES

Introduction

The years 1984 and 1985 will probably be remembered as the period when African countries suffered the most severe set-back in their march towards the future as "willed" in the Lagos Plan of Action adopted in 1980 by the Assembly of Heads of States and Government of the Organization of African Unity. The Plan, as is now well known, set the broad goals and aims of African development and economic growth as the fulfilment of the needs of the mass of peoples through an internally generated and self-sustaining process of development within the framework of self-reliance and economic independence.

During the two-year period, the devastating effects of the worst drought in memory coupled with the impact of an extremely hostile international environment and a crippling debt service burden, among other factors, made it virtually impossible for most countries in the region to secure any additions to the gains of development and growth that might have been realized hitherto.

Because of the drought and the long neglect of the agricultural sector, the regional value added in food and agriculture merely stagnated such that per capita output declined substantially during the biennium. Owing to a lack of essential inputs both domestic and external, resulting principally from shortage of foreign exchange and the poor agricultural performance and to the depressed demand for industrial goods, the rate of capacity utilization in the industrial sector was much below normal. Low world demand for commodities of export interest to Africa and the drastic fall in their prices compounded the precarious situation in external balances and worsened the debt burden. The general situation was such that in the majority of countries, the issue was simply one of survival and for most of the time, the policies pursued by governments were no more than panic measures designed to contain a rapidly escalating emergency situation.

Under the circumstances, many could not help but question the very relevance of the Lagos Plan of Action. However, in July 1985, the OAU Assembly of Heads of State and Government gave an authoritative answer to that question by reaffirming in the Declaration it adopted on the critical economic situation in Africa that the goals and objectives of the Plan were as valid then as they were in 1980. In fact, the adoption of Africa's Priority Programme for Economic Recovery 1986-1990 which contains four principal parts, namely, practical sectoral measures for the accelerated attainment of the objectives of the Lagos Plan of Action and the Final Act of Lagos; special programme of action for the improvement of the food situation and rehabilitation of

agriculture in Africa, including problems of drought and control of desertification and refugees, displaced persons and victims of natural disasters; Africa's external debt; and, proposals for a common platform for action among OAU member States, is essentially meant to redress the crisis situation and lay the basis for an accelerated attainment of the objectives of the Plan and the Final Act of Lagos.

The Lagos Plan of Action and the Final Act, it is to be recalled, were adopted because of the realization that there was an urgent need for a definite break with past policies and strategies for economic growth and development. It was no longer tenable that the transformation of economies could be achieved through the exploitation of a narrow range of primary products and the use of the foreign exchange earned from the export of such products to acquire factor inputs including entrepreneurial skills, management, manpower, equipment and spares, technologies, raw materials, etc., for capital formation. The circumstances leading to the adoption of the Plan and the Final Act were exactly those obtaining in the last few years; the only difference being that in 1984-1985, they reached their most critical dimensions yet. The disastrous performance of the African economy as a whole during this two-year period was perhaps the price that had to be paid to eliminate all lingering doubts as to the need to change course, reorder priorities and bring about the early attainment of self-reliance and self-sustainment.

The direction of change and the needed order of priorities have now been clearly defined in Africa's Priority Programme for Economic Recovery 1986-1990. As the region enters a crucial phase in its development, it is important for African countries individually and collectively to translate the Programme into operational terms with the necessary policy reforms designed to improve economic performance. In the remainder of this chapter the needed policy reforms are examined after a brief review of social and economic conditions as they obtained during the past biennium.

Social and economic conditions in Africa in the biennium 1984-1985

The overriding aspect of the African economic and social scene during 1984-1985 was the drought which in 1984 stretched from the traditionally drought-prone zone of the Sahel, through the Horn of Africa to Eastern and Southern Africa, an area encompassing at one time 27 countries and about 200 million people. This was the worst disaster of its kind in Africa's recorded history. As stated in the Second Special Memorandum by the ECA Conference of Ministers on international action for relaunching the initiative for long-term development and economic growth in Africa, "Over a million people have already lost their lives and as many as 10 million have been displaced because of the drought. The drought has furthermore caused severe losses of livestock, widespread famine and diseases; major crop losses and food scarcity; water and energy shortages; and has severely destabilized the fragile African economies." The Ministers went on to say in the Memorandum

"It is only natural under such tragic circumstances that the first topic of concern, both of the affected countries and the international community, should be the continuing battle to save lives, to relieve human suffering and to reduce the impact of hunger and famine on the affected population."

The loss of life and the suffering as a result of the drought would have been even greater but for the massive inflow of food and other humanitarian aid that Africa received from the international community, including donor governments, international governmental and non-governmental organizations and individuals. A total of 11 million tons of food, mainly cereals valued at about \$US2.3 billion was delivered in aid during the three crop seasons of 1983/1984, 1984/1985 and 1985/1986. This volume of aid was in addition, to non-food aid as well as transport, administrative and other logistic support. The volume of aid received was also in addition to a substantial increase in the level of commercial food imports. According to FAO estimates, these were as high as 11.8 million tons for the 1984/1985 season. The implications of such imports in the affected countries were significant reductions in the resources available to import fuel, industrial and other inputs and basic consumer goods. Relief aid and commercial food imports were however necessary since it is estimated that because of them some 3 million human lives were saved.

While the effects of the drought were thus prominent and highly visible, the weight of the countries affected in the total regional gross domestic product is quite small. This small share of the countries affected in the total goods and services of the countries of the region, plus the fact that recovery in them from the drought was already under way by the end of 1984 because of the return of normal rains which continued in 1985 in all the affected areas except Botswana and some parts of Ethiopia, regional output which declined almost imperceptibly in 1983 actually grew by 1.2 per cent in 1984 and by a further 2.3 per cent in 1985. These rates imply that per capita output declined by 1.8 per cent in 1984 and that the ground lost in earlier years was not recovered in 1985. Per capita output in 1985 was in fact still about 10 per cent less than in 1980.

The growth in total output which was albeit very modest in both 1984 and 1985 was due in part to performance in the agriculture sector, particularly in the countries not affected by the drought. Value added in the sector rose by 0.4 per cent in 1984 and 3.2 per cent in 1985 compared to an average of only 0.1 per cent in the 1980-1984 period. The strongest gains were made in food production which recovered strongly at average rates of growth of 4.4 and 4.2 per cent respectively in 1984 and 1985. Export crops such as coffee, tea, cocoa, cotton seed, ground-nuts, sugar and tobacco which are major foreign exchange earners for the majority of African countries were also favourably affected by the recovery. Indeed, the production of most of these crops registered substantial increases in 1985.

Unfortunately, these gains in output coincided with a very depressed state of affairs in the international commodity markets. Because of large-scale stock building in the importing countries, the prices of practically all commodities exported by Africa except coffee were at exceptionally low levels in 1985. They were, for instance, 50 per cent lower than in 1983 in the case of edible oils. Tea prices in 1985 were at their 1975 level while the prices of non-food agricultural products fell sharply. The gains in the price level of coffee were due to reduced production as a result of drought in Brazil. With these low export prices and the continuing increase in the commercial imports of food notably cereals, it is to be expected that in 1985 the aggregate agricultural trade deficit of African countries deteriorated further from the \$US5.5 billion estimated in 1984.

While the recovery in African agriculture was a much welcome respite, there can be no cause for complacency. The recovery itself was very slight and the fact that it occurred largely because of the return of the rains underlines the basic weaknesses which characterize the sector and which must be addressed even now if the disastrous effects of drought-induced problems are not to recur. The food balance was still precarious at the end of 1985 and food relief would have to be continued well into 1986. The situation of food distribution remained unsatisfactory in many countries due to inadequate transport and transportation facilities especially limited port capacity. The perennial problems of the sector including low productivity, unremunerative producer prices, shortage of inputs, deficient transport systems, lack of usable technical packages and inefficient credit and marketing systems remain and it is gratifying to note that Africa's Priority Programme addresses them forcefully. It is only in those countries where policies have deliberately been pursued to tackle these problems that the impact of the drought was relatively better contained. It is also in these countries that the return of normal rains benefited agricultural production most.

The mining sector in Africa is highly export-dependents accounting on average for over 72 per cent of the total value of exports. During the period under review, just as in the case of agricultural export commodities, the world demand for both oil and non-oil mineral products of export interest to Africa such as copper, aluminium, tin, lead and zinc, iron ore, uranium, manganese ore, diamonds, gold and silver fell sharply as stocks increased and prices fell generally.

Indeed, the price of oil per barrel fell to an average of about \$US30 from a peak of \$US35.49 in 1982 such that the estimated total oil production in the region in 1985 was only 80.7 per cent of the 1980 level. Metal prices were, in the third quarter of 1985, 4.2 per cent under their 1984 average. Tin prices for instance declined by about 50 per cent with disastrous consequences on the International Tin Agreement which collapsed in 1985. In fact, these depressed conditions have caused a substantial loss of foreign exchange to major exporting countries. Prospects for the near future are

no brighter particularly for the oil industry. The high exchange rate of the dollar has prevented oil reaching the final consumers at easier terms. The adoption of measures for alternative sources of fuel and the expansion of exploration for oil as well as effective conservation measures so as to save on oil consumption were widespread during the period under review. The mining industry as a whole will increasingly face difficulties arising from rapid technological changes which will continue to lower demand for minerals in African traditional export markets.

According to the target set in the Lagos Plan of Action, the manufacturing sector in Africa was expected by 1985 to account for at least 1 per cent of world industrial output. To attain this target, it was estimated that manufacturing industries would grow at an average annual rate of 9.5 per cent during 1980-1985. The rate was also targeted to increase to 9.6 per cent during the period 1986-1990 so that with the required structural shift progressively made from simple processing and light industries to intermediate and heavy industries, the basis for self-sustained industrial development would have been firmly laid by 1990.

The target of 1 per cent regional share in world industrial output was attained in 1981 and in 1985 the share had reached 1.4 per cent. This target was unfortunately attained only in so far as there has been a marked slow-down in world industrial activity. In terms of growth, the manufacturing sector in Africa performed far below expectations. Between 1980 and 1985, the sector expanded by only 4 per cent on average per annum, significantly less than the 9.5 per cent postulated in the Lagos Plan of Action. However, in 1985, output in the sector rose by 5.4 per cent, the highest rate attained since 1982. The largest contributor to this expansion was the agro-industrial subsector.

The crisis in the manufacturing sector will remain for as long as the sector remains highly dependent on foreign factor inputs, raw materials and expertise as it does now. Because of the need to adjust to chronic current balance-of-payments deficits, most countries have chosen to curb imports. The resultant shortages of raw materials, spare parts as well as capital goods have led to widespread under-utilization of capacity or outright plant closures with undesirable consequences on the employment, income and welfare-generating potentials of the sector. The heavy reliance on imported inputs has also not only precluded the much hoped-for growth-promoting impulses expected from industry to the rest of the economy through inter-sectoral linkages, it has also rendered the unit cost of job creation in the sector so high as to be uneconomic. There is clearly a need for reform in this area and a lot of efforts seems to be under way. As the United Nations Industrial Development Decade for Africa programme emphasizes, reform in the sector should be based on integrated planning with the greater use of domestic resources and the creation of linkages with other sectors of the economy as the underlying strategy. In this connection, the only problem is the lack of support for that programme from the international community,

and that is why emphasis must continue to be put on collective efforts in the region.

On the domestic demand side, the major preoccupation was the management of the external deficit and its impact on capital expenditure. Many governments, either under the prodding of the IMF or through adjustment policies adopted independently, mounted a wide array of measures designed to contain budgetary deficits, control inflation and prevent any development likely to have an adverse impact on external balances. Initially, efforts were confined to revenue-raising measures and the curtailment of capital expenditure. Increasingly however, as the taxable base was eroded by sluggish overall growth, current expenditure was being cut through such sensitive steps as moratoria on recruitment, staff retrenchment, the freezing of wages and the outright reduction of public service salaries as well as other measures to restrict waste generally. Many countries have also resorted to massive devaluation of their currencies in an effort to contract imports and promote exports.

Under these circumstances, it is not surprising that domestic demand remained weak in recent years. Per capita consumption, which fell by 3.5 per cent during the 1982-1984 period, declined further in 1985. The rate of investment has also been declining since 1982. In the oil-producing members of OPEC, gross fixed capital formation fell by 23 per cent in 1985. The oil-producing non-members of OPEC maintained their level of investment in 1985 but the share of such investment in total GDP was only 18.3 per cent in 1985 as against 20.4 per cent in 1980. In the non-oil exporting countries of Africa, gross fixed capital formation remained stable in both 1984 and 1985 at 15 per cent of GDP. This share has steadily declined from the level of 18.9 per cent in 1980. As the rate of investment continues to fall, it has become even more necessary to rationalize the costs of such investment which have remained unnecessarily high in Africa. As argued in the last issue of this report, there is need for decisions on the allocation of investment funds, the location of investment projects as well as the choice of technology to be based as far as possible on the principles of cost-effectiveness which is not the case in numerous instances at present. Adequate infrastructure support as well as improved planning, management and control will also go a long way in making investment more effective.

At the beginning of this survey, it was indicated that one of the basic causes of the current economic malaise in Africa was the prevailing hostile international environment. The all-pervasive impact of that environment has been readily apparent in the foregoing account of the performance of the African economy during the biennium 1984-1985. It is obvious in the way lower demand for African exports has led to shortages of critical inputs for African agriculture and industry resulting in stunted growth in these sectors and to austere demand management measures. The lower external demand which was reflected mainly in the general slump in commodity prices was itself the result of several factors, including tight monetary policies put in place

by the governments of the developed economies to tackle the twin problems of inflation and unemployment and the sharp rise in interest rates which rendered commercial capital less accessible to the developing countries including those in Africa. Interest rates were not only high, they followed a variable regime. The average rate of maturity has also been greatly shortened so that in 1984 and 1985 the much-feared bunching of debt service obligations was already a reality which frustrated all efforts aimed at closing the resource gap in African countries. According to IMF estimates, debt service reached a peak in 1985 as it accounted for 30 per cent of total exports of goods and services. The total level of debt was also at a record high level at \$US162 billion at the end of 1985. Considering the relative low income levels in Africa compared to other regions, it is in Africa that the burden of external indebtedness weighs heaviest.

The management of the volume of debt has been a daunting task in the face of the concurrent falls in gross capital flows and official development assistance (ODA). Several countries entered into debt rescheduling arrangements with their creditors, usually on the basis of a tacit acceptance of IMF conditionality. One country, Nigeria, which rejected IMF conditionalities, imposed its own ceiling of not more than 30 per cent of Federal Government revenue as amortization payments. Another country, Zaire, which has had a series of rescheduling exercises and has applied IMF conditions is experiencing a net outflow of resources since the expected additional support from creditors has not been disbursed.

The debt issue has contributed substantially to the perpetuation of Africa's critical economic situation and it is becoming increasingly more urgent for lasting solutions to be worked out jointly between Africa and its creditors.

Policy measures for recovery and for the accelerated attainment of the goals and objectives of the Lagos Plan of Action

It should be evident from the foregoing survey of the dramatic developments in the African economy during the 1984-1985 biennium that a lot needs to be done in the form of rehabilitation programmes and the realignment of priorities with a view to setting the economy on an even keel so as to enable it sustain the impact of widespread disasters such as drought and become relatively more independent of the international environment. As stated in the introductory part of this chapter, the needed changes are clearly established in Africa's Priority Programme for Economic Recovery 1986-1990. The immediate task therefore is for this Programme to be translated into operational terms and sustained by the right policy mix.

The first area of concern is of course the food and agriculture sector, the dominant and crucial role of which as an engine of growth and development is writ large in the commitment made in the Priority Programme to raise the share of agriculture in national public total investment to between 20 and

25 per cent by 1989. The long neglect of the sector in terms of investment outlay and other policies, coupled of course with the devastating incidence of drought, has been at the root of the dismal performance of the sector. As resource allocations to agriculture are thus to be increased, such allocations will have to be judiciously made so that emphasis is given simultaneously to measures designed to improve land productivity and to the installation of incentive systems designed to motivate farmers towards higher productivity and raise living standards in rural areas. Reforms in this direction are already under way in some countries. Such reform should increasingly take the form of more appropriate pricing policies and credit facilities designed to turn the terms of trade in favour of agriculture in general and food production in particular. The small farmer who has been rightly described as "the most plentiful and most abused resource for agricultural development, the best hope for energizing an effective campaign against poverty..."^{1/} needs in particular to be assisted with special programmes to boost his/her production. These measures will be taken at the same time as efforts are made to improve the resilience of the agricultural sector, particularly through measures to make the sector less rain-dependent, ensure greater ecological balance and improved physical infrastructure including transport, marketing, as well as preservation and storage facilities. The importance of research and development in revamping traditional farming methods in the medium and long term, and make breakthroughs in crop and livestock development, particularly within the framework of measures to combat drought and desertification, need no emphasis. Of immediate significance however is the need for countries individually and collectively to strengthen preparedness against possible further emergencies. In this connection, the build-up of national, subregional and regional food security stocks assumes considerable importance. Attention needs also to be given to the establishment of early warning systems to cope with emergencies.

The requirements of the Priority Programme are also for parallel developments in the other sectors which traditionally support agriculture through the supply of fertilizers and other inputs and the opening of markets. Thus, the rehabilitation and revitalization of industries are a necessary element of economic recovery particularly in respect of the potential of the industrial sector as a source of supply for various agricultural inputs. Similar considerations obtain for the transport and communications sector in respect, for instance, of the maintenance and development of feeder and access roads and the energy sector for the development of new and alternative sources of energy, and so on.

^{1/} 1985 Report: Twenty-five years of development co-operation: a review, OECD, Paris, 1985, p. 24.

In these and other sectors, and just as in the food and agriculture sector, success will to a large extent depend on the kinds of incentives put in place to generate motivation, popular participation and productivity. The right blend of appropriate factor remunerations, market-based prices, and exchange rate systems, designed especially to promote greater individual and private sector initiative can encourage investment, raise the level of production and expand trade.

The special requirements of the industrial sector need particular attention. The sector needs to be rationalized and reoriented in such a way that linkages are developed with the rest of the economy through emphasis on the processing of local raw materials and making greater use of local skills. To this end, due consideration will have to be given to the extent existing industries constitute a burden on public finances and a drain on foreign exchange resources, which most of them are, without making commensurate returns to the economy. This will mean mergers and sometimes liquidation to eliminate unviable enterprises.

There will have to be far-reaching changes in the way African economies have been managed. Measures to be taken in this area have been referred to as the "heart" of the strategy for reorienting African economies towards self-reliant and self-sustained development.^{2/} While the dominant role of government as initiator and operator of national development and economic growth is widely recognized, there is need for a greater involvement of all other decision-making units in the process of development. It is the failure to do this that has been partly responsible for much of the lopsided development and dysfunctional relationships so characteristic of African economies. Governments need to build on the positive role not only of government departments, but also of public and private enterprises as well as other government-sponsored and non-government institutions such as universities, research institutes, chambers of commerce and other business associations. To this end, the right environment needs to be created for continuous collaboration and co-ordination between government and these other units on such essential issues as policy analysis and formulation, plan and programme monitoring, implementation and evaluation, the mobilization of resources as well as of popular participation and support in development.

^{2/} See "Improving the management of African economies: some problematic areas", ECA document E/ECA/CM.11/44, E/ECA/PSD/4/4, January 1986.

Another essential element for the effective management of African economies is the need to deepen knowledge of the natural resources and raw material base. This is so because a thorough knowledge and effective control of natural resources is a basic requirement of national economic independence. It is also fundamental to the effective planning of the required linkages in the restructured economy between sectors and within and between markets. The planning and development of high-level skills as well as the transfer and development of technology will conform to the requirements of self-reliance and self-sustainment if the available and potential resources are relatively well known.

In the light of prevailing chronic balance-of-payments difficulties due in part to over-priced imports and under-priced exports, growing fiscal deficits and continued decline in real government revenues leading to large-scale deficit financing and the associated inflationary pressures, there is no doubt that improvements in the area of financial resource mobilization and use constitute essential elements of improved economic management. Measures will have to be taken to promote exports and reduce imports. The tax effort as well as the mobilization of domestic savings would have to be stepped up. Of particular importance is the need to improve the efficiency and profitability of public enterprises.

The need for better economic management is particularly obvious in the area of debt. The Addis Ababa Declaration on Africa's External Indebtedness which is annexed to the Special Memorandum by the ECA Conference of Ministers on Africa's Economic and Social Crisis, contains specific recommendations on required measures for the management of the region's external debt which need to be implemented as a matter of urgency. Specifically, the need for each country to establish a national debt management mechanism should become a universal phenomenon on the continent. However, it is not only debt but the whole question of foreign resource acquisition and use which should be subject to better management. External resources will continue to be a necessary component of the development effort. Increasingly however, these resources have to be seen only as a supplement to domestic efforts. Accordingly, measures need to be taken to ensure that foreign resources including direct investment, aid and technical assistance are used in productive activities and that the benefits derived from them outweigh the costs.

A final area that deserves attention within the framework of measures to improve economic management is the maintenance of "wealth-generating assets". Measures will have to be taken to ensure the continuous harnessing of the potentials for self-renewal of human and physical capital assets. Keeping physical assets intact through a regular programme of maintenance, for instance, can yield substantial savings. Likewise, the rational use of human resources, particularly high-level skills, will maximize efficiency.

The imperatives of regional economic co-operation and integration are as glaring as ever. Indeed, an important effect of the current African economic crisis has been to demonstrate that the road to national economic and social survival is inextricably linked with a strategy of regional co-operation and integration including the establishment and fostering of multinational institutions for development as well as the promotion of joint planning and programming. The needed transformations are simply beyond the capability and resource endowments of individual countries. It is in this light that Africa's Priority Programme lays special emphasis on the importance of the subregional and regional approaches to recovery and development. In this connection, measures will have to be directed especially to the improved management of common resources, strengthening common development policy organs, intra-subregional and multinational organizations and institutions, facilitating the free movement of resources, goods and people, the greater sharing of knowledge, the elimination of inter-country conflicts and the enhancement of solidarity for the pursuit of independent socio-economic development.

II. POLICY ORGANS AND ADVISORY BODIES

Policy organs

During the period under review, the Commission held its nineteenth session/tenth meeting of the Conference of Ministers at Addis Ababa, Ethiopia from 24 to 28 May 1984 and its twentieth session/eleventh meeting of the Conference of Ministers also at Addis Ababa from 26 to 29 April 1985. As usual these meetings were immediately preceded respectively by the fifth meeting of the Technical Preparatory Committee of the Whole (TEPCOW) held at Addis Ababa from 15 to 21 May 1984 and the sixth meeting of TEPCOW also held at Addis Ababa from 15 to 22 April 1985.

These meetings of the Commission's highest decision-making organ were held against a background of rapidly escalating socio-economic crisis in the continent. Accordingly, the deliberations were focused on consideration of the crisis and of possible measures to be taken to mitigate it. The deliberations were also influenced by the decision of the Economic and Social Council to make the critical economic situation in Africa a major item of the agenda of its second regular session of 1984. Thus in 1984, the fifth meeting of TEPCOW had the following major items on its agenda and made recommendations on them for the consideration of the tenth meeting of the Conference of Ministers:

- (a) Biennial report of the Executive Secretary including an update of programme performance, 1982-1983;
- (b) Critical economic situation in Africa which included consideration of the Survey of Economic and Social Conditions in Africa, 1982-1983; the critical situation of food and agriculture in Africa; a report on the Scientific Round Table on the Climatic Situation on Drought in Africa; and Africa's external debt and its impact on the current economic crisis;
- (c) Implementation of the Lagos Plan of Action and the Final Act of Lagos in solving Africa's critical economic crisis;
- (d) The special problems of African least developed countries;
- (e) Reports of the annual sessions of the MULPOCs.

The tenth meeting of the Conference of Ministers not only approved the recommendations of the fifth meeting of TEPCOW; it also addressed a Special Memorandum on Africa's Economic and Social Crisis (document E/ECA/CM.10/38) including its annex the Addis Ababa Declaration on Africa's External Indebtedness to the 1984 second regular session of ECOSOC and to the twentieth ordinary session of the Assembly of African Heads of State and Government of Organization of African Unity. The Conference also adopted a series of resolutions affecting the socio-economic

development of Africa especially the various aspects of the prevailing critical economic situation (see document E/ECA/CM.10/38).

The 1985 meetings of TEPCOW and of the Conference of Ministers were influenced by two basic considerations. The first was the timely decision by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of OAU to devote a substantial part of its twenty-first ordinary session to a consideration of economic matters and the request by the forty-first session of the OAU Council of Ministers to the ECA Conference to consider at its eleventh meeting/twentieth session of the Commission and make recommendations on the economic issues coming before that session. The second consideration was the decision by the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations to give priority at its 1985 second regular session to reviewing the immediate and long-term aspects of the critical economic situation in Africa and the follow-up of the response by the international community and the United Nations System to the United Nations General Assembly resolution 39/29 on the critical economic situation in Africa and its annex declaration on the critical economic situation in Africa.

The agenda adopted by the sixth meeting of TEPCOW was accordingly structured to comprise the following five parts:

(a) African economic and social crisis: review of developments since the Commission's last session in May 1984;

(b) Economic issues coming before the twenty-first summit of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity as agreed by the forty-first session of the Council of Ministers of the Organization, Addis Ababa, 25 February to 4 March 1985;

(c) Second regular session of the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) of the United Nations, Geneva, July 1985: priority consideration of the question of the review of the immediate and long-term aspects of the critical economic situation in Africa and the follow-up of the response by the international community and the United Nations system;

(d) Statutory issues;

(e) Conclusion.

The eleventh meeting of the Conference of Ministers holding immediately after the sixth meeting of TEPCOW approved the recommendations of TEPCOW on the various items on its agenda and adopted 31 resolutions. The Conference also adopted document E/ECA/CM.11/80, "Recommendations of the ECA Conference of Ministers concerning the economic issues on the draft agenda of the twenty-first ordinary session of the Assembly of Heads of States and Government of the Organization of African Unity" which it requested the Executive Secretary to make available to the Steering

Committee responsible for preparing the basic documents on the economic issues on the draft agenda of the twenty-first summit.

Another important document which the eleventh meeting of the Conference of Ministers adopted was the "Second Special Memorandum by the ECA Conference of Ministers: International Action for relaunching the initiative for long-term development and economic growth in Africa" (E/ECA/CM.11/77), for submission to the 1985 second regular session of ECOSOC.

An important highlight of the eleventh meeting was the holding of the fifth biennial Pledging Conference to the United Nations Trust Fund for African Development. The fund which is now firmly established as an instrument for strengthening regional co-operation and which is also open to States Members of the United Nations not members of ECA, attracted a total of about \$US 2 million in pledges from several States and intergovernmental organizations during the Conference.

Other policy-making bodies

The following other policy-making bodies of the Commission held meetings during the period under review: the Conference of African Ministers of Transport, Communications and Planning; the Ministerial Follow-up Committee on Trade and Finance for African Development; the Conference of Ministers of Trade; the Conference of Ministers of African Least Developed Countries; the Conference of African Ministers of Industry; the Conference of Ministers Responsible for Human Resources Planning, Development and Utilization; the Conference of Ministers of Social Affairs; and the Committees of Officials and Councils of Ministers of the Multinational Programming and Operational Centres (MULPOCs).

The Conference of African Ministers of Transport, Communications and Planning was held in Conakry, Guinea from 7 to 11 February 1984. The objective of the Conference was to adopt and launch phase II of the programme for the United Nations Transport and Communications Decade in Africa. The programme was adopted and launched and resolutions E/ECA/UNTACDA/Res.84/38 to 84/52 were also adopted. The report of the Conference is available in document E/ECA/CM.10/22.

The Ministerial Follow-up Committee on Trade and Finance for African Development held its third meeting in Addis Ababa from 9 to 14 May 1984. The meeting considered the following major issues: progress in the implementation of Africa's strategy in the field of trade and finance as part of the overall development strategy; co-ordination, harmonization, and preparation of Africa's position on international issues relating to trade and finance; and the implementation of multilateral agreements between African countries and other regions. The meeting also assessed the results of the sixth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade

and Development (UNCTAD VI) on the basis of which a report (E/ECA/OAU/TRADE/11) was prepared on the subject pursuant to the decision of the nineteenth session of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity held in June 1983 for submission to the twentieth session.

The report of the third meeting of the Ministerial Follow-up Committee was examined by the eighth meeting of the Conference of Ministers of Trade which met in Brazzaville, Congo from 28 to 31 October 1985. The Conference also reviewed recent developments in Africa's international trade relations and the expansion of domestic and intra-African trade.

During the period under review, the Conference of Ministers of African Least Developed Countries held its fourth and fifth meetings at Addis Ababa from 26 to 28 March 1984 and 23 to 24 April 1985 respectively. Each of the meetings was preceded by a meeting of the Intergovernmental Committee of Experts of the African least developed countries. At the fourth meeting of the Conference, the following four major topics were considered; the economic and social situation in African LDCs; the implementation of the Substantive New Programme of Action (SNPA) in the African LDCs; pricing policies in African LDCs; and the activities undertaken by ECA in 1983 and the 1984 work programme in favour of African LDCs. The meeting emphasized the plight of the African LDCs and noted that, despite the commitments made by the international community and the tremendous efforts made by the LDCs themselves, the implementation of the SNPA had not been satisfactory. In particular, the results of the roundtables and consultative group meetings that had been organized so far had not totally met the expectations of the African LDCs.

The fifth meeting of the Conference of Ministers of African LDCs reviewed economic and social conditions in African LDCs in 1981-1984, the implementation of the SNPA, 1981-1984, the extent of industrial capacity underutilization and its impact on industrial development in African LDCs and ECA activities in 1984 and programme of work in 1985 as well as the special operational work programme in favour of the LDCs for the biennium 1986-1987. The Conference adopted the Memorandum on the mid-term review of the implementation of the SNPA for presentation to the high-level meeting of the UNCTAD Intergovernmental Group on LDCs on the global mid-term review of the SNPA.

The seventh meeting of the Conference of African Ministers of Industry was organized at Addis Ababa from 26 to 28 March 1984. The main purpose of the meeting was to consider and decide on proposals made to it by the Intergovernmental Committee of Experts of the Whole which took place also in Addis Ababa from 19 to 24 March 1984. The meeting made recommendations on, among other things, the implementation of IDDA at subregional and regional levels with particular reference to the preparatory phase (1982-1984) of the programme of the Decade, programme of activities to be

undertaken during the implementation phase of the Decade (1985-1990), management of the African Industrial Development Fund (AIDF) and an African position at the fourth General Conference of UNIDO which took place in Vienna, the headquarters of the Organization in August 1984.

The second Conference of Ministers Responsible for Human Resources Planning, Development and Utilization took place in Addis Ababa from 9 to 16 October 1984. The Conference reviewed, inter alia, programme areas in which deficiencies adversely affected the quality of human resources. The areas covered included population, food and nutrition, education, health, water resources development and management, housing, industrialization, environment and human settlements, communication, work-income-generation and employment. These programmes were deemed strategic in human resource development. The Conference recommended that each agency working in the area needed to develop definitive policies in each of the programme areas as a detailed elaboration of the broad policy guidelines issued by the focal human resource management ministry. An institutional framework of a human resources management system made up of three subsystems, namely human resources planning, human resources development and human resources utilization was considered desirable at various levels. In a final act, the conference was institutionalized with the adoption of its terms of reference and rules of procedure, establishment of a Ministerial Follow-up Committee of Ten, and acceptance of Gabon's invitation to host the third meeting in 1987 as well as a reiteration of the commitment to sustained effort towards the establishment of a focal ministry for policy harmonization and programme co-ordination for effective human resources management in each country.

The fourth Conference of African Ministers of Social Affairs was held at Addis Ababa on 25 and 26 March 1985. It was jointly organized and convened by ECA and the OAU. The Conference agreed that, while a uniform approach to defining social policies was highly desirable, consideration should be given to the different levels of political, economic and social development obtaining in the countries of the region. It also agreed on the immediate establishment of the African Rehabilitation Institute (ARI) at the recommended locations in furtherance of the appropriate decision of the twenty-first summit of the OAU and adopted a resolution to that effect. The Conference, as the supreme organ of the African Centre for Applied Research and Training in Social Development (ACARTSOD) based in Tripoli (Libyan Arab Jamahiriya), considered the report of the Centre and appointed a new Executive Director and a Governing Board for the Centre.

In 1984 the meetings of the policy organs of the Multinational Programming and Operational Centres (MULPOCs) were organized as follows:

(a) Niamey-based MULPOC: Meeting of intergovernmental organizations, 1 to 4 February; meeting of Officials; 7 to 11 February; meeting of the

Council of Ministers, 14 to 16 February; and the fourth annual meeting of the chief executives of intergovernmental organizations, 13 February. All these meetings were held in Conakry, Guinea. The main highlight of the meetings was the consideration of the study entitled: "Proposals for strengthening economic integration in West Africa";

(b) Yaounde-based MULPOC: Meeting of Officials, 20 to 26 February 1984, and meeting of Ministers, 27 to 29 February 1984, both at Brazzaville, the Congo. The meeting adopted several resolutions paramount among which were resolutions on water resources development; project documents on subregional projects in agriculture to be implemented within the framework of AFPLAN, and environmental issues;

(c) Lusaka-based MULPOC: Meeting of Officials, 5 to 9 March and that of the Council of Ministers, 12 to 14 March, both at Addis Ababa. The meetings considered and adopted resolutions on the establishment of a Documentation and Information Centre, the establishment of a Maize Research Centre and the implementation of the Lagos Plan of Action and AFPLAN;

(d) Gisenyi-based MULPOC: Meeting of Officials, 19 to 21 March; and meeting of the Council of Ministers, 23 and 24 March, both at Kinshasa, Zaire. Resolutions were adopted on the development of peat, fisheries, forest resources, energy and agriculture;

(e) Tangier-based MULPOC: Meeting of Plenipotentiaries, 28 to 31 March at Tangier, Morocco. Resolutions were adopted on Afro-Arab co-operation, sea linkages between North and West African States, Afro-Arab trade, migratory labour from North African countries to Europe, and the establishment of a documentation and information centre.

The 1985 meetings of the MULPOC organs provided required policy guidance for the work of the MULPOCs and, in particular, adopted the work programme for 1985 as well as for the 1986-1987 biennium, this being the first time that the MULPOCs were called upon to adopt biennial work programmes for integration with those of ECA substantive divisions, in accordance with the United Nations regulations and rules governing programme planning, the programme aspects of the budget, the monitoring of implementation and the methods of evaluation. The meetings were organized as follows:

(a) Niamey-based MULPOC: Meeting of experts of intergovernmental organizations, 30 January to 2 February; meeting of chief executives of intergovernmental organizations, 5 to 8 February; meeting of Officials 8 to 12 February; meeting of the Council of Ministers, 15 and 16 February; all at Niamey, Niger. The 1985-1986 work programme gave priority to agriculture and food production, the impact of desertification on the status of women and on population movements, industrial development, development of human resources, and multinational projects;

(b) Yaounde-based MULPOC: Meeting of Officials, 22 to 28 March; and meeting of the Council of Ministers, 3 to 5 March, both at Ndjamena, Chad. The work programme adopted for 1985 and 1986 included new areas that were given high priority by the member States, namely transport and communications, population, industry, environment, and human resources;

(c) Lusaka-based MULPOC: Meeting of Officials, 11 to 18 March; and meeting of the Council of Ministers, 15 to 18 March, both at Lusaka, Zambia. The Council adopted recommendations on agriculture, industry, natural resources, trade, monetary and financial co-operation, human resources, the integration of women in development, PADIS and special projects on assistance to liberation movements in southern Africa;

(d) Gisenyi-based MULPOC: Meeting of Officials 25 to 28 March; Rwanda and meeting of the Council of Ministers, 17 to 20 March, both at Gisenyi. The Council considered the work programme for the period 1984-1986 which included among other things the project on multisectoral assistance to CEPGL, follow-up to activities already initiated and the integration of women in the development process. The Council concluded its work by adopting 12 resolutions on activities to be undertaken in the priority sectors, including food and agriculture with special emphasis on drought and desertification;

(e) Tangier-based MULPOC: Meeting of Officials, 8 to 10 April; and meeting of Plenipotentiaries, 12 April, both at Tangier, Morocco. The meeting assigned priority in the work programme to trade promotion in North Africa, agriculture, industry, Afro-Arab trade and financial co-operation, water resources, transport and communications integration of women in the development process, establishment of data and information systems, science and technology, and establishment of a North African Documentation and Information System (NADIS).

Subsidiary bodies

It is to be recalled that following the decision of the fourteenth session of the Commission/fifth meeting of the Conference of Ministers, the subsidiary bodies of the Commission are now the Joint Conference of African Planners, Statisticians and Demographers, a merger of the formerly separate Conferences of African Planners, Statisticians and Demographers; the Intergovernmental Committee of Experts for Science and Technology Development in Africa and the Intergovernmental Regional Committee on Human Settlements and Environment.

During the period under review, the third session of the Joint Conference of African Planners, Statisticians and Demographers was held at ECA headquarters, Addis Ababa from 5 to 14 March 1984. In the field of planning, the Joint Conference discussed the study on "ECA and Africa's development 1983-2008: a preliminary perspective study", report on work on short-term forecasting in the African region, organizational and manpower requirements in planning offices, and progress in the implementation of the Lagos Plan of Action especially in the light of current national development plans. In addition, the Joint Conference considered the following topics in the planning field: a revised format for the annual Survey of Economic and Social Conditions in Africa, the co-ordination of the private and public sectors, foreign exchange leakages in African countries, socio-economic indicators, the activities of IDEP, and the role of indigenous small- and medium-scale enterprises in the socio-economic transformation and development of Africa. It also considered ECA activities and work programme for 1984-1985 with projections up to 1989.

In the field of statistics, the principal consideration was the strengthening of national statistical services along the lines indicated in ECA resolution 469 (XVIII). The following topics were examined in detail: the African household survey capability programme (AHSCP), the statistical training programme for Africa (STPA), the African statistical association (AFSA) and the work programme of the ECA Statistics Division. In demography, the Joint Conference examined the following issues: the role of demographic variables in the formulation of development policies and plans, the report of the second African Population Conference, evolution of population theories and policies in development planning, demographic data collection and analysis in the African region, the population information system for Africa (POPIN-AFRICA) project, the ECA regional population training institutes, and the work programme of the ECA Population Division. Major issues considered in the area of documentation and information included the role of documentation, information and computer services in Africa and PADIS's past achievements and future activities. The Joint Conference stressed the need to (a) train information personnel in order to increase data processing capabilities; (b) establish the necessary information infrastructure in the African region at the national and regional levels; (c) install English, French and Arabic as working languages in the dissemination of information; and (d) prepare a convention for the transmission of data and information among African countries.

The third meeting of the Intergovernmental Committee of Experts for Science and Technology Development was held in Addis Ababa from 26 to 30 November 1984. The meeting dealt with such items as the implementation of the science and technology chapter of the Lagos Plan of Action and new technologies and their impact on Africa's development strategy.

The Committee held its fourth meeting in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia from 18 to 22 November 1985. The meeting examined, among other things, the mid-decade review of the implementation of the science and technology chapter of the Lagos Plan of Action, the prevailing economic and social crisis in Africa, some concrete project proposals, TCDC in development,

and demonstration of technologies for Africa and the mobilization of financial resources for science and technology.

The second meeting of the Joint Intergovernmental Regional Committee on Human Settlements and Environment took place in Addis Ababa from 16 to 19 January 1984. The main objectives of the meeting were to review activities in both areas and plan future policy, programmes and strategy to implement the ECA work programme in each of the areas covered by the Joint Committee.

The Committee held its third meeting in Addis Ababa from 22 to 26 July 1985. The meeting considered country reports from member States on human settlement projects aiming at improving housing for low-income groups and the ongoing preparations for the International Year of Shelter for the Homeless (1987), human settlements policies in Africa, land problems in urban areas and housing programmes for the masses, development of decentralized systems of building materials production in Africa, and indicators for revised building codes and regulations in Africa.

**III. PROGRESS REPORT ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE APPROVED WORK
PROGRAMME OF THE COMMISSION (1984-1985)**

FOOD AND AGRICULTURE

During the biennium under review, the thrust of the activities of ECA in the food and agriculture sector, which were the joint responsibilities of ECA and FAO under the Joint Division agreement, was aimed at relieving the distress caused by the drought and famine that afflicted the continent. In effect, while efforts were intensified to assist member States to formulate sound national policies and programmes in accordance with the requirements of the relevant chapter of the Lagos Plan of Action, resources had to be redeployed to respond to requests from member States and their intergovernmental organizations to deal with the serious situation. The activities carried out during the biennium were undertaken under the following subprogrammes:

Agricultural development policy, planning and programming

In the context of agricultural development policy, planning and programming, the following documents were prepared and submitted for consideration by the ECA Conference of Ministers at its annual meetings during the biennium:

- (a) Evaluation of the implementation of the Regional Food Plan for Africa (1978-1984) and a preliminary assessment of the food and agricultural aspects of the Lagos Plan of Action;
- (b) Proposals for the development of the food and agriculture sector, 1986-1990; and
- (c) Critical situation of food and agriculture in Africa, 1984.

The purpose of the first paper was to assess the progress and performance made in the period 1978-1984 in relation to the objectives and targets of the Regional Food Plan and the agricultural chapter of the Lagos Plan of Action with a view to providing a more realistic basis for future action, though still within the broad framework of AFPLAN and the Lagos Plan of Action.

The second paper addressed the causes of the poor performance of the food and agriculture sector in Africa and made proposals to remedy the prevalent unbecoming situation in the short and long term. The paper on the critical situation was also eventually submitted to ECOSOC and the United Nations General Assembly in 1984.

Efforts were deployed to make proposals to member States and their intergovernmental organizations on how to deal with the food crisis which had engulfed the continent. In this respect, the following papers and reports were produced to highlight the tragedy:

(a) Report on the food situation in Africa, prepared in collaboration with FAO and OAU and submitted to the second meeting of the OAU African Inter Ministerial Committee for Food in 1984;

(b) The African food crisis: Basis for future action, jointly prepared by ECA, FAO and ADB and submitted to the second meeting of the OAU African Inter-Ministerial Committee for Food and the tenth ministerial session of the United Nations World Food Council. The paper outlined the African common position with regard to necessary steps to be taken in facing the crisis in the short-, medium- and long-term periods;

(c) African food crisis and the role of ADB in tackling it. The paper, which was prepared by ECA, ADB and OAU in response to a request from the African Development Bank which as part of the activities for its twentieth anniversary wanted its Board of Governors - the African Ministers of Finance - to endorse its decision to focus on food and agriculture during its next programming cycle, 1986-1990. The paper suggests the role to be played by financial institutions in general and ADB in particular in providing assistance to the food sector.

Many countries lack the trained manpower resources required to effectively formulate viable investment programmes and implement food and agricultural development policies. The programme of assistance to member countries and their intergovernmental organizations in policy and planning aimed at improving the capacity for agricultural planning and policies of countries and intergovernmental organizations continued to receive high priority in the activities of the secretariat.

Actions undertaken included the preparation of development plans, and proposals on how to establish appropriate institutions and staff them adequately. In this connection, a plan, the five-year development plan: Food and agriculture sector, was formulated for the CEPGL countries Burundi, Rwanda and Zaire - at their request. Similarly, a study on options for a planning unit of an investment centre of a subregional consulting firm in ECOWAS was prepared at the request of the ECOWAS secretariat.

Two reports submitted to the ECA Conference of Ministers at its meeting in 1985 dealt with measures for improving the capacity for agricultural planning and policies in Africa with emphasis on strengthening, monitoring and evaluation of agricultural projects and programmes. The first paper offered criticisms of past and present planning approaches in African agriculture and suggested measures to improve agricultural planning capacity with emphasis on policy measures and the planning process which should involve not only policy-makers, planners and administrators, but also small holder producers. It also suggested guidelines for the training of agricultural planners in Africa. The second paper on monitoring and evaluation argued that successful projects had generally been those that were less complex and characterized by good design, good management and favourable physical and socio-economic environment.

Other related reports which were prepared included "Food security programme for the CEPGL member countries (Burundi, Rwanda and Zaïre): Pre-feasibility study", which was submitted to the meeting of the Council of Ministers of the CEPGL; and "Food security for the Preferential Trade Area (PTA) States", a paper prepared for the second meeting of the Technical Committee on Agricultural Co-operation of the PTA for the Eastern and Southern African States. Both papers outlined the major elements of a food security system for the respective subregions. For the same meeting of the PTA Technical Committee on Agricultural Co-operation, a technical publication on manpower training with particular emphasis on project preparation, appraisal and implementation was prepared for the Committee. Another study for the CEPGL, "Feasibility study on preservation, drying, packing and marketing of tubers (cassava, potatoes, sweet potatoes, yams and cocoyams) ..." was completed. In an endeavour to assist the countries of the Southern African Labour Commission (SALC) draw up agricultural strategies to absorb their migrant labour to South Africa, a study was undertaken in these countries and a report entitled "Alternatives to migratory labour system in supplier countries of Southern Africa with special reference to agriculture" was submitted to the Conference of SALC Ministers at their request. The Conference decided that specific projects should be prepared in this sector by ECA.

Concerning financial resources and investment for food and agricultural development, a report entitled "Apparent discrepancy between increasing resource allocation to food and agriculture in Africa and the declining performance of the sector" was prepared in compliance with a request by the ECA Conference of Ministers. The major conclusion of the paper was that the decline in per capita food production had accelerated from 7 per cent in the 1960s to 15 per cent in the 1970s which had continued into the 1980s and African Governments were yet to back up their avowed food self-sufficiency objectives with increased allocation of public resources as called for in the Lagos Plan of Action.

The secretariat has considerably expanded its activities on the improvement of methodology for food and agriculture data collection including the improvement of survey procedures and techniques for use by member States to obtain up-to-date agricultural statistical data. In this regard, a paper on "Socio-economic indicators for agricultural development planning in Africa", was prepared for the Expert Consultation on a System of Socio-economic Indicators for African Planners, organized by the ECA Socio-economic Research and Planning Division.

Programmes and projects under forestry resources focus on the proper utilization of natural resources in general and the conservation of forestry cover in particular in order to minimize current desertification hazards. In this connection, a study on the problems of, and prospects for harmonization of forestry development policies in Africa was undertaken

at the request of the ECA Conference of Ministers. A paper on the role of forests in the PTA of Eastern and Southern Africa was prepared and submitted to the PTA Technical Committee on Agricultural Co-operation. Under an ECA/FAO project, a regional assessment of the role of forests in combating desertification in arid and semi-arid areas is being carried out in the continent. In addition, a project identification study on the forestry sector for Sao Tome and Principe was prepared in collaboration with the ECA/FAO Forest Industry Advisory Group for Africa (FIAG) and submitted to the annual meeting of the African Timber Organization (ATO).

Consultant missions were mounted to Kenya, Mozambique, the United Republic of Tanzania and Zambia to carry out a major investigative study on land use policies and farming system in Africa. The study, which was completed for the four countries, is expected to be extended to cover the whole of Africa eventually. The major objective of the project is to undertake an in-depth assessment of the management and utilization of natural resources with a view to providing guidelines for government action and policy formulation aimed at better and more rational use of these resources and thereby prevent and even reverse environmental degradation.

As a follow-up to the prefeasibility study on multinational co-operation in seed production, multiplication and distribution for rice, beans and soya beans in the Great Lakes countries, preparations are underway for a feasibility study to be followed by an investment project document on production and distribution of improved seeds in the three countries of that subregion for submission to donors. The study is being implemented with the full involvement of the CEPGL secretariat and in collaboration with FAO and the subregional Institut de recherche agronomique et zootechnique (IRAZ).

Promotion of integrated rural development, improvement of agricultural institutions and services, and expansion of food production

In the area of the complex of institutions concerning agrarian structures including land tenure, agricultural and food production, supporting services and other related institutions connected with agronomic research, extension, credit, co-operative movement among the peasantry, the supply of agricultural and domestic inputs, the activities of the secretariat during the period under review concentrated on the assessment of the needs of peasants and small farmers; the participation of women in rural development; the promotion of subregional co-operation in agronomic research; livestock and fisheries production; co-operation in production and trade in food and agricultural products at the subregional level. The secretariat also continued to collaborate with FAO in the implementation of the recommendations of the World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development (WCARRD).

A follow-up mission composed of representatives of ECA and of specialized agencies of the United Nations system under the leadership of FAO visited Uganda to discuss with Government officials and improve upon the recommendations of a previous mission with a particular focus on the country's two-year revised Recovery Programme (1982-1984). A report was subsequently prepared and submitted to the Government of Uganda embodying recommendations on measures to be taken within the framework of the Recovery Programme to alleviate rural poverty.

As part of efforts to promote integrated rural development, a seminar and study tour in the USSR for African specialists involved in the implementation of rural development projects was held with the assistance of the Soviet Government and the co-operation of FAO. The seminar and study tour provided an opportunity for African specialists from 19 countries to exchange and review national experiences, approaches, policies and discuss problems encountered in the implementation of rural development projects and to acquaint themselves with farming organization, planning and agricultural practices in the USSR. The representatives of the member States presented 20 country papers reflecting a diversity of experiences in the implementation of rural development projects in the continent and they agreed to follow up in their respective countries the recommendations adopted by the meeting. The Centre for Integrated Rural Development in Africa (CIRDAFRICA) and FAO participated in the seminar.

A study on the strengthening and improvement of agricultural support services for small farmers was undertaken in three countries in southern Africa, namely Botswana, Lesotho and Swaziland, during the period under review. The study aimed at identifying the major constraints inhibiting the effective operation of agricultural support services to small-scale farmers. Historical analysis of the position of small-scale farmers vis-à-vis the activities of agricultural support services indicated that that category of producers had generally been neglected by government services resulting in low productivity and poverty. It was confirmed that agricultural support services, i.e., research, extension, marketing, credit and related activities in these three countries are too weak to fulfil their objectives. They are understaffed and under-financed. There was strong awareness and desire on the part of the governments to reach the small-scale farmer. By and large, however, most of the support seemed still to go to commercial crops destined mainly for exports. The need to reorient agricultural support services in favour of the small-scale farmer is clearly evident from the study.

The secretariat continued to assist the countries of Eastern and Southern Africa in their efforts to establish a subregional maize research network. The study that was initiated during the previous biennium was completed during the period under review.

The major objective of the network is to increase the productivity and production of maize in the subregion through strengthening and improving national maize research capabilities. It takes into account the activities of the international agricultural research centres, especially CIMMYT. The concept of the network approach of collaborating scientists is aimed at achieving more efficient use of resources. It is intended to facilitate exchange of information and experiences. Scientists who might otherwise be compelled to work in the relative isolation of their own programmes, laboratories and experimental farms obtain easy access to the ideas and methodology of their peers in other countries. In the network, national research programmes co-operate in carefully identified, formulated and planned research on common problems.

The emphasis on maize is due to the fact that maize is the main staple crop of the subregion. More than 50 per cent of the dietary supply of the population of the subregion is obtained from this cereal. About 55 per cent of the land area under cereals is in maize. However, important though maize is in the subregion, the average yield is low (16 per cent lower than yields in North America) and has remained stagnant over the last two and a quarter years. Projections show that were present trends to continue, the subregion will continue to remain a net importer of this basic food. Fortunately, the potential for yield improvement is high and with the establishment of a solid base of agricultural research, accompanied by appropriate action by member States to ensure the motivation of farmers to respond to the new technologies available to them, there is no reason why self-sufficiency in maize production should not be attained in the subregion.

The feasibility study for the network was implemented jointly by FAO and ECA. Funds are currently being mobilized to implement the findings of the study. So far FAO has contributed \$US 100,000 towards the implementation of the project.

A study on "Co-operation in agricultural research and crop protection in the north-west African region", covering Algeria, the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Morocco and Tunisia, was undertaken at the request of the member States of the North Africa MULPOC. The study was completed during the biennium with the technical and financial assistance of FAO.

The need for such a study resulted from the fact that pre-harvest losses due to weed infestation, plant diseases, insects, mites, nematodes and vertebrate pests were estimated to be high, though no detailed information based on loss assessment surveys on the subject so far exists in the agricultural and crop protection institutions of the Maghreb region. The most effective means of reducing the magnitude of these losses appears to be through a more effective utilization of existing plant protection knowledge and technology.

The study made recommendations for co-operation at the subregional level for phytosanitary projects and actions. The recommendations were addressed to three levels:

- (a) National crop protection services;
- (b) Multinational crop protection level; and
- (c) International co-operation.

The study also indicated the financial aid that would be needed for the implementation of the recommendations. Detailed proposals for action were expanded in project profiles included in the document.

The first phase of a study on "Co-operation in the production and trade of food and agricultural products in North Africa" was completed in two stages. The first stage included Egypt, Morocco, the Sudan and Tunisia, while the second dealt with Algeria and the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya.

The study is a contribution to a solution to the particularly disquieting food deficit situation in the six countries of North Africa. The North African MULPOC Council of Plenipotentiaries has deemed it useful to investigate specifically how an intensification of relations in trade and co-operation among the countries of the subregion could contribute to improving their food security as a whole. The study, prepared by ECA with the co-operation of FAO, reflects such a concern. The study justified the need for co-operation, identified potential fields for co-operation and made practical suggestions for action.

Assistance was provided to the Government of Chad to review the state of the Chadian economy and to consider the implementation of a recovery programme. In addition to general recommendations, five projects were identified in the field of food and agriculture and project sheets were prepared for the following critical areas:

- (a) Pre-activation and reinforcement of agronomic research structures in Chad;
- (b) Feasibility study for the establishment of a laboratory for soil and crops analysis;
- (c) Rehabilitation of agricultural statistics;
- (d) Establishment of an agricultural credit scheme for small farmers;
- (e) A plan to combat desertification in Chad.

The task of review of the state of the economy of Chad was carried out with the assistance of all the organizations of the United Nations system represented in N'Djamena. The Government had reacted favourably to the findings of the mission.

With a view to assisting member States attain food self-sufficiency through increased food availability and considering the important role of African women in food production, the secretariat carried out a study on the role of women in reducing food losses in Togo. The study focused both on technologies used by women for post-harvest activities and on the nature and magnitude of losses of cereals, roots, tubers and fish in Togo.

The study, which was submitted to the Government of Togo, highlighted the predominant role of women in the production and distribution of agricultural and food crops as well as the traditional methods and means used for post-harvest operations. In this regard, the recommendations of the study included, among other things, the strengthening of agricultural extension services and the orientation of their programmes in order to meet adequately the specific needs of women.

The study also revealed that losses of fish are high owing to inadequate processing and conservation techniques. In this connection, it was recommended that a national seminar on techniques relating to fish processing, conservation and distribution should be organized.

As a follow-up to the prefeasibility study on assessing the role of women in reduction of food losses, especially of cereals, roots, tubers and fish, the secretariat extended the study to fruit and vegetables at the request of the Government of Togo. These perishable commodities account for the important losses that have been observed in the country, which have been estimated at about 30 to 50 per cent, most of which occur in handling during the different stages of marketing. The study covered the main fruits and vegetables grown and consumed in Togo and a project proposal for devising and disseminating low-cost and appropriate technologies for processing and preserving these crops at the producer's level was attached to the final report of the study.

As a contribution to the review of food policies in Africa and pursuant to General Assembly resolution 39/165 of 17 December 1984 on the critical situation of food and agriculture in Africa, the secretariat prepared a report on the "Critical situation of food and agriculture in Africa". The report dealt with the salient features of the food crisis and proposed short-term measures needed to cope with the problem. These proposals included:

- (a) Establishment of early warning systems where they do not exist and strengthening existing ones;
- (b) Assistance in the supply of seeds and other agricultural inputs;
- (c) Provision of draught animals;
- (d) Assistance to livestock owners in the form of feed, veterinary supplies, watering facilities, etc.; and
- (e) Improvement of transportation, storage and maintenance facilities.

While short-term recovery measures were important to save life, the report also emphasized the need for launching simultaneously long-term development activities. The importance of international assistance as a catalyst in the effort was also underscored in the report.

A study on the "Production and quality improvement of livestock products in the PTA for Eastern and Southern Africa" was also completed during the review period. The study analysed the performance of the livestock sector and the constraints facing the sector. Concrete proposals were made, particularly on action at subregional level on how to accelerate the achievements of greater individual and collective self-reliance and self-sufficiency in animal products and major inputs to the sector. The study was submitted to the meeting of the Technical Committee on Agricultural Co-operation of the PTA for Eastern and Southern African States.

A report was also prepared on "Production, consumption and trade in livestock products and by-products in West Africa, 1971-1982", in which the performance of the subsector was analysed and suggestions made on how to alleviate and/or eliminate the constraints hindering its development within the framework of the principle of collective self-reliance. Another report on "Harmonization of pricing policies in the Niamey-based MULPOC (Phase I)" was also prepared. The report analyses pricing policies in the subregion and proposes measures and programmes for harmonization. Furthermore, a project document was prepared for securing the financial resources required for the implementation of the programme. The MULPOC Council of Ministers had considered the report at its 1985 meeting and had recommended that resources to implement the programme be mobilized mainly from the countries of the region and that existing facilities at both national and regional levels should be used more efficiently.

A study on "Co-operation between Egypt and the Sudan in the livestock and cereals subsectors" was completed as part of a broader one on "Co-operation and trade in North Africa". The study contains proposals for fostering co-operation between the two countries particularly in the promotion of production and trade in livestock products and inputs. The study was submitted to the 1985 Meeting of Plenipotentiaries of the North African MULPOC. The study will be extended eventually to cover all North African countries.

In view of the urgency of the problems facing the livestock subsector, particularly the increasing dependency of the region on outside meat and meat products, the ECA Conference of Ministers had, by resolution 463 (XVIII), requested the secretariat to undertake a critical survey of the subsector. A study in two volumes on "Comprehensive policies and programmes for livestock development in Africa" was accordingly prepared and submitted to the 1985 meeting of the Conference.

Volume I entitled "Problems, constraints and necessary future action" contains a critical analysis of the problems and constraints to livestock development and proposals for action. Volume II entitled "The performance of the livestock sector, 1968-1982" analyses the performance of the sector at the national, subregional and regional levels.

The secretariat provided assistance to the Semi-Arid Food Grain Research and Development Agency (SAFGRAD) on the preparation of its Master Plan particularly in respect of the preparation of projects for the activities of the Agency during the next 15 years.

Agricultural marketing institutions, services and facilities

During the biennium, the main thrust of activities under this heading was on food security and food losses, agricultural pricing policies, the role of small-scale indigenous entrepreneurs in agricultural marketing and the food crisis in general.

On food security, several project documents were prepared detailing programmes for reducing food losses and increasing food availability and thus attaining the objectives of food security in the region in accordance with the objectives of Lagos Plan of Action and AFPLAN. These documents have been submitted for donor funding and cover: prevention of food losses in West Africa; regional food security programme for Africa; improvement of food self-sufficiency; food security through the prevention of post-harvest losses and prefeasibility study for the development of food production in the Preferential Trade Area for Eastern and Southern Africa.

In continuation of work on price policies in Africa, the secretariat undertook in collaboration with FAO three more price studies in Nigeria, Ethiopia and the Yaounde MULPOC countries. The studies covered price policies and administration and made recommendations on how to use prices as incentives to increase food and agricultural production in conformity with the recommendations of the Lagos Plan of Action and AFPLAN. The study on Ethiopia was presented at the FAO/ECA Group Consultation on TCDC for food marketing improvement in Eastern and Southern African countries held at Arusha from 12 to 14 November 1985; those on Nigeria and for the Yaounde MULPOC countries were submitted to the Government of Nigeria and the Yaounde MULPOC Council of Ministers respectively.

In line with continuing efforts to improve national and collective preparedness against problems associated with large-scale food shortages arising from natural calamities such as drought, floods, typhoons, pest and disease outbreaks as well as man-made disasters, the FAO Committee on World Food Security at its sixth session considered ways and means of improving the state of preparedness to meet acute and large-scale food shortages. As a follow-up, a Workshop on National Preparedness for Acute Large-Scale Food Shortages in Eastern and Southern Africa was organized at ECA headquarters, Addis Ababa, from 22 to 26 October 1985. Representatives from six countries, namely Ethiopia, Mozambique, the Sudan, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe attended and presented reports at the workshop.

A study on "Groundnut production, marketing, processing and trade in the African Groundnut Council (AGC) member countries" was undertaken at the request of the AGC. The production of groundnuts has deteriorated very badly over the past decade. The purpose of the study was to review conditions of production, marketing, processing and trade in groundnuts and to suggest areas for the development of groundnut industries in Africa.

A study on the current inefficiencies in the marketing and distribution of agricultural commodities and inputs in the region and on the limited role played by small indigenous entrepreneurs in this respect was prepared and distributed to member States. The study stressed that in most countries no conscious efforts were made to encourage the participation of small indigenous traders and recommended that ECA and FAO should assist countries of the region in initiating small-scale indigenous entrepreneur development programmes as a first step in encouraging and strengthening their participation and hence improving the efficiency of marketing in the region.

Pursuant to General Assembly resolution 38/198 of December 1983 on the international year for the mobilization of financial and technological resources to increase food and agricultural production in Africa, the secretariat prepared and submitted a report to ECOSOC in 1985 on "International mobilization of financial and technological resources for food and agriculture in Africa." The report elaborated a four-phase programme of action for the International Year for Africa (IYA) proposed for 1991 by the General Assembly for the mobilization of financial and technological resources to combat the current food crisis in Africa. In the IYA programme of action, it was also recommended that priority should shift from short-term project-based aid to long-term support for the agricultural sector; a commitment to long-term research programmes oriented to the needs of small- to medium-sized farmers and herders; and the indigenization of a scientific and technological base within Africa for the support of agriculture.

During the past two decades, considerable efforts have been made to assist developing countries in formulating and implementing strategies to improve their marketing systems. Many policies and programmes have been formulated and many field level projects carried out to introduce innovations and improvement in food marketing systems. Some Governments have come up with food policies and programmes which have helped in developing the domestic food production systems in their own respective countries. Results have however been generally mixed and there is accordingly room to share experience, especially among the countries of the region.

In view of this, ECA and FAO organized an expert consultation among the heads of food marketing agencies in the Eastern and Southern African States. The objective of the consultation which was held in Arusha, the United Republic of Tanzania, from 12 to 14 November 1985 was to: (a) identify specific marketing-related activities which could be improved through

technical co-operation among developing countries (TCDC) and between African countries; (b) discuss ways and means of establishing a regional institution for such TCDC activities and discussions on the activities to be carried out by such a TCDC body.

Ten countries of the subregion attended the meeting. A consensus was reached among the major food marketing organizations of the subregion on functions and other salient features of the envisaged subregional technical co-operation in food marketing and means and ways of establishing the regional institution.

A project document entitled "Establishment of dairy and cattle marketing co-operative for refugees in the south-western and western regions of Uganda" was prepared at the request of FAO headquarters. The project is being implemented with funds of that organization.

DEVELOPMENT ISSUES AND POLICIES

Although all the activities of the Commission are related to development issues and policies, the activities which were carried out during the biennium 1984-1985 under the programme entitled "Development issues and policies" were carried out within the following subprogrammes: socio-economic analysis, planning and projections; fiscal, monetary and financial issues at the national level; least developed African countries; policies, institutions and technical assistance for economic co-operation; education and training for development; and manpower and employment planning and policies.

Socio-economic analysis, planning and projections

In line with the requirements of the International Development Strategy for the Third Development Decade and the Lagos Plan of Action, the basic emphasis of the subprogramme, socio-economic analysis, planning and projections, has remained assistance to African countries in implementing their development objectives through the identification of development problems and the formulation of appropriate development policies. To this end, the secretariat has continued to assess and analyse the economic and social situation in African countries and to undertake research on specific development issues. Development planning and model building are recognized as essential instruments for the implementation of development objectives. Accordingly during the biennium under review, the focus of activities in the areas of development planning and projections has been on activities expected to have a positive impact on the development of national and regional capabilities in planning and programming techniques.

The specific activities carried out in support of member States' efforts to address their socio-economic problems including planning and projections during the biennium are described below.

The preparation of the annual Survey of Economic and Social Conditions continued to be the major activity carried out by the secretariat in the area of an overall continuous assessment of the performance of the African economy including the highlighting of the emerging problems and suggestions for their solution. During the biennium, two issues of the Survey were completed, namely those which covered the period 1982-1983 and 1983-1984 respectively. They were considered by the ECA Conference of Ministers responsible for economic development and planning at its tenth and eleventh meetings respectively. In general, emphasis was placed, inter alia, on trends in production and investment, the external sector, fiscal and monetary policies, price trends and policies, and domestic resource mobilization.

In addition to the general analysis, the annual Survey now includes the findings of a special study on an issue of particular interest to African countries. Thus in the Survey covering the period 1982-1983, recent

experiences of African countries with adjustment policies were critically reviewed and recommendations made on an appropriate policy mix for adjustment. The special study in the Survey covering the period 1983-1984 was on devaluation as a policy instrument in developing Africa.

As part of its continuous efforts to collaborate with institutions with common objectives in the region, the ECA secretariat collaborated with the African Development Bank in 1984 to prepare and publish the "Economic Report on Africa" which has now become an annual joint publication by the two secretariats. The reports address themselves to some of the most critical constraints on growth and development in the region. Thus in addition to a review of developments in Africa and the international situation, the reports have so far dealt with such issues as the financing of development, the problem of food and agriculture, the energy crisis and Africa's external indebtedness.

In accordance with General Assembly resolution 2626 (XXV) on the International Development Strategy (IDS), a "Review and appraisal of economic performance in Africa 1980-1985" (document E/ECA/CM.11/14) was prepared. The review, which covered the most difficult years in Africa's recent economic history, also constituted a background document for the discussion of economic issues and review and appraisal of the implementation of the Lagos Plan of Action at the twenty-first ordinary session of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity in July 1985. It revealed that the targets of the IDS as well as those of the Lagos Plan of Action were far from being met in Africa. Indeed, economic and social conditions in the region deteriorated substantially during the period of the review.

The second Workshop on Foreign Exchange Leakages in African Economies was organized and held in Addis Ababa from 21 to 23 February 1984 in collaboration with the Council for the Development of Economic and Social Research in Africa (CODESRIA) and with the financial support of the Friedrich Ebert Foundation. The workshop, whose report is available in document E/ECA/PSD.3/14, considered eight in-depth country case studies which were prepared by various African development research institutes and made recommendations on the subject to the third session of the Joint Conference of African Planners, Statisticians and Demographers, held in 1984. This session of the Joint Conference had in turn recommended that the project on resource leakages should be pursued further. In this connection, a document on "Foreign exchange and financial leakages in Africa" (E/ECA/CM.11/25) was prepared for the consideration of the Roundtable of Governors of African Central Banks and Senior Officials of International Finance Institutions, which was held in Addis Ababa from 4 to 7 February 1985. The Roundtable was attended by more than a dozen representatives of African central banks and five international organizations. Participants in the Roundtable suggested several policy measures to reduce leakages in the short-, medium- and long-term.

In response to a request of the second session of the Joint Conference of African Planners, Statisticians and Demographers for a panel of experts to be convened to draw up a list of indicators for use by African planners, an expert consultation on a system of socio-economic indicators for African planners was organized and held at Addis Ababa from 23 to 27 January 1984. The expert group considered the definition, selection and use of socio-economic indicators, the design of an integrated system of socio-economic indicators and the use of such indicators in planning, sectoral indicators and statistical requirements for development indicators. The group made a number of recommendations and conclusions and drew up a proposed list of indicators for use by African planners which is contained in the appendix to the Report of the Expert Consultation (document E/ECA/SERPD/INDIG/Rev.1).

As far as planning and projections were concerned, attention was given to the elimination of constraints to Africa's development with the overall aim of assisting planners and decision-makers in the preparation of coherent and consistent development plans within the framework of appropriate strategies and policy measures designed to promote balanced growth and development and improve external balances.

During the period under review, advisory services and assistance were rendered to Mali, Chad, Benin, Mauritius and Rwanda in various aspects of planning and projections including economic modelling, the evaluation of plans and adjustment programmes, and assessment of needs in the critical sectors.

Current national development planning practices were critically evaluated in the light of the planning concepts and methods implied by the Lagos Plan of Action. The extent to which the goals and objectives of the Plan were taken into account in national policies and programmes were also assessed. The work in this area has revealed that current difficulties in planning in Africa are mainly due to the external orientedness of African economies and especially their excessive dependence on the outside world for capital and intermediate goods, technology, manpower and investment finance.

Work on the elaboration of short-term forecasting systems and outlook models was undertaken in more countries during the biennium. It is to be recalled that the objective of the activities in this area is to provide an early warning mechanism that would enable the initiation of short-term adjustment measures to cope with domestic and external disturbances triggered for instance by such factors, among others, as the effects of drought on agriculture, the imposition of quota restrictions and other protectionist measures, and sudden shifts in the world prices of major export commodities.

To assist it in its consideration of the economic and social crisis in Africa, the United Nations Committee for Development Planning (CDP)

had, at its resumed twenty-first session held in April 1985, requested the secretariat to provide it with a detailed study of the African crisis. The paper entitled "Africa's crisis and structural change" which was prepared in response to this request discussed the nature, evolution and the management of the crisis in its immediate, short- and long-term aspects.

The special problems of the Sahel region continued to receive the attention of the secretariat. A perspective study of Sahelian countries was prepared with special emphasis on the outlook for food self-sufficiency, agricultural productivity, industrial capacity utilization and transport facilities under a historical trend scenario and a normative development scenario for the period 1983 to 1998.

Fiscal, monetary and financial issues at the national level

In its continuing efforts to assist member States in formulating appropriate fiscal, monetary and financial policies designed to ensure the optimal use of their resources and in building adequate monetary and financial institutions, the secretariat undertook a major study on "The balance-of-payments problems of developing Africa: a reassessment". The study, which was a reformulation of an output carried over from the biennium 1982-1983, namely a technical publication on policy measures for mitigating balance-of-payments difficulties in African countries: issues and institutions, was submitted to the Roundtable of Governors of African Central Banks and Senior Officials of International Finance Institutions which was convened at ECA headquarters from 4 to 7 February 1985. The reformulation was undertaken in order to expand the scope of the study. The Roundtable enriched the study and made recommendations on the short-, medium- and long-term measures that will be required at the national, subregional and regional levels to ease the balance-of-payments problems of African countries. It underscored the need to pursue supply and demand policies simultaneously, and emphasized the need to expand domestic food production and to shift consumption pattern in favour of locally produced food.

Under this subprogramme, the secretariat also prepared a paper entitled "Agricultural credit and the mobilization of resources in the rural areas". The paper assesses the gravity of the food situation in Africa and the role that agricultural credit can play to enhance agriculture production. It is noted that unless and until credit, marketing, price and extension services are effectively integrated, the mere extension of credit will have a negligible impact on agricultural productivity. What is more, financial intermediaries will flounder if the sector they serve is heavily taxed. The paper points out that policies and not organizational form are the main determinants of institutional success.

Least developed African countries (LDCs)

The 26 countries classified as the least developed among developing African countries were the worst hit by the economic crisis of the first half of the 1980s. Economic and social conditions have progressively deteriorated in this group of countries, many of which are situated in drought-prone areas, are landlocked and find it very difficult to mobilize domestic resources.

The ECA special programme of activities for this group of countries has since its inception addressed itself to the peculiar needs of these countries and has in recent years focused on efforts to improve planning, programming and policy-making in them within the framework of the Substantial New Programme of Action for the 1980s for the LDCs. The special programme, with cuts across several substantive areas, continued to be co-ordinated through the Inter-divisional Committee on LDCs.

The following major studies and research activities were undertaken during the 1984-1985 biennium:

(a) Review of the economic and social conditions in African least developed countries, 1981-1984. The study was part of the documentation for the Global Mid-term Review of the SNPA, Geneva, September/October 1985;

(b) Study on the extent of industrial capacity underutilization and its impact on industrial development in African least developed countries: issues for consideration;

(c) Regional evaluation and assessment of the implementation of the Substantial New Programme of Action in African least developed countries, 1981-1984. The study was also part of the documentation for the Global Mid-term Review of the SNPA, Geneva, September/October;

(d) Study on food strategies and food supply situation in African LDCs and the status of the implementation of the African Regional Food Plan in these countries.

Another important area of ECA activities in favour of the African LDCs during 1984-1985 related to the organization and servicing of the ministerial conference and the intergovernmental experts meetings of the LDCs as well as participation at individual country roundtables.

The results of the third and fourth meetings of the Conference of Ministers of African LDCs which were held in May 1984 and April 1985 respectively have been reported in chapter II of the present report.

In the context of paragraphs 111 and 113 of the SNPA and ECA resolution 456 (XVII), the secretariat was invited to, and participated in, the

following country roundtable meetings: Malawi (27 to 29 February 1984), the Comoros (2 to 4 July 1984), the Gambia (27 to 30 November 1984), Guinea-Bissau (21 to 24 May 1984) and Lesotho (14 to 17 May 1984).

The secretariat also attended the UNDP-sponsored African LDCs ministerial meeting on the evaluation of roundtable experiences in the region. The main objective of the meeting was to make recommendations for the improvement of the roundtable mechanism.

As part of its collaboration with other agencies in implementing joint activities, the secretariat co-operated with UNCTAD and the Nairobi Trade Centre in organizing a seminar on the development of foreign trade in African LDCs and presented two papers on "The development crisis in the African LDCs" and "Trade among sub-Saharan countries: current flows and future prospects".

The secretariat participated in the meetings of the Inter-Agency Consultations of United Nations Organizations on the SNPA. It also attended the Mid-term Global Review meeting of the SNPA convened by UNCTAD in Geneva, September/October 1985 in accordance with various resolutions of the General Assembly.

Within the framework of its technical assistance component of the core programme, the secretariat fielded experts to Benin, for the preparation of the documentation for that country's national recovery plan, 1985-1987, Mali, for the preparation of the documentation for the country's second roundtable conference with donors, and Rwanda, for the completion of the second phase of a joint ECA/ADB project on short-term forecasting based on social accounting matrices model which involved the computerization of the model UBUGANDA.

The substantive divisions of the secretariat provided technical assistance and advisory services to almost all of the LDCs during 1984-1985 in their respective fields of competence.

The secretariat organized and serviced the third meeting of the Joint Conference of African Planners, Statisticians and Demographers, which took place at the headquarters of the Commission from 5 to 14 March 1984. As usual, the meeting provided further opportunities for specialists in the field of development planning, statistics, demography and informatics to exchange views on issues of mutual interest and make appropriate recommendations for action for the consideration of the ECA Conference of Ministers at its nineteenth meeting.

In terms of areas of concentration in the context of socio-economic analysis, planning and projections; fiscal, monetary and financial issues at the national level; and the problems of the least developed African countries, the Joint Conference through plenary sessions, meetings of the

Planning Committee and specific meetings between planners and statisticians, planners and demographers, and planners and information scientists covered such issues as perspective study on Africa's development in the next 25 years - 1983-2008; review of African economic and social conditions; organization and manpower requirements in planning; an overview of training of African specialists in planning, statistics and demography; the problems of socio-economic indicators for planning; review of the implementation of the Lagos Plan of Action and a critical analysis of African current national development plans in the light of the requirements of the Lagos Plan; foreign exchange leakages in African countries; the co-ordination of development activities between the public and private sectors in African countries; problems of short-term forecasting in the African region; the role of indigenous small- and medium-scale enterprises in the socio-economic transformation and development in Africa; productivity and development of manufacturing industries in Africa; the evolution of population theories and policies in development planning; and priorities in the development of information systems in Africa.

In response to its statutory task in connection with the United Nations African Institute for Economic Development and Planning (IDEP), the Planning Committee examined progress reports on the activities of the Institute and elected the new members for the vacant posts on the Governing Council. The Committee reiterated its long-standing call for official recognition of the diplomas of the Institute, urged Governments to honour their financial commitments to the Institute and called upon the Institute's direction to institute short topical seminars and supplement its regular long-term staff with short-term ones in order to cope with the Institute's various activities.

While the Committee welcomed the proposal of the Director of the Institute on the establishment of an "African Planners' Association" in principle, it advised that the matter should be carefully studied so as to learn from the experience of other similar associations and co-ordination with the associations of statisticians, demographers and economists. As the next step in the process of establishing the association, the Committee requested the Institute to prepare a study on the issue for its consideration at its fourth meeting in 1986.

Finally, the Committee examined the work programme of the secretariat for the biennium 1984-1986 with projections to 1989 and made appropriate recommendations for improvement.

Policies, institutions and technical assistance for economic co-operation

ECA's activities to promote and strengthen economic co-operation and integration among African countries continued to be centred on the work of its Multinational Programming and Operational Centres (MULPOCs).

During the period under review, further steps were taken to assign staff members from the substantive Divisions to the Centres so as to respond to the increasing call by member States that more staff should be made available to them in those Centres which are closer to them than the headquarters of the Commission. These specialists would work in their substantive fields and so enlarge the Commission's services available to the member States of each MULPOC area in those fields.

As programmed, the 10 meetings of the Councils of Ministers of the MULPOCs as well as the associated 10 meetings of their Committees of Officials were organized and serviced.

Lusaka-based MULPOC

The 1984 and 1985 meetings of the Council of Ministers of the Lusaka-based MULPOC and hence those of their Committee of Officials focused on issues in the following critical areas: intensification of economic and technical co-operation and integration in the subregion; food and agriculture; industry; transport and communications; natural resources; trade and development finance; drought and desertification; information system; and assistance to liberation movements.

For the discussions of these issues, the MULPOC, in addition to the documents prepared by the substantive Divisions, prepared and submitted reports on each of the following: establishment of an agricultural commodity exchange for Eastern and Southern Africa; subregional maize research programme for Eastern and Southern Africa; the development of iron and steel and engineering industries in Eastern and Southern Africa; the development of chemical industry in Eastern and Southern Africa; and drought, desertification and economic crisis in Eastern and Southern Africa.

Gisenyi-based MULPOC

During the period under review, the sixth, seventh and eighth meetings of the Gisenyi MULPOC were organized and serviced by the secretariat. For unavoidable reasons, the sixth meeting could not be held in 1983.

In general, the meetings in 1984 and 1985 concentrated on:

- (a) Strengthening the capability of the Gisenyi MULPOC;
- (b) Institution building in various sectors;
- (c) The integration of women in the development process;
- (d) Drought and desertification.

For the discussion of these issues, the MULPOC secretariat, in addition to the documents submitted by the substantive Divisions, submitted the following documents: study on administrative procedures as obstacles to trade promotion; current position and prospects of cement industries; and drought, desertification and economic crisis.

Yaounde-based MULPOC

At the 1984 and 1985 meetings of the Council of Ministers of the Yaounde MULPOC and hence those of their Committee of Officials, emphasis was placed on development issues in the following areas:

- (a) Transport and communications;
- (b) Non-recorded border trade;
- (c) Industrial development;
- (d) Education and training;
- (e) Food and agriculture, particularly in the context of women in development.

In addition to the documents presented by the substantive Divisions, the MULPOC secretariat presented two documents on (a) drought, desertification and economic crisis; and (b) policies and institutions for subregional trade promotion.

Niamey-based MULPOC

At their meetings in 1984 and 1985, the Council of Ministers of the Niamey-based MULPOC and their Committee of Officials concentrated their discussions on: the problems of trade and finance; agriculture; water resources; industrial development; transport and communications; human settlements strengthening economic integration in West Africa; integration of women in the development process; documentation and information systems; and drought, desertification and economic crisis in the subregion.

For the discussion of the relevant issues, the MULPOC secretariat, in addition to the special reports submitted by the substantive Divisions submitted reports on the following:

- (a) The development of trade in animal products and by-products through the implementation of joint projects;
- (b) The harmonization of price policies of agricultural products;
- (c) Co-ordination of the activities of national and multinational airlines in West Africa;

(d) The development of basic industries; and

(e) Drought, desertification and economic crisis in West Africa.

Tangier-based MULPOC

In the 1984 and 1985 meetings of the Council of Plenipotentiaries of the North African MULPOC and hence those of its Meeting of Experts, the areas of concentration were: trade and finance; food and agriculture; industrial development; development of water resources; transport and communications; migration of the nationals of the Maghreb countries to western Europe; North African Institute of Management; and integration of women in economic and social development.

For the discussion of these issues, the MULPOC secretariat, in addition to the reports submitted by the substantive Divisions, presented the following documents to the meeting: review of economic conditions in North Africa, 1982-1984; drought, desertification and economic crisis in North Africa; policies and institutions for subregional trade promotion; studies on subregional food and agricultural resources; and report on establishing subregional transport infrastructure.

During the period under review, ECA continued to render assistance to the subregional economic groupings which it had helped to establish. Thus legal assistance was provided to the PTA in the drafting of amendments to the PTA Treaty, the preparation of the Official Gazettes of the PTA and the drafting of the PTA Protocol on Free Movement of Persons, the Constitution of the PTA Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry and the Charter of the PTA Eastern and Southern African Trade and Development Bank. The ECA secretariat not only participated at the technical meetings of the PTA but also assisted the PTA secretariat in the preparation of the reports of the annual meetings of the Authority of Heads of State and Government, Council of Ministers and the Intergovernmental Commission of Experts of the PTA.

ECA continued to render assistance to ECOWAS particularly in the fields of law and the rationalization of the activities of West African intergovernmental organizations. In particular, ECA prepared the ECOWAS protocol on the regime to be applied to ECOWAS enterprises and the Statute of the ECOWAS Tribunal.

In its efforts to find solutions to the problems arising out of the multiplicity of rival intergovernmental organizations existing in West Africa, the sixth session of the Authority of Heads of State and Government of ECOWAS commissioned ECA to prepare a study on proposals for strengthening economic integration in West Africa. The study was considered by the Authority at its seventh session after which it requested an additional study to be carried out on the subject of the rationalization of intergovernmental economic relations in West Africa. The study entitled "Proposals for the rationalization of intergovernmental economic organizations in West Africa" makes several proposals as to the

rationalization of intergovernmental organizations in West Africa. The study has been submitted to the ECOWAS secretariat for consideration by its Authority of Heads of State and Government at its next session.

Prior to the preparation of the two studies, ECA has, through its Niamey MULPOC, prepared a comprehensive Directory of Intergovernmental Organizations in West Africa with the aim of promoting the co-ordination and harmonization of the activities of the intergovernmental organizations in the subregion. For this purpose also, the Niamey MULPOC prepared a general agreement on co-operation which was endorsed by the chief executives of West African intergovernmental organizations at their seventh meeting held in January 1985.

The ECA and OAU secretariats ceased to act jointly as the interim secretariat of ECCAS in December 1984 when the Conference of Heads of State and Government of the Community took steps to establish the permanent secretariat of ECCAS. Prior to this, the two secretariats had prepared the work programme of ECCAS and carried out studies on staffing needs. Already, the Secretary-General of ECCAS, one of his deputies and other senior officials of ECCAS have visited ECA headquarters for briefing and to lay the foundation for co-operation and assistance in various fields.

In accordance with paragraph 264 of the Lagos Plan of Action, the ECA Conference of Ministers in resolution 477 (XVII) established an Ad hoc Committee of 10 member States of ECA to study and make recommendations on the harmonization and co-ordination of the activities of ECA- and OAU-sponsored institutions. The Committee was serviced jointly by the ECA and UNDP (RBA) secretariats. The final report made several recommendations aimed at improving the effectiveness of the institutions and in harmonizing and co-ordinating their activities. These recommendations, which received the general approval of the Ministers, have been submitted to the institutions affected and their member States for consideration and implementation.

In addition to arrangements for subregional and regional co-operation, steps were taken to strengthen economic co-operation between Africa and other developing regions.

The period under review witnessed progress towards the operative stage in multisectoral action programmes for interregional co-operation. A concrete example is the process of consultation initiated by ECA and ECLAC to translate into action the proposals adopted at the Joint Meeting of Governmental Experts from Africa and Latin America on ECDC/TCDC, which took place at ECA headquarters, Addis Ababa, during 1982. The Addis Ababa action-oriented proposals for interregional ECDC/TCDC focus on trade, manpower development and science and technology. Follow-up consultations between ECA and ECLAC have led to the preparation of joint ECDC/TCDC projects in the field of mining and the exchange of draft proposals for an interregional project on trade promotion between a selected group of countries from the two regions.

ECA participated in a number of meetings on Afro-Arab co-operation by the League of Arab States (LAS) and OAU. These meetings were followed by an exchange of visits between ECA and LAS resulting in the signing of a memorandum of understanding between the two secretariats in 1984. Since then, ECA has submitted various projects to LAS for possible financing by Arab Funds. Other examples of activities relating to co-operation between Africa and other developing regions concern projects in which ECA is involved with the Governments of India and China in various fields.

ECA organized a meeting on surveillance and information on commodity prices and raw materials on behalf of and at the request of the Group of 77 in New York. This activity was aimed at helping developing countries to design methods to correct the distorted information given by some developed countries about the situation prevailing in international commodity markets. During the period under review, ECA participated in the intergovernmental follow-up and co-ordination meeting of the Group of 77. This is a continuing activity aimed at strengthening co-operation and co-ordination between the Group of 77 and the United Nations system for the implementation of the various chapters of the Caracas Programme of Action.

Education and training for development

During the biennium, the education and training for development subprogramme focused on re-orientation of formal and non-formal educational policies; non-formal education for integrated rural development; occupational testing for career planning and programming for guidance and counselling; policies and capability development for effective co-ordination of training and career planning functions; the management of training and educational institution building; and the administration of grants and fellowships.

With respect to re-orientation of educational policies, programmes and practices, two national workshops were held in Zambia and the United Republic of Tanzania on educational planning and administration and on micro-planning and school mapping respectively. The Zambian and Tanzanian workshops, among other things, reviewed the shortcomings of the best-known approaches to educational planning as used in the countries, reviewed the orientation of current planning efforts towards high-level allocative decisions and provided some guidance on how the countries could implement successfully and effectively their universal primary education programmes.

The second meeting of the Conference of Vice-Chancellors, Presidents and Rectors of Institutions of Higher Learning in Africa was held in February 1985 in Mbabane, Swaziland under the theme: the response of institutions of higher learning to Africa's rapidly deteriorating social and economic conditions. The Conference reviewed the deteriorating socio-economic conditions of the region and adopted a strategy, called the Mbabane Programme of Action, as a response of African institutions of higher learning to Africa's rapidly deteriorating economic and social conditions.

To enhance the re-orientation of university functions to socio-economic development issues and in response to the Vice Chancellors' Mbabane Programme of Action, which called for strengthening of staff development for improved research, teaching and learning in universities, six national and one regional university staff development workshops were held in the universities of Zimbabwe, Botswana, Swaziland, Lesotho, Makerere and Malawi, with emphasis on improved teaching and learning strategies, methods and techniques. The workshops called for institutionalization of staff development effort at each university and at faculty and departmental levels. Another workshop on research and consultancy-oriented education and training was held in Nairobi, Kenya. The workshop emphasized the urgent need for the integration of research and consultancy in university teaching and learning functions so as to improve university teaching and learning and enhance university inter-face with industry and government ministries, thereby contributing effectively to socio-economic development.

Two studies were undertaken in Lesotho and Ghana to assess the effectiveness of non-formal education in responding to the needs of the community. The studies defined the linkage between the knowledge and technology orientation centres and the respective users, and proposed measures for making non-formal education more effective in responding

to national needs. As a result of the studies, a guideline for improving the delivery capability of non-formal education for integrated rural development was also prepared and distributed to the member States.

A subregional conference on credit programmes in adult education was held in Lesotho in August 1985. Among the many issues considered were ways and means of making adult education programmes more relevant to the needs of its clients. The conference was attended by 36 participants from countries members of the Southern Africa Development Co-ordination Conference (SADCC).

National workshops on career planning, guidance and counselling were conducted in Burkina Faso, the Central African Republic and Chad and were attended by 32, 28 and 25 participants respectively. The workshops focused on guidance and counselling, problems of human development, data collection and on practical exercises in guidance and counselling.

Progress in the establishment of subregional graduate schools of management and finance in West, North, Central, Eastern and Southern Africa continued to be very slow. Efforts at mobilizing support of member States were greatly intensified in 1985 and it is hoped that these would yield results during the next biennium.

As regards the question of localization of institutions for examinations, qualifications, certification and accreditation for professional practice, three studies which focused on banking, accountancy and engineering were conducted in Ghana, Sierra Leone and the Gambia respectively. Three technical papers were produced relating to the localization of professional membership institutions for examining and conferring qualifications in accounting, banking and engineering.

Within the framework of training and staff development activities, advisory missions were also rendered at their request to the Republic of Côte d'Ivoire, Benin, Kenya, Uganda, Lesotho, the Gambia and Sierra Leone. The missions reviewed and made appropriate recommendations on the status and effectiveness of training machinery, policies and co-ordination of programmes. National training workshops in human resources management systems development were subsequently organized and held in each of these countries except Sierra Leone. The workshops reviewed the major constraints in the development of viable administrative machinery, staff capability and policy arrangements for effective co-ordination of training and career planning and proposed strategies for the development of an effective training programme.

During the biennium, one regional and one national workshop for staff development officers from parastatal organizations, ministries and the private sector were held in Kenya and Mauritius respectively. Another workshop for management educators (mainly teachers of management and of financial accounting control) was held in Gaborone, Botswana in collaboration with the Institute of Development and Management. The workshops reviewed training methods, trainers' roles and organizational

training development infrastructure, assessed the manpower situation, analysed staff and organizational performance discrepancies and reviewed guidelines for operating appropriate training programmes in African countries.

With respect to institution building in the field of education and training, the African Institute for Higher Technical Training and Research in Nairobi, Kenya got a new director in 1984 and training activities were greatly intensified. As regards the subregional Graduate School of Management for Eastern and Southern Africa, a meeting was jointly organized by the ECA secretariat and the Eastern and Southern Africa Management Institute (ESAMI) in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia in November 1985 on the establishment and viable operation of such an institution.

In the area of grants and fellowships administration, efforts focused on mobilizing resources in cash and in kind for training in such critical areas of need as technical, vocational, scientific and management education within the African region. Most of the awards were under the bilateral fellowships arrangements of three to nine months' duration from the UNTFAD, UNDP and the Netherlands schemes. There was, however, a serious drop in contributions to the programme while more applications were received than in the previous biennium.

In collaboration with the United Nations Institute for Namibia, an annual attachment training programme was organized for 25 third-year students of the Institute. The students were attached to ECA Divisions, the Organization of African Unity secretariat and to the Commercial Bank of Ethiopia.

In all, a total of 98 fellows benefited from the Commission's grants and fellowships administration programmes through direct awards for specified courses at African and other institutions. In addition, a total of 153 participants took part in subregional or regional workshops on manpower planning, management and accountancy, staff development officers courses and national workshops in career guidance and counselling administered by the programme.

Manpower and employment planning and policies

In the manpower and employment planning and policies subprogramme, attention was focused on the development of institutional machinery for manpower planning, development and utilization; staff development to man the machinery and operate manpower planning programmes effectively; and labour and employment surveys to build a data base and models for policy decisions on manpower and employment planning and utilization strategies.

In this regard, member States were assisted in strengthening staffing capacities and institutional capabilities for better human resources planning and programming. Activities undertaken involved national level review studies in Liberia and Zimbabwe with a view to advising the Governments on the status and effectiveness of manpower policies,

administrative machinery and staffing arrangements. In addition, manpower and employment planning staff development workshops were organized and conducted in Kenya, the Gambia, Lesotho and Liberia and senior and middle-level personnel engaged in manpower and employment planning. The thrust of these workshops was to involve nationals as much as possible in assessing existing manpower development and utilization policies and their institutional arrangements and suggesting to policy-makers ways and means for their improvement.

The secretariat initiated an intensive three-month specialized programme in manpower development and manpower planning for African government officials at IDEP with the financial support of the United States Agency for International Development (USAID). Member States' response to this programme far out-numbered available resources and capacities since, of the 93 officials who were nominated by 39 member States for the 1985 programme, only 23 from 16 countries could be accommodated in the programme.

The level of participation and the response of Governments show great signs of encouragement. In this regard, the secretariat will continue to intensify resource mobilization and efforts towards the better management of African human resources.

Labour and employment studies were undertaken in Kenya and Liberia. The reports reviewed labour and employment problems and proposed methodologies for making employment, unemployment and underemployment estimates, forecasts and projections.

The secretariat continued to collaborate with the Southern African Labour Commission in its efforts to help supplier States of migrant workers to South Africa to develop capability for training returning nationals for integration in the national economy. In an effort to help Africans with high-level skills working outside the African region to return to the continent, the secretariat, in collaboration with the Intergovernmental Committee for Migration (ICM), started implementing the project on the return of talent to Africa. At least 13 countries - Botswana, Malawi, Cameroon, Egypt, the Sudan, Zaire, Kenya, Somalia, Zimbabwe, Swaziland, the United Republic of Tanzania, Ghana and Zambia - had expressed interest or were participating in the project.

As regards the project on manpower data and information systems, questionnaires were sent in 1985 to all member States for data collection, but not many returns had been received to ensure processing of such data. The data, once processed, could be used for training nationals in data processing and analysis, proper set up and management of information systems in member States.

A study on skills profiles and training needs in the field of customs administration in Botswana, Lesotho and Zambia was prepared at the request of the Lusaka MULPOC and as a preliminary step for the establishment by countries of the PTA of joint training programmes in customs administration.

The study was submitted to the MULPOC Council of Ministers which decided that the study be expanded to cover more countries.

The secretariat also prepared a number of guidelines for the formulation and implementation of human resources development and utilization policies, institutional machinery for employment and productivity planning subsystems and proposals and strategies for improving national institutional capabilities for monitoring resource productivity indicators. The profiles have been widely distributed to member States for their day-to-day operational use.

Other publications included two monographs, numbers 13 and 14, on human resources which highlighted the problems and development of quality human resources in Africa and the implications of Africa's economic and social crisis for human resources management and utilization. Another produced in April 1985 was the technical paper to the Conference of Ministers of the Commission proposing measures for the adoption by African Governments to generate more employment and reduce unemployment.

The secretariat serviced the meeting of the Ministerial Follow-up Committee of Nine of the Conference of Ministers Responsible for Human Resources Planning, Development and Utilization held in Addis Ababa in October 1984. The meeting reviewed the progress made in the implementation of the recommendations of the first Ministerial Conference on Human Resources held in 1981 and presented its report to the second Conference of Ministers Responsible for Human Resources Planning, Development and Utilization in Addis Ababa in October 1984.

Three major conferences were held during the biennium. The first was the second meeting of the Conference of Ministers Responsible for Human Resources Planning, Development and Utilization held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia in October 1984 and attended by 72 participants including cabinet ministers. The Conference reviewed human resources development in Africa, its problems and constraints and defined strategies for quality human resources development towards the year 2000. The meeting was serviced jointly by the secretariat, OAU and UNESCO. UNESCO, ILO, WHO, FAO, UNEP, UNIDO and OAU all contributed papers to this Conference. The second conference was the fifth biennial Training Development Conference of the African Association for Training and Development (AATD) held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia in November 1984 and attended by 70 participants. The Conference provided an opportunity for the review and refinement of the policies in human resources development subsystems; reviewed programmes which are required for nurturing and developing human resources and determined measures for their full development; it also reviewed the process of examinations, certification and accreditation for professional practice with a view to determining measures for localization of the system. The third was the meeting of the Conference of Vice-Chancellors, Presidents and Rectors of Institutions of Higher Learning in Africa held in Mbabane, Swaziland in February 1985 and attended by 40 heads of higher institutions in Africa or their representatives. The Vice-Chancellors Conference met to review the deteriorating state of the social and economic affairs of

the African region and to define a strategy which would allow institutions of higher learning in Africa to make effective contributions to mitigate the African crisis both in the short and long terms. The Conference adopted the Mbabane Programme of Action as a response of the African institutions of higher learning to Africa's rapidly deteriorating social and economic conditions.

Apart from the collaborative efforts already reported above, the secretariat also worked with the Commonwealth Secretariat in the conduct of workshops in the Gambia and Sierra Leone on the development of human resources management systems and with the German Foundation for International Development in organizing workshops for the improvement of teaching and learning in African universities which were held in Zimbabwe, Botswana, Lesotho, Swaziland, Malawi and Uganda. These workshops reviewed teaching and learning in African universities and discussed strategies for integrating research and consultancy in teaching and learning.

The secretariat also participated in UNESCO's Regional Technical Follow-up Review to MINEDAF V held in Dakar, Senegal in May 1985 at which a review of follow-up activities to MINEDAF V recommendations was made. Annual consultation meetings with UNESCO through a formalized channel, the Joint Consultative Meeting (JCM), were held in Nairobi, Kenya in 1984 and Addis Ababa in 1985 at which programme activities of mutual interest and concern were discussed.

Pan-African Documentation and Information System (PADIS)

Another area which is related to development issues and policies but is only integrated into the programme in the biennium 1986-1987 although work has been carried out in the past five years, is the Pan-African Documentation and Information System (PADIS).

PADIS was created to promote the exchange of information and data among member States and their development institutions through the activities of a central clearing house and a network of subregional and national documentation and information centres.

Activities carried out under this subprogramme include establishment of numerical and non-numerical data files relating to socio-economic development and of complementary files of a sectoral nature; publication at regular intervals of the DEVINDEX-Africa, an index on literature on economic and social development in Africa; publication at regular intervals of the Referral Information System (RIS) in support of technical co-operation among developing countries (TCDC); organizing training courses for personnel of documentation centres in African countries; and assisting member countries in the establishment of their national information and documentation centres including technical advisory services to such centres.

At the beginning of 1984, the data base on economic and social development literature in Africa (PADIS-DEV) contained 3,600 references of mainly ECA documents. To incorporate other sources, particularly sources from member States, a major effort was launched to assist member States in identifying and indexing the literature on development available at the national level.

In 1984 and 1985, missions were undertaken to the Niger, Guinea, Botswana and Benin with a view to introducing the PADIS methodologies and producing pilot comprehensive bibliographies of the respective countries.

At present the data base contains over 5,000 references and is expected to grow at a rate of 3,000 a year. More than 90 per cent of all items entered in the PADIS-DEV data base are the so-called non-conventional literature.

During the period under review, the DEVINDEX-Africa, which as already stated is an index of literature on economic and social development and is extracted from the PADIS-DEV data base, was made available in four separate issues (DEVINDEX-Africa volumes 9 and 10, DEVINDEX-Africa/Niger and DEVINDEX-Africa/Guinea). The four series contain references on a wide range of economic, social and technical sectors (agriculture, regional development, geology, hydrology, demography, economic, urbanism, etc.).

The PADIS complementary sectoral files are designed with the aim of complementing the information contained in the PADIS-DEV data base in sectors where regional or international information systems exist. During the period under review, arrangements were made to acquire and install the following bibliographic data bases:

(a) The International Labour Organisation data base (LABORDOC) which contains some 15,000 records on labour policy, labour relations, social security, labour legislation, employment, working conditions, vocational training, economic policy, social development, rural development, technological changes, etc.;

(b) UNIDO's industrial development abstract which currently contains over 14,000 records covering industrial development, technology, technology transfer, industrial equipment, industrial processes, industrial arrangement, industrial project, etc.;

(c) The Agricultural Information System (AGRIS) of FAO which is a decentralized, international bibliographic system with input supplied by over 100 national AGRIS centres. The PADIS-AGRIS file contains over 10,000 records.

Access to these bibliographic data bases is currently possible through computer terminals installed at ECA. A Selective Dissemination of Information (SDI) service is also provided to outside users based on tapes received from the above-mentioned international organizations. At present, the SDI service is provided to 200 experts in 35 African countries.

The system also has a microfilming service which has so far converted 2,600 documents onto microfiches. The microfiches are now made available to users upon request. Furthermore, selected microfiches will also be acquired from those institutions that do provide PADIS with regular updates of their data bases.

The Referral Information System in support of TCDC (RIS/TCDC) was developed in 1982 with the financial assistance of UNDP for the constitution of data bases on personnel skills, ongoing research and development projects, development institutions and training programmes that could serve the purpose of technical co-operation among African countries. At the end of 1984, the data base on personnel skills contained over 8,000 records and was used to produce supplements to the first directory published in 1982.

During the period 1984-1985, the PAIDS training programme was directed towards upgrading the skills of medium-level information and documentation service personnel. The following courses and seminars were held:

(a) Course for 72 mid-level information specialists in the areas of bibliographic description, indexing, abstracting and input sheet preparation held in Niamey, Niger from 5 to 27 January 1984;

(b) Courses for five mid-level information specialists in the areas of bibliographic description, indexing, abstracting and input sheet preparation held in Conakry, Guinea from 3 to 24 March 1984;

(c) Courses held in Cotonou, Benin from 19 July to 20 August 1985 to introduce the staff of the national centre of Benin (CENADI) to the PAIDS methodologies of document analysis and the use of the MINISIS system software package. Twenty-one staff members of the centre participated;

(d) A regional seminar organized in Addis Ababa from 12 to 16 August 1985 for heads of national information and documentation centres to introduce the PADIS methodologies to facilitate the participation of these countries in the PADIS system. Eleven participants from nine member States took part in the seminar; and

(e) A training workshop organized for the countries of the Niamey-based MULPOC from 11 to 15 November 1985 to introduce participants to PADIS/DEVSIIS methodologies.

In addition to disseminating the DEVINDEX-Africa to over 300 institutions and to over 1,000 individual experts in member States, PADIS launched in June 1984 a pilot issue of a Current Awareness Service using the tapes of PADIS-DEV, LABODOC, UNIDO and AGRIS. The first issue was a computer printout based on profiles which describe the interests of the various users. A questionnaire has been widely disseminated to expand the size and diversity of the users.

In its effort to provide advice on major new information systems, PADIS played an important role in providing advisory services to member States in documentation services.

During the period under review, it provided assistance to the Government of the Niger in the preparation of a project document for the establishment of a project document for the establishment of a national documentation centre. A mission was also undertaken to Benin to provide technical advice on the establishment, operation and management of the national documentation centre (CENADI).

Assistance was provided to the Government of Ethiopia in the design and establishment of an information system for geo-science literature.

Efforts have continued to bring to the operational level the two subregional centres in the Eastern/Southern and West African subregions. A memorandum of understanding is being finalized between ECA and the Governments of the Niger and Zambia (host countries) aimed at establishing and operating the West African Documentation and Information System and the Eastern and Southern African Documentation and Information System.

The Regional Technical Committee for PADIS, which was established by Commission resolution 498 (XIX) of 26 May 1984 to provide technical guidance for the activities of the system, held its first meeting at the headquarters of the Commission from 26 to 28 March 1985. At that meeting, the Committee discussed and made recommendations on the following issues: the establishment of a regional co-operative information system, increased assistance to member States and African institutions, establishment of a data transmission network, the capacity of the central co-ordination office of PADIS to execute the PADIS regional programme, the choice of computer technologies for the PADIS system and financial implications of the PADIS programme. The Committee also examined the work programme of PADIS for the period 1985-1986.

The secretariat has continued its efforts to mobilize resources to strengthen both field work and operational staff.

ENVIRONMENT

The ECA environment programme consisted of one subprogramme which addressed primarily the development of environmental capabilities including the conservation of resources and control of pollution. Activities undertaken under the programme were partly supported by resources provided by the United Nations Environment Programme under project FP/8202-77-04 (1317) Rev. 16 - Strengthening of environmental capabilities in the regional commissions (Africa) - and partly by resources provided by the General Assembly under the regular budget.

The programme is intended to assist African countries to develop various kinds of national capabilities to solve their major environmental problems as identified in the Lagos Plan of Action. It is recognized that the most serious environmental concerns of developing countries today are rooted in poverty and underdevelopment as well as in the degradation of the environment through drought and desertification and those adverse development activities which result in pollution or depletion of natural resources. There is therefore need for African countries to develop national environmental policies, strengthen national co-ordinating institutions on environmental matters and national standards bodies with their complementary laboratories to monitor pollution and degradation, establish environmental legislative machineries, law enforcement and administrative measures, and promote training programmes for manpower development for the protection of the environment.

During the biennium, the secretariat serviced two meetings of the Joint Intergovernmental Regional Committee on Human Settlements and Environment in January 1984 and in July 1985 respectively. The January 1984 meeting deliberated mainly on combating desertification in Africa, based on the recommendations of the regional workshop held on the subject in Khartoum, Sudan from 23 to 28 October 1982; a programme of action for environmental education and training in Africa, based on the recommendations of the meeting of experts from governments and the scientific community held in Nairobi, Kenya from 12 to 15 April 1983; and industrial environmental impact assessment and environmental criteria for siting of industry, based on the recommendations of the regional workshop held in Addis Ababa from 27 to 30 June 1983.

The second meeting which was held in Addis Ababa from 22 to 26 July 1985, reviewed progress on environmental matters including long-term measures to combat drought and desertification; the implementation of the ECA/UNEP project on the incorporation of environmental components into the training programmes of ECA-sponsored institutions; the establishment and/or improvement of national standards for the protection of the African environment; national environmental legislation and ECA/OAU technical co-operation projects for African countries for the implementation of conventions and protocols on the environment; performance report on

current work programme and harmonization of ECA and UNEP future work programme for 1986-1987; and the joint ECA/WMO feasibility study on the establishment of an African Centre of Meteorological Applications for Development.

In response to the growing phenomenon of drought in the continent and with the desire to know more about its causes with a view to finding appropriate solutions, the ECA Conference of Ministers in April 1983 adopted resolution 473 (XVIII) calling for a Scientific Round Table on the Climatic Situation and Drought in Africa. The meeting was held at ECA headquarters from 2 to 23 February 1984 after three inter-agency preparatory meetings between ECA, WMO, FAO, UNEP, UNSO, UNESCO, UNRISD and OAU had been held. Twenty-five African government experts, 11 United Nations and four international experts outside Africa deliberated at the Scientific Round Table which produced a Regional Plan of Action to Combat the Impact of Drought in Africa.

The report of the Round Table, including the Plan of Action, was submitted to the tenth meeting of the ECA Conference of Ministers in May 1984. The Ministers approved the Regional Plan of Action to Combat Drought in Africa, as well as a proposal [resolution 528 (XIX)] which called for a feasibility study to establish an advanced centre for meteorology in Africa, to be jointly carried out by WMO and ECA.

To implement ECA resolution 528 (XIX), the unique and intense inter-agency co-operation for the Scientific Round Table continued at a meeting at WMO Headquarters, Geneva on 30 November 1984 to consider the ECA/WMO feasibility study report on the need for an advanced centre for meteorology in Africa. The report of the feasibility study (document E/ECA/CM.11/15/Add.1 and Rev.1), including the recommendations of the agencies, was discussed by the ECA Ministers at their eleventh meeting in April 1985 when they resolved to establish the African Centre of Meteorological Applications for Development (ACMAD). The Government of Kenya has accepted in principle to host the centre, following the outcome of inter-agency consultations with its officials, which were held on 13 and 24 May 1985.

As regards environmental education and training in Africa, the secretariat visited in early 1985 various African institutions which run training programmes for planners, decision-makers and managers with a view to developing a core-curriculum for environmental training. The incorporation of environmental dimensions into training programmes was particularly called for by the Programme of Action established jointly by UNEP and ECA with the assistance of government experts and the scientific community. An ECA/UNEP/ADB training workshop was subsequently held in Abidjan, from 18 to 23 November 1985 at which lecturers from the ECA-sponsored institutions adapted the core-curriculum to such specific needs as training bankers, development planners, social workers, technicians in aerial surveys, or for engineering design.

As regards the development of guidelines for the establishment and/or improvement of national institutions to assess, monitor and control environmental degradation in Africa, including the setting up of national standards for the protection of the African environment, the secretariat prepared a state-of-the-art report which, after examination and improvement by an expert group meeting held from 10 to 16 June 1985 in Addis Ababa, was submitted to the third Joint Intergovernmental Committee meeting in July 1985 for adoption for use by member States.

The secretariat organized an expert consultation on prevention of encroachment on arable lands in Africa at ECA headquarters from 16 to 20 September 1985. The meeting resulted from two previous inter-agency consultations in April 1982 and in September 1983 respectively between ECA, UNEP, FAO, IFAD and UNESCO on the same problem as well as on that of food losses in Africa. Twelve governmental experts deliberated with United Nations and other experts from intergovernmental and non-governmental research institutions in Africa on measures for solving the problem of encroachment on arable lands through, among other processes, those of desertification and urbanization.

The secretariat prepared a report on environmental problems of underground water resources exploitation for agricultural use in four countries of the West African MULPOC, namely the Niger, Burkina Faso, Mali and Senegal. The report was submitted to the Council of Ministers of the Niamey-based MULPOC at its meeting held in February 1986.

The environment programme continued to promote environmental co-ordination with each of the substantive Divisions in the secretariat to ensure that environmental considerations are taken into account in the planning and implementation of all projects developed for the member States. Similarly, the programme has been co-ordinating very well with UNEP and other organs of the United Nations system working on environmental problems in Africa, through the co-ordinating mechanism of Designated Officials on Environmental Matters (DOEMS), who participate at thematic joint programming exercises on specific topics to prepare the System-Wide Medium-Term Environment Programme (SWMTEP) for 1984-1989 and its biennial programme budget proposals.

Co-ordination for the implementation of the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification adopted by the United Nations Conference on Desertification 1977-1984 is through UNEP's Inter-agency Working Group (IAWG) on Desertification. During 1984-1985, ECA contributed to the United Nations Compendium of Programmes and Projects on Desertification Control (1977-1984) and to the first general assessment by the United Nations of progress in the implementation of the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification by reviewing the situation in southern Africa, in co-operation with UNSO for the Sudano-Sahelian countries and UNEP for North Africa.

HUMAN SETTLEMENTS

The objective of the human settlements programme is to define and promote a global approach to human settlements policies and programmes at the regional and national levels; to define and thereafter ensure the widespread application of a framework for the design and implementation of housing policies by means of appropriate structures and mechanisms. In order to achieve this objective, the human settlements programme in Africa hinges on two subprogrammes: policy development and institution building and efficient resource development and utilization.

The reports of activities carried out in implementation of this programme have been circulated to member States. The relevant details are given below:

Formulation of policy development and institution building

The Joint Intergovernmental Regional Committee on Human Settlements and Environment, as a subsidiary organ of the Commission, is mandated to formulate human settlements policies and programmes at the regional level and to monitor the implementation of this programme. As indicated above, during the 1984-1985 biennium the Committee held its second and third meetings. Important resolutions and recommendations were adopted during the two meetings on: perspective on human settlements activities; promotion of local building materials; the plan of action for full participation by African countries in the preparations for the International Year of Shelter for the Homeless; the land problem in urban areas and housing programmes for the masses; pooling of information and experience training of manpower, and the revision of building codes and regulations.

In the field of physical planning, the secretariat conducted a study on appropriate measures for the development of land policies (E/ECA/HUS/12). This study was based on the data obtained during a mission undertaken in the United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia, Malawi, Tunisia, Algeria, Morocco, Senegal and the Niger, as well as on the replies received from countries of the region to the questionnaire sent by the secretariat to all countries the assessment of the situation in the human settlements sector in Africa.

Moreover, a meeting of a group of experts on guidelines and indicators for the preparation of national models for integrated human settlements and national socio-economic planning (E/ECA/HUS/17) was held at ECA headquarters from 10 to 14 June 1985. This meeting is one of the actions undertaken by ECA to assist African countries to tackle problems relating to policies for settlement of the population and its distribution within national economic and geographical zones.

Eight experts from seven countries, namely Burkina Faso, the Republic of Côte d'Ivoire, France, Guinea, Madagascar, Senegal and Tunisia took

part in the meeting and presented technical documents in the light of their experiences in the field of human settlements.

Efficient resource development and utilization

A series of activities was undertaken in respect of training to complement those already implemented since the first meeting of the Joint Committee, which had stressed the priority character of training the skilled manpower needed to formulate and implement human settlements policies and programmes. In this connection, a mission which followed those previously undertaken to six countries in Eastern and Southern Africa was sent to Morocco, Algeria, Tunisia and Senegal to collect information on their experience in manpower training in the physical planning field.

The information collected during these missions and the conclusions of an expert group meeting on regional human settlements training facilities and mechanisms organized by ECA (E/ECA/HUS/6/Add.1) made it possible to publish a technical document entitled: Amelioration and development of human establishments training programmes, which covers the following topics: training needs, specific training programmes and the development of training services in the human settlements field.

Still on the question of training, a seminar on human settlements planning jointly organized by ECA and the Government of the USSR took place in Moscow from 3 to 21 September 1985. Twenty-seven experts from 23 African countries participated in the seminar, whose main objective was to study the Soviet experience in human settlements planning, exchange of views on solutions to the problems of planning and building towns and rural settlements, and strengthen international co-operation in the field of human settlements.

As to the development of building and construction materials industries, the project for the transformation of the Cacavelli Construction and Housing Centre in Lome, Togo, into a subregional building and building materials research centre, catering initially to the needs of Benin, Burkina Faso, Guinea, Senegal and Togo, continued to receive the attention of the ECA secretariat. This project is receiving financial support from the United Nations Development Programme.

The above five countries have signed the basic project Agreement and the Statutes of the new Centre. ECA is actively encouraging other countries of the West African subregion to participate in the activities of the new subregional Centre.

A study on the development and planning of a decentralized system of building materials production in African countries (E/ECA/HUS/13 and 14) was carried out. The objectives of this study are to develop the

research aspects of the building materials industry sector, and to encourage and assist African countries to increase their capabilities with a view to promoting autonomous growth in the building materials industry.

In addition, a study on the reformulation of building codes and regulations in Africa (E/ECA/HUS/15) has been completed. Its aim is to permit the formulation and adoption of appropriate building rules and regulations which are in response to local construction requirements and encourage the local production and efficient use of building materials.

In conjunction with that document, concrete proposals for the drafting of new national rules and regulations for the countries of Eastern and Southern Africa were submitted to the last meeting of the Council of Ministers of the Lusaka MULPOC in Lusaka, Zambia, in March 1984. These proposals were approved and ECA is seeking a source of financing with a view to continuing the study and arriving at a detailed model of construction rules and regulations and the modalities for their effective application.

Furthermore, at the request of the Government of the United Republic of Tanzania, a study was conducted on the planning of decentralized building materials production systems in that country. The aim of the study is to draw the attention of the competent authorities of the Tanzanian Government to the principal elements that need to be taken into account to ensure that plans and programmes for the development of the building materials industry achieve the desired results. This study assesses the approach adopted by the Tanzanian Government, examines the subsectors that deserve special attention on the part of the Tanzanian Government, and puts forward concrete proposals and solutions to be effected.

During the 1984-1985 biennium, ECA, in conjunction with the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (UNCHS-Habitat) provided technical assistance to the Government of Botswana on mechanisms for financing human settlements.

UNCHS-Habitat funded, and requested one of its experts on secondment to ECA headquarters to undertake, a mission to Botswana in April 1984 in order to prepare a report to be examined at a seminar bringing together all the financial institutions operating in Botswana, whose conclusions would culminate in a programme of action for the implementation of the recommendations contained in the report.

The representatives of 12 financial institutions who attended this seminar drew up a programme of action which has been submitted to the Government of Botswana.

Finally, with respect to popular participation in low-income housing construction, a study entitled "Guidelines and indicators for promoting co-operative and self-help housing and other forms of public participation" (E/ECA/HUS/16) was carried out.

The study advocates a dynamic approach to the problem, emphasizing the need to promote housing policies so that the African countries can go beyond the formal and routine level of recommendations and devise the ways and means of effectively promoting co-operative and self-help housing and other forms of public participation.

Other activities undertaken by the secretariat related essentially to the organization of a seminar and a meeting of an expert group at the headquarters of the Commission.

In this respect, at the request of the Centre for Research and Studies on Construction and Public Works (CEBTP), ECA participated actively in the preparation of the African regional seminar on spontaneous and low-cost housing which was organized by UNESCO, CEBTP and the Ethiopian Ministry of Town Planning and Housing from 18 to 20 November 1985 at ECA headquarters in Addis Ababa. This seminar falls within the context of meetings on spontaneous and low-cost housing organized every other year in one African country. The objective of this seminar, whose theme was "Development of peri-urban housing and its integration into the urban environment", was to enable all those interested in spontaneous and low-cost housing to meet and exchange views and experience for the benefit of African countries.

A meeting of the Group of Experts on Guidelines and Indicators for the Preparation of National Models for Integrated Human Settlements and National Socio-Economic Planning was also held at ECA headquarters from 9 to 13 December 1985.

Nine English-speaking African countries Botswana, Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Nigeria, the Sudan, Swaziland, the United Republic of Tanzania and Zambia were invited to attend the expert group meeting, which was similar to one already organized in Addis Ababa from 10 to 14 June 1985. The final document incorporates the proceedings of both meetings.

INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT

Activities in the industrial development sector continued to be geared principally to the provision of support for the implementation of the Industrial Development Decade for Africa (IDDA). They were organized around four subprogrammes. One subprogramme continued to be concerned with general policy and institutional matters, and activities undertaken within it reflect the secretariat's concern with deficiencies in the capacity and capability for Governments of member States to formulate policies and institute mechanisms to promote and implement integrated industrial programmes and projects at the national and multinational levels. The other subprogrammes have been concerned with industries grouped into basic, agro- and forest-based and small-scale industries. Within these groupings the emphasis has been on industrial subsectors and branches that provide industrial inputs for the production and processing of food, an area which has been of the highest priority.

Policy development, planning and institution-building

In the context of industrial policies and planning, two subregional meetings on the promotion of intra-African industrial co-operation within the framework of the Industrial Development Decade for Africa, jointly organized and serviced by ECA, OAU and UNIDO, were held respectively in Bangui, Central African Republic, from 18 to 22 February 1984 and in Tunis, Tunisia, from 7 to 10 March 1984. The purpose of those two meetings was to bring together experts from each subregion to discuss, identify and select areas and projects for multinational industrial co-operation. To that end, an initial integrated industrial promotion programme had been drawn up by the secretariats of the three organizations for each of the subregions together with indication of the modalities for its implementation which were considered by the meetings.

The seventh meeting of the Conference of African Ministers of Industry was held in Addis Ababa from 26 to 28 March 1984. The meeting considered and made appropriate recommendations on the following issues: Progress on the implementation of the Industrial Development Decade for Africa (ECA/JID/CMI.7/WP/1); Progress on the question of the management, by ADB of the African Industrial Development Fund (ECA/JID/CMI.7/WP/2); Programme of activities to be undertaken during the implementation phase of the Decade, 1985-1990 (ECA/JID/CMI.7/WP/3); and Consideration of an African position at UNIDO IV and participation of African member States in UNIDO activities (ECA/JID/CMI.7/WP/4). The meeting of the Conference of Ministers was preceded by a meeting held also in Addis Ababa from 19 to 24 March 1984, of the Committee of Experts of the Whole which replaced the Ministerial Follow-up Committee on Industrialization in Africa. The meeting of experts was held to prepare for the meeting of the Ministers.

As part of its continuing efforts to strengthen the activities of African intergovernmental organizations dealing with economic co-operation and integration, the secretariat provided technical support to the Preferential Trade Area for Eastern and Southern African States in the

organization and servicing of the third meeting of its Technical Committee on Industrial Co-operation, held at Lusaka, Zambia, from 19 to 27 May 1984 and the workshop on PTA chambers of commerce and industry held at Harare, Zimbabwe, from 12 to 27 June 1984.

The secretariat prepared a study on a common industrial development policy for UDEAC which was based on information gathered during the inter-disciplinary mission mounted at the request of UDEAC to its five member States from 27 May to 29 September 1984. The study, which was submitted to the Governments of the countries concerned, contains specific recommendations and proposals to enable UDEAC to initiate the implementation of the strategy of self-reliant and self-sustained industrial development.

In pursuance of the objective of involving locally incorporated enterprises in the implementation of the IDDA programme, the secretariat undertook a study on the role of locally incorporated manufacturing enterprises in the implementation of IDDA. The study was submitted to the African Regional Workshop of Experts convened in Addis Ababa by the secretariat in collaboration with OAU and UNIDO from 11 to 13 December 1985. The Workshop, which was attended by representatives of ministries of industry, chambers of commerce and parastatal organizations from Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Senegal, Togo, Tunisia and Zimbabwe as well as representatives of the Development Bank of Central African States (Banque de développement des Etats de l'Afrique centrale (BDEAC)) defined and highlighted on the one hand the State's role as both regulator and economic operator and the contribution that indigenous agents of production and distribution could and should make to the accelerated implementation of IDDA at national, subregional and regional levels.

In order to enhance national efforts to implement multinational projects, briefs on the approved IDDA core projects including overall modalities of implementation were prepared and distributed to member States and to intergovernmental organizations. The 1984 issue of "Investment Africa" focused on the institutional and financial aspects of combating desertification and on information on industrial opportunities.

With regard to the popularization of IDDA, the secretariat submitted reports on the "International and regional context of industrial development in Africa south of the Sahara, with special emphasis on IDDA" to two seminars on industrialization in Africa south of the Sahara, organized by the World Bank, one for English-speaking countries held in Washington and the other for French-speaking countries held in Berlin. At the inaugural meeting of the Federation of African Chambers of Commerce held in Addis Ababa from 17 to 19 September 1984, the role of chambers of commerce in promoting and implementing the programme of IDDA was highlighted. In October 1984, senior government officials were briefed on the IDDA programme during a two-week study tour in the Federal Republic of Germany and the Netherlands, organized by the Headquarters of the European Patent Office (EPO). The secretariat also prepared a paper on "Objectives, achievements, difficulties and prospects of IDDA" which was submitted to the workshop on the social aspects of IDDA organized by the African Centre for Applied Research and

Training in Social Development (ACARTSOD) and held in Tripoli, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, from 30 October to 6 November 1984.

The secretariat prepared and submitted to the 1985 annual meetings of the policy organs of the five MULPOCs a "Progress report on the implementation of the ECA work programme in the field of industry in the MULPOC areas".

In response to the economic crisis in Africa, the secretariat prepared a document entitled "The crisis and industrial rehabilitation and revitalization" which was submitted to the twentieth session of the Commission/eleventh meeting of the Conference of Ministers. A progress report on the implementation of the IDDA programme was also submitted to the Ministers. It highlighted the continuing obstacles facing the implementation of the programme.

Due to various factors, some programmed activities were postponed. Thus, work on the preparation of publicity material in support of IDDA at the national level was postponed because no requests from member States had been received in 1984.

In the area of general institution-building, the secretariat participated in the organization and conduct of training and study tours carried out by the African Regional Centre for Engineering Design and Manufacturing (ARCEDEM). Three training courses each lasting three months were held and a three-week study tour to observe industries in Hungary with 25 participants was undertaken during the period under review.

The secretariat continued to provide backstopping facilities to ARCEDEM which included in particular the recruitment of consultants to assist the Centre in activities geared especially to the design and manufacture of equipment. In compliance with the decision of the eleventh meeting of the ECA Conference of Ministers that institution-building should be rationalized to avoid unnecessary duplication and multiplication, the secretariat took steps to establish within ARCEDEM a Department of Industrial Consultancy and Management Services. It is expected that the department will provide the services that were expected from the proposed African regional centre for industrial consultancy and management services. The department should be an important regional instrument to support industrial development projects and cut down on foreign consultancy costs.

Among the decisions taken by the Conference of African Ministers of Industry at its seventh meeting was that the African Development Bank should undertake the management of the African Industrial Development Fund (AIDF) under the policy direction of the Ministers of Industry of those member States which are members of the Fund. The secretariat had accordingly prepared a draft agreement for the management of AIDF for the consideration of the Boards of Governors of both ADB and AIDF.

Development of basic industries

The subprogramme development of basic industries comprises four basic elements, namely: development of chemical industry; development of engineering industry; development of metal industry; and promotion of the establishment of multinational industrial programmes and projects.

The focus of the development of chemical industry was the development of fertilizer industries in the Eastern and Southern and West African countries. In this connection, a paper on fertilizer needs in the West African subregion was submitted to the eighth meeting of the Niamey-based MULPOC in January/February 1985. The discussion led to a decision to establish a subregional ammonia plant in the Republic of Cote d'Ivoire.

With respect to the Eastern and Southern African subregion, the secretariat presented to the seventh meeting of the Council of Ministers of the Lusaka-based MULPOC in March 1984 the report (ECA/MULPOC/LUSAKA/VII/15) of the third meeting of the Intergovernmental Committee of Experts on Chemicals for Eastern and Southern African States held in Addis Ababa from 18 to 20 October 1983. The MULPOC member States were reminded of the urgent necessity to take immediate action with a view to participating in Tanzania's ammonia/urea complex. It was recalled that financial constraints could be minimized by using funds from the African Development Bank earmarked for multi-country projects.

Following the approval by the Committee on Industrial Co-operation of PTA of the proposals made by the secretariat on the implementation of the protocol on industrial co-operation, joint missions by ECA, the Commonwealth Secretariat and UNIDO were mounted during the first half of 1985 to a number of countries of the PTA subregion on co-operation possibilities in the iron and steel, chemicals and engineering subsectors. The reports of the missions were submitted to the Committee on Industrial Co-operation at its fifth meeting in July 1985.

In the field of the engineering subsector, negotiations with the Government of India led to a grant of \$US 350,000 for the engineering industry development activities. After the completion of preliminary analyses, a four-month mission was mounted jointly by ECA, UNIDO, PTA and the Government of India to Kenya, Uganda, the United Republic of Tanzania, Mauritius, Ethiopia, Zimbabwe and Zambia to identify and determine the potential of existing engineering industries and indicate the required expansion to meet the needs in the PTA subregion.

At the request of the Governments of Swaziland and Togo, two missions were undertaken respectively in February/March and June/July 1984 for identification and upgrading of existing engineering industries including integrated and interlinked core industries in these countries. Follow-up activities recommended by the mission include the establishment of national centres for engineering design and manufacturing which will serve as national focal points for ARCEDEM. Such centres will aim at improving national capabilities in engineering design and manufacturing which will

lead to self-sustained development as postulated in the Lagos Plan of Action and the Industrial Development Decade for Africa programme.

The secretariat participated in the workshop on welding technology development held at the Welding Research Institute in Trichi, India, during February 1984 for African specialists. The workshop focused on the manufacture of welding electrodes at small-scale level. The secretariat also participated in, and presented a paper on the promotion of multi-purpose production of engineering products in developing African countries at the workshop on the subject held in November 1984 in Guangzhou (Canton) China.

In the area of maintenance which is recognized as very critical for the preservation of existing industries, the secretariat, under the leadership of UNIDO and in collaboration with the manpower development programme of ECA and the African Institute for Higher Technical Training and Research, organized a training workshop on the managed maintenance of engineering core industries in November/December 1984, in Halwan, Cairo, Egypt. Sixteen African countries participated.

Following a request from the Government of Zaire for ECA assistance in reactivating the Maluku steel mill and the development of the iron and steel industry in general, an exploratory mission was undertaken to Zaire in January 1984 so as to make a preliminary assessment of the situation. The investigation led to a proposal for a multinational project to serve the countries of the Central African subregion. A programme of activities entitled "Maluku steel mill and the integrated development of the iron and steel industry in the Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS)" was submitted to the Government of Zaire. The programme recommended, inter alia, that the following measures be taken:

(a) A study on the manufacture of coils to replace coils currently imported;

(b) An inventory of raw materials, additives, refractory materials and spare parts which could be explored, processed and manufactured at national level;

(c) A special study on spare parts currently imported from abroad and which can be produced locally;

(d) A study on the possibility of manufacturing flat products;

(e) A study on the range of imported rolled products consumed by Zairean manufacturing plants; and

(f) A projection of the demand of iron and steel products in Zaire up to the year 2000.

During the first meeting of the Sub-committee on Iron and Steel of the PTA Technical Committee on Industrial Co-operation held at Lusaka, Zambia, on 22 and 23 October 1984, proposals for the negotiation of the

development of the iron and steel industry within the Eastern and Southern African subregion were discussed. At the meeting, Governments were urged to negotiate among themselves a "master agreement" for the promotion and development of the iron and steel industry in order to reach agreement on what projects to be implemented and the modalities of their implementation. As a result of the report, the development of iron and steel and engineering industries in the Eastern and Southern African subregion which the secretariat presented to the seventh meeting of the Committee of Officials of the Lusaka-based MULPOC held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, from 5 to 9 March 1984, and the recommendation of the PTA Ministers of Industry, a joint Commonwealth/ECA/UNIDO/PTA mission was undertaken from 9 April to 11 May 1985 to Burundi, Rwanda, Madagascar, Mauritius and PTA headquarters in Lusaka, to collect information necessary for drawing up proposals to the PTA Sub-committee on Iron and Steel as well as the Committee on Industrial Co-operation in May and subsequently to the Council of Ministers in June 1985. The report of the mission proved to be useful inputs to the meeting of the Committee on Industrial Co-operation and that of the Council of Ministers of the PTA held in Lusaka, Zambia respectively from 5 to 7 and 10 to 14 June 1985.

Promotion of the establishment of multinational industrial projects and programmes is one of the central issues of IDDA. In this connection, two documents entitled "Initial integrated industrial promotion programme for the Central African subregion" (ID/WG.414/3/Rev.1) and "Integrated industrial promotion programme for the North African subregion" (ID/WG.415/3/Rev.1) were presented respectively at the ECA/OAU/UNIDO-sponsored subregional meetings on the promotion of intra-African industrial co-operation within the framework of the IDDA held in Bangui, the Central African Republic, from 18 to 22 February 1984, and in Tunis from 7 to 10 March 1984. In order to enable parastatals and the business sector to be fully involved in the implementation of projects selected by the above-named meetings, two subregional meetings of experts were organized for West Africa and Central Africa respectively from 2 to 6 December 1985 in Lome, Togo, and from 9 to 13 December 1985 in Brazzaville, the Congo. The primary objective of these meetings was to ensure that the indigenous agents of production, distribution, finance, skills development, investment promotion and project preparation both public and private would fully participate in the implementation of IDDA.

Development of agro-based and forest-based industries

Activities undertaken under this subprogramme were meant to assist member States in the development of industries based on agricultural and forest resources.

In the area of agro-based industries, the secretariat continued its promotional activities for the utilization of composite flours in baking. A Technical Compendium on composite flours has been published and made available to member States. The compendium is a guide which provides and contains operational information aimed at operators and technicians working in laboratories, milling and baking plants as well as in food research institutes.

A number of activities related to technical co-operation among African countries were carried out in response to a requests from member States. Thus, in response to request from the Government of Zaire which would like to benefit from the experience of the Republic of Côte d'Ivoire, a prefeasibility study for cassava production/processing in Zaire was carried out and technical collaboration for the transfer of cassava production/processing technology from the Republic of Côte d'Ivoire to Zaire was arranged. Zaire foresees agro-industrial complexes of cassava production/processing as the main measure for attaining national food self-sufficiency. Similarly, at the request of the Government of Togo, an arrangement was made for the transfer of small-scale fish smoking/storage techniques from Ghana to Togo. Another measure to promote technical co-operation among member States concerned the first phase of the conversion of the Serere Research Unit (Uganda) on cereals and root crops into a subregional centre on the development, demonstration and training on composite flour technology. Proposals for financing the first phase of the conversion were submitted to the member States and prospective donors.

The secretariat prepared a paper entitled "from the concept of composite flours to industrial and commercial implementation and beyond" and another on "National composite flour implementation in Ethiopia". Both papers were presented at the seminar on composite flours organized by the Lagos Chamber of Commerce and Industry and the Federal Institute for Industrial Research and Development (FIIRD) of Nigeria, and held in Lagos, Nigeria in June 1985. Both papers emphasize the urgent need for African countries to establish national composite flour programmes to reduce foreign exchange allocations for wheat imports and highlight the parameters for the successful implementation of such a programme.

In June 1985, the secretariat also visited ARCEDEM to discuss the rehabilitation of the Guinea cassava plant and the standardization of the Tinkonko cassava grater. It was decided that ARCEDEM would undertake the redesign and standardization of the grater while the Nigerian Federal Institute for Industrial Research and Development would undertake the efficiency rating.

The FAO/ECA/UNIDO Forest Industry Advisory Group (FIAG) for Africa continued to provide assistance in the identification of forest-based industrial possibilities. In this connection, during the biennium under review the Group provided advice on the location of the proposed integrated forest industries complex of CEPGL and on the establishment of a small-scale integrated woodworking plant in Lesotho. The Group also prepared reports on the origin, status and potential of the secondary forest industries in Africa, and the development of the primary forest industries in the Central African Republic and Ghana.

As part of efforts to develop a computer data base for planners and others concerned with the development of the forest industries, a compendium of selected socio-economic indicators for Africa by MULPOC subregion was prepared and distributed to member States. Cross reference tables of plantation timber species in Africa were similarly prepared and distributed.

In the area of developing technical and managerial skills, a report detailing actions to be taken towards strengthening the training capabilities and the operational efficiency of the Notse sawmill in Togo was prepared for the Government of Togo. Assistance was also rendered to Equatorial Guinea in the strengthening of self-reliance in the operation of its forest machinery project.

Other activities of the Group included the development of cement-board for use in building construction in the context of a feasibility study carried out in Ethiopia on the manufacture of the material; advice on the selection of appropriate wood preservation methods for the treatment of eucalyptus and pine poles in Lesotho, and on the selection of woodworking equipment for the Small-scale Industry Development Agency of Ethiopia; and the preparation of preliminary engineering drawings of a machine attachment for the production of tenon joints, in co-operation with the UNIDO project DP/ETH/83/012.

Development of small-scale industries

The main objectives of this subprogramme remain the promotion of policies and strategies that will assist African industrial entrepreneurs operating in the small-scale industrial subsector to upgrade their entrepreneurial capability and the provision of pre-investment information to potential investors as well as national institutions working in this field. Accordingly, in the biennium 1984-1985, the activities carried out were concerned with policies and institutions for small-scale industries and the improvement of the capability of entrepreneurs of small-scale industries.

Concerning policies and institutions for small-scale industries, advisory services were provided to Chad through a multidisciplinary mission undertaken from 10 to 16 April 1984 on the promotion of entrepreneurial capacities and the encouragement of the creation of appropriate small-scale industries in the country. Among the follow-up activities proposed by the mission was the preparation of a directory of project profiles for small- and medium-scale industries to serve the Government of Chad as a basis for accelerating the national and integrated development of the small-scale sector of industries and meet the fundamental needs of the development of rural and urban areas.

In order to assist African entrepreneurs in small-scale industries to improve their capability, the first edition of the directory of project profiles on small-scale industries (ECA/INR/SSI/WP/2) which was brought out in 1983 was revised on the basis of further studies and the identification of further industrial opportunities for distribution to member States.

Co-operation with other international and intergovernmental organizations

The ECA/OAU/UNIDO Joint Secretariat Committee for the implementation of the programme for IDDA participated effectively in the African group

meetings and the Group of 77 meetings immediately preceding the fourth General Conference of UNIDO and provided advice on crucial issues on the agenda of those meetings. The Joint Committee also participated in the fourth General Conference of UNIDO and consulted the African group of countries participating at the UNIDO Conference with a view to their adopting a common position on issues discussed at the Conference which related to the implementation of the Decade.

Following the recommendation of the Commonwealth Ministers of Industry that the Industrial Development Unit (IDU) of the Commonwealth Secretariat should provide additional inputs for the implementation of the IDDA programme, representatives of the Commonwealth Secretariat visited Addis Ababa and held talks with ECA and OAU officials on possible areas of co-operation between the ECA/OAU/UNIDO Joint Secretariat Committee and the Commonwealth Secretariat for the implementation of the programme of the Decade. In accordance with the discussions, the following industrial areas of co-operation were agreed: leather and leather products; pulp and paper; metal and engineering; building materials; energy and electronics.

The execution of the programme was greatly constrained by the lack of adequate financial resources which threatened activities especially those related to the programme of IDDA, some of which had to be cancelled or postponed. It is therefore desirable that financial resources of a sufficient order be put at the disposal of the secretariat on an annual basis to enable it to carry out its responsibilities under the IDDA programme.

INTERNATIONAL TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT FINANCE

In the field of international trade and development finance in Africa, the secretariat's activities for the biennium 1984-1985 were carried out under the following basic trade and development finance issues: domestic trade; intra-African trade; trade with non-African countries; and international financial and monetary policies.

Domestic trade and finance

The major problem faced by African countries with regard to their domestic trade and finance was the lack of adequate and reliable information. Domestic trade structures continued to be poor and, in most countries of the region, such trade was undertaken on an ad hoc basis by small private entrepreneurs who, because of their limited financial means, were unable to provide a regular supply of goods to the rural areas.

To assist member States to tackle these problems the secretariat undertook a preliminary review of the situation and prospects of domestic trade in Africa (E/ECA/OAU/TRADE/141). The study assessed the current situation of domestic trade in Africa, its problems and constraints and recommended some measures for its development. It was submitted to the eighth meeting of the Conference of African Ministers of Trade held in Brazzaville, the Congo, in October 1985. The Conference decided that appropriate pricing policies and other incentives were necessary for the promotion of domestic trade. Another study submitted to the eighth meeting of the Conference of African Ministers of Trade was on "selected policy instruments for the expansion of domestic and intra-African trade". This paper is a revised version of the study on domestic and intra-African trade and finance (E/ECA/CM.11/64) which was submitted to the Technical Preparatory Committee of the Whole at its sixth meeting in 1985. The paper contains recommendations on measures for expanding domestic and intra-African trade and financial co-operation.

Three case studies on domestic trade were also carried out in the Niger, Senegal and Sierra Leone respectively. These studies examine various aspects relating to domestic trade including distribution channels and physical and fiscal obstacles to domestic trade expansion. Similar studies will be carried out on other countries so that an integrated regional report on domestic trade would be produced for consideration by the Conference of African Ministers of Trade.

Intra-African trade

The persistently low level of intra-African trade and its declining trend continued to be a matter of great concern during the period under review. Intra-African trade accounted for only 8 per cent of Africa's total trade during the 1960s. By 1970, this proportion had dropped to

around 6 per cent and by 1980 to a mere 4 per cent. The absence of trade promotion and financing institutions coupled with the lack of up-to-date market information on availability of products has been a major constraining factor to the development of intra-African trade.

The major efforts of the secretariat in this area have continued to be directed at strengthening regional economic groupings to enable them to play their role in the development of intra-African trade. To this end, the secretariat provided support and assistance to the Preferential Trade Area (PTA) for Eastern and Southern African States through the preparation of technical papers for the meeting of the Customs and Trade Committee which took place in Lusaka, Zambia, in April-May 1984. These were: a paper on "Customs co-operation"; and a "Manual" or practical guide on the application of the PTA rules of origin as well as on transit trade and the format of the TIR carnet (for PTA). ECA also provided technical support to PTA in the organization and servicing of the meeting of the ad hoc Committee of Experts on Non-tariff Barriers which was held in June 1984 and the first workshop organized jointly by the Zimbabwe Chamber of Commerce and the PTA secretariat held in Harare, Zimbabwe, on 14 and 15 June 1984 with the objective of familiarizing customs officers of the PTA member States with the various provisions of the Treaty. The workshop, to which ECA submitted a report on "Rules of origin, transit trade and transit facilities within the PTA countries", concentrated on the application of the rules of origin and customs regulations and procedures.

As far as the Central African subregion is concerned, a project document on "Assistance to the Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS) - trade development" was prepared by ECA and approved for funding by UNDP to assist the member countries of ECCAS in identifying trade opportunities; to take concrete measures for trade liberalization within the ECCAS countries; and to formulate concrete proposals for enhancing monetary and financial co-operation. The project has just entered its implementation phase. The secretariat also carried out a study on "Competitiveness of industrial and agro-industrial products likely to be traded within the Yaounde-based MULPOC countries" which was submitted to the policy organs of the same MULPOC.

Pursuant to the decision of the plenipotentiaries of the North African MULPOC at their meeting in Tangier, Morocco, on 31 March and 1 April 1984, the secretariat organized a workshop of directors of North African export promotion centres in Tangier from 25 to 27 March 1985 in order to identify measures for enhancing co-operation among them as well as the obstacles to trade and the measures required to remove them. The workshop agreed that such co-operation should extend to cover the information, training, trade promotion activities, research and the harmonization of trade policy.

The following papers "Intra-African trade: current flows and prospects" (E/ECA/TRADE/24/Rev.1) and "Intra-African trade in selected mineral raw materials" (E/ECA/TRADE/28) were prepared and submitted to the eighth meeting of the Conference of African Ministers of Trade as background documents.

The lack of institutions particularly in the private sector to help promote intra-African trade has also been one of the important factors impeding intra-African trade expansion. Consequently, the ECA secretariat places great importance on helping member States to establish such institutions. To this end, the secretariat assisted member countries in establishing the Federation of African Chambers of Commerce whose constitution was signed in September 1984. The Federation requested ECA to act as its interim secretariat pending the establishment of its own secretariat.

With a view to assisting member States in their trade information requirements, the secretariat published four issues of the African Trade Bulletin and 12 issues of "Flash", a newsletter on trade opportunities for distribution. Work on the first volume of the African Trade Directory containing profiles of 25 countries was completed and the Directory will be issued in 1986.

ECA conducted training sessions on the establishment and operation of trade information system for officials of the Ethiopian Chamber of Commerce (26 to 30 November 1985) and serviced the Workshop on Trade Fair Participation organized under the auspices of the Chamber (6 November 1984). An induction course was also conducted for the Chamber to brief Ethiopian traders on the objectives and operations of PTA.

In response to a request, advisory services were rendered to the International Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Djibouti on transit trade arrangements with Rwanda and Burundi.

The Ministerial Follow-up Committee of the Whole on Trade and Finance, at its third meeting held in Addis Ababa from 9 to 14 May 1984, requested the secretariats of ECA and OAU to assist in the organization of the fourth All-Africa Trade Fair. In response to that decision, the secretariat undertook two missions to Lome, Togo, to represent ECA at the meetings of the Organizing Committee and to provide advisory services to the Togolese Ministry of Trade and Transport with respect to the planning and timing of the activities to be undertaken by its National Fair Committee. ECA not only established its own exhibition at the Lome Trade Fair which was held from 18 November to 1 December 1985, but also in collaboration with the OAU secretariat, organized and serviced a symposium during the Fair on intra-African trade prospects. The symposium was attended by 45 persons including the pavilion directors and Togolese trade officials and business

executives. The secretariat also participated in two other symposia held during the Fair - one on food self-sufficiency and the other on the Industrial Development Decade for Africa, respectively.

Trade with non-African countries

Developing Africa's trade continued to be characterized by primary commodity exports; low levels and even decline in commodity prices; increased protectionism in the developed market economy countries; and low levels of manufactures for exports. The situation, whereby export earnings declined and the costs of imports increased, led to adverse effects in the balance of payments.

To address these issues, the following documents prepared in collaboration with the OAU secretariat were submitted to the third meeting of the Ministerial Follow-up Committee on Trade and Development, held in Addis Ababa from 7 to 11 May 1984: Payments arrangements between African countries and the socialist countries of Eastern Europe (E/ECA/OAU/TRADE/3); Review and assessment of the sixth session of UNCTAD (E/ECA/OAU/TRADE/11); and Progress report on the ACP-EEC negotiations for a successor agreement to Lome II Convention (E/ECA/OAU/TRADE/12). Other relevant documents, namely Policy implications of recent developments in Africa's international trade relations (E/ECA/TRADE/19); Review of recent developments in Africa's international trade (E/ECA/TRADE/26); and Global System of Trade Preferences (GSTP) negotiations: products of interest to African countries (E/ECA/TRADE/27) were submitted to the eighth meeting of the Conference of African Ministers of Trade held in Brazzaville, the Congo, from 28 to 31 October 1985.

The secretariat provided technical backstopping to African delegations in global meetings on economic co-operation among developing countries. These were (a) the Working Party on trade expansion and regional economic integration among developing countries, at Geneva, in January 1985, and (b) an interregional workshop on meat and livestock trade between countries of the Eastern and Southern Africa and those of Western Asia held in Mombasa, Kenya, in October 1985.

An important activity in international trade pertained to trade and economic co-operation between Africa and the socialist countries of Eastern Europe. In this regard, the secretariat prepared a paper on the "Summary on trade and economic relations between developing Africa and the socialist countries of Eastern Europe" which has been distributed to member States. The secretariat co-operated with UNCTAD in organizing a bilingual subregional seminar on development of trade between the socialist countries of Eastern Europe and the developing countries of Southern and Eastern Africa in Nairobi, Moscow and Berlin from 27 September to 11 October 1984. The purpose of the seminar was to acquaint high-level African officials with current economic trends and practices of foreign trade of socialist countries of Eastern Europe and expose them to opportunities of expanding trade flows between the two groups of countries.

The secretariat also collaborated with UNCTAD in organizing an ad hoc group of experts meeting on expansion of trade between Arab countries and socialist countries of Eastern Europe in Moscow in January 1986. The ECA document (E/ECA/TRADE/23) presented to the meeting focused on the trade and economic relations between the two groups of countries.

The secretariat organized and serviced the third meeting of the Ministerial Follow-up Committee on Trade and Finance for African Development which was held in May 1984. At the request of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity, the Committee reviewed and assessed the results of UNCTAD VI and submitted a report (E/ECA/OAU/TRADE/11) to their twentieth ordinary session held in November 1984.

International financial and monetary policies

Recent developments in the field of money and finance at the national, regional and international levels have continued to be issues of great concern to African countries. These included (a) the drastic reduction in resource flows to Africa, especially from ODA sources; (b) the persistent high rates of interest and stiff conditions for external borrowing by African countries and the resulting increase in the debt servicing burden; (c) the increasing balance-of-payments deficits on current accounts; (d) the absence in some countries of effective mechanisms for domestic resource management; and (e) the problems of evolving adequate national, subregional and regional institutional capabilities to respond effectively to these issues.

In response to these issues, the secretariat's activities concentrated on assisting member States to evolve effective institutions for monetary and financial co-operation; modernizing and stimulating traditional monetary and savings institutions; indigenizing monetary and financial institutions and their programmes; harmonizing their currency and exchange control legislations and practices and removing monetary obstacles to the expansion of intra-African trade.

The issue of Africa's external indebtedness occupied the special attention of the secretariat. Accordingly, the secretariat, in collaboration with the secretariats of OAU and ADB, prepared a study on "External indebtedness of African countries" (E/ECA/TRADE/10/Rev.1-4). The study analysed the structure and magnitude of African external indebtedness, major causes of external debts, policy options in debt management including the impact of external indebtedness on social and economic development. It was submitted to a regional Ministerial Meeting on Africa's External Indebtedness which was held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, from 18 to 20 June 1984. That meeting adopted the "Addis Ababa Declaration on Africa's External Indebtedness" which was later attached as annex I to the Special Memorandum by the ECA Conference of Ministers on Africa's Economic and Social Crisis.

In an effort to accelerate the implementation of the Addis Ababa Declaration, a paper on the "Management of Africa's external debts" (E/ECA/CM.11/65) was submitted to the twentieth session of the Commission/eleventh meeting of the ECA Conference of Ministers held in Addis Ababa from 25 to 29 April 1985. Due account was taken of the main recommendations of this paper in the formulation of Africa's Priority Programme for Economic Recovery 1986-1990 adopted by the twenty-first ordinary session of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity in July 1985.

In the area of intra-African monetary and financial co-operation, the secretariat assisted in the establishment of two institutions of PTA, namely the Clearing House for the Preferential Trade Area for Eastern and Southern African States and the Eastern and Southern African Trade and Development Bank. The ECA secretariat provided technical backstopping to the workshops and seminars organized by PTA for its member States on how to increase the volume of transactions channelled through subregional clearing houses (February 1984, PTA Clearing House) and in November 1984 (Central African Clearing House). At the request of the respective secretariats, technical backstopping was also provided during meetings of the PTA Clearing and Payments Committee held in Nairobi, Kenya, in September 1984; annual meetings of PTA policy organs in December 1984; the Clearing House Committee of the West African Clearing House in Niamey, the Niger, in May 1985; the annual meeting of the Association of African Development Finance Institutions in Pointe Noire, the Congo, in May 1985; the annual meeting of the West African Subregional Committee of the Association of African Central Banks in May 1985; and the Governing Council meeting of the African Centre for Monetary Studies in May 1985.

The work towards the establishment of an African Monetary Fund also occupied central place in the activities of the secretariat during the biennium. A feasibility study entitled "The establishment of an African Monetary Fund: Structure and mechanism" was undertaken jointly by the ECA secretariat, the African Centre for Monetary Studies (ACMS), the African Development Bank (ADB), the Organization of African Unity (OAU) and the African Institute for Economic Development and Planning (IDEP). The study was co-ordinated by the ECA secretariat and was later submitted for consideration by the second meeting of the Intergovernmental Group of Experts from Ministries of Finance and Central Banks held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, from 11 to 15 April 1985. The recommendations of that meeting, together with the feasibility study, were in turn submitted to the ECA Conference of Ministers held in April 1985 and to the eighth meeting of the Conference of African Ministers of Trade held in Brazzaville, the Congo, from 28 to 31 October 1985. These two Conferences took note of the proposals for the establishment of the African Monetary Fund and decided that they should be referred to the newly established Conference of African Ministers of Finance.

The secretariat also provided technical backstopping to the Working Party of the African Governors of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (World Bank). This consisted of the preparation of drafts of the joint statement of the Governors to the annual meetings of the Board of Governors of the IMF and the World Bank as well as the memoranda to the President of the World Bank and the Managing Director of IMF.

Transnational corporations in Africa

The work on transnational corporations in Africa is carried out by the Joint Unit between ECA and the Centre on Transnational Corporations, based in New York. After several years of general analytical research studies, which were necessary to establish adequate information on activities of transnational corporations (TNCs) in Africa, the ECA/UNCTC Joint Unit on Transnational Corporations shifted to qualitative policy-oriented studies. These studies, which are described below, focused on issues and specific measures to deal with TNCs in Africa especially in the mining, agricultural and financial sectors.

In view of the persistent problems of resource flows, studies have been undertaken on the role of transnational corporations in banking and other financial institutions. Previous case studies on Egypt, the Sudan, Ethiopia, the United Republic of Tanzania and the Republic of Côte d'Ivoire were consolidated with two additional studies on Liberia and Nigeria into a regional study on the role of transnational banks and financial institutions in Africa's development process (E/ECA/UNCTC/47). The integrated study has highlighted the fact that linkages exist between TNCs and transnational banks and other financial institutions, such as investment banks, insurance and re-insurance companies. This information is useful in enabling African Governments to devise measures for evaluating and monitoring the impacts of such institutions on the development process.

Three integrated studies commenced during the previous biennium were finalized: (a) transnational corporations in the non-food agricultural industry in Africa (E/ECA/UNCTC/44); (b) transnational corporations in agricultural food processing industries of selected African countries (E/ECA/UNCTC/25); and (c) the structures, policies and operations of transnational corporations in the mining industry in Africa (E/ECA/UNCTC/40). The reports on all these studies were submitted to the eighth meeting of the Conference of African Ministers of Trade. The Joint Unit also submitted a paper on "Transnational corporations in the marketing and exports of African primary commodities: some policy issues" (E/ECA/UNCTC/46) to the eighth meeting of the Conference of African Ministers of Trade. On the basis of this paper, some concrete decisions were taken on how to deal with TNCs in this field.

Technical co-operation and advisory services were also provided to the African countries by UNCTC in collaboration with the Joint Unit. A regional workshop for English-speaking African countries on the Role of transnational Corporations in the Mining Industry in Africa was held in Manzini, Swaziland, from 2 to 6 July 1984. Nine countries participated at senior level and the conclusions of the workshop showed that the participants gained a great deal from the experience of others at this level. At the request of Ethiopia, the Joint Unit co-ordinated the technical advisory services provided by the United Nations Centre on Transnational Corporations (UNCTC) to the Government of Ethiopia on joint venture agreement with TNCs, with particular reference to the establishment of soda ash industry.

The collection and dissemination of information by the Joint Unit was intensified so as to create a better data base. To this end, a subfile on TNCs has also been established within the Pan-African Documentation and Information System (PADIS).

The Joint Unit collaborated with the ECA Multinational Programming and Operational Centres (MULPOCs), in collecting information on TNCs, including contracts and other agreements in the member States. In addition, the second and third issues of the "Transnational Focus" were produced which, among other things, reviewed the results of the special Commission session on the code of conduct for information of all African countries, as well as the findings on research studies on TNCs in agricultural primary commodity exports.

NATURAL RESOURCES

As opposed to the arrangement in the 1982-1983 biennium when energy was part of the natural resources programme, the natural resources programme in the 1984-1985 biennium comprised only mineral resources, water resources, cartography and remote sensing, and resources of the sea. Energy was organized as a separate programme.

Mineral resources

During the period under review the secretariat's programme of work and priorities in the field of mineral resources development continued to focus on the following broad areas: providing technical advisory services to member States and promoting technical co-operation; improving and strengthening institutional capabilities; reviewing progress and formulating policy adjustments and programme implementation strategies for the development of the mineral sector for consideration at meetings and regional conferences convened for that purpose.

The activities accomplished during the biennium are as follows:

Advisory services were provided to the United Republic of Tanzania on improving and expanding the scope of mining operations in building materials and on how to increase export revenue from gemstones. The recommendations made to the Government authorities highlighted the prospects of, and the need to promote, the small-scale mining and polishing industries as well as the need to reduce illicit trade in semi-precious stones which has been the cause of a considerable loss of foreign exchange for the Government.

At the invitation of the Mining Sector Co-ordinating Sub-committee of the Southern African Development Co-ordination Conference (SADCC), assistance was provided by the secretariat on medium- and long-term programme formulation and co-ordination. Priority areas of common interest to both secretariats in the field of mineral resources development were identified for future joint action.

With respect to institutional support, the secretariat, at the request of the Governing Council of the Eastern and Southern African Mineral Resources Development Centre in Dodoma, United Republic of Tanzania, proposed amendments to the constitution of the Centre through the establishment of an Executive Board to replace the Technical Advisory Committee, so as to expand the overall responsibility of the legislative organs of the Centre. Along the same line and with a view to meeting the needs of the institution, the secretariat prepared, for consideration by the Governing Council, new staff and financial rules and regulations which make provisions for the rotation of key positions among staff members and prescribe a more flexible formula for the payment of contributions by the members of the Centre.

The secretariat also provided technical support to the substantive activities of the Centre. As executing agency for the UNDP programme of assistance to the Centre, the secretariat played a key role in the successful implementation of major training activities organized for geoscientists of the subregion. Thus training courses on agro-geology research in the United Republic of Tanzania aimed at promoting the production of low-cost fertilizers based on indigenous fertilizer raw materials, the application of micro-computers in the processing of data on geological, geochemical and geophysical investigations, and on mineral economics were organized in Dodoma, the headquarters of the Centre, in co-operation with UNESCO, Centre international pour la formation et les échanges géologiques (CIFEG) (France), the State Mining Corporation of the United Republic of Tanzania (STAMICO), the UNDP mineral exploration project in the United Republic of Tanzania and Glenshaw Incorporated of the United States of America. Thirty participants from Ethiopia, Kenya, Malawi, Mozambique, the United Republic of Tanzania, Uganda and Zambia participated in the courses.

The secretariat convened and serviced the second meeting of the Governing Council of the Central African Mineral Resources Development Centre in Brazzaville, Congo in July 1984 at which the Director-General and core staff of the Centre were appointed. That meeting was followed by an extraordinary meeting of the Governing Council in December 1984 at which the secretariat presented basic documents for the management of the institution which were finalized and adopted. The agreement with the host country were also negotiated and concluded. In addition, a provisional work programme and budget were adopted at that meeting.

The secretariat provided advice and technical guidance to the Centre in the modification of its provisional premises to accommodate senior and support staff, provide facilities for its secretariat and establish a documentation unit. Field activities which focused on mineral inventories in the subregion were also undertaken in collaboration with the staff of the Centre. These activities culminated in a seminar held in Brazzaville in November 1985 at which the resource situation of all member States in respect of gold, diamonds, cassiterite and associated minerals, as well as building materials, were reviewed.

Although a lot of efforts had been put into strengthening these two important institutions, they, particularly the Dodoma Centre, and other institutions sponsored by ECA and OAU, were the subject of an intensive evaluation by an Ad hoc Committee established by the ECA Conference of Ministers to investigate the possibility of rationalizing their activities. Following the recommendations of the Ad hoc Committee which were approved by the ECA Conference of Ministers, it has been decided to defer the establishment of other mineral development centres in the West and North African subregions as originally recommended in the Lagos Plan of Action.

As a continuing service to member States, institutions at national, subregional and regional levels as well as international organizations concerned with mineral resources development in Africa, the secretariat distributed 52 copies in both French and English of the report on the proceedings of the first Regional Conference on the Development and Utilization of Mineral Resources in Africa. It also provided, on request, 40 copies of the mineral, geological and oil and gas maps of Africa on a 1:5,000,000 scale which were financed by UNDP and produced, under subcontract arrangement, by Techno-Export of the USSR.

During the period under review, the secretariat's data base comprising records on geological, technical and economic aspects of mineral industries was increased from 5,000 to 7,500. These additional references have been most useful in the preparation of technical papers for the workshop on copper and aluminium and the second Regional Conference on the Development and Utilization of Mineral Resources in Africa.

Water resources

The main objective of the water resources subprogramme is to assist member States in the assessment, development and management of their water resources; in the adoption and implementation of sound policies, plans and programmes for water resources development; in the identification and preparation of water supply and irrigation projects; in the establishment of regional and subregional institutions and in promoting co-operation among States in the utilization of shared water resources.

During the biennium 1984-1985, advisory services were provided to Benin, Burkina Faso, Ghana, Guinea, Liberia, Mali, Mauritania, Republic of Cote d'Ivoire and Togo in the areas of identification and preparation of village rural water supply and irrigation projects in response to resolution 3 of the Council of Ministers of the Niamey MULPOC adopted at its sixth meeting held at Cotonou, Benin in March 1983. In keeping with the importance attached by the subregion to water supply and irrigation and water resources inventories, the following reports were submitted to the seventh meeting of the Council of Ministers of the Niamey MULPOC that was held at Conakry, Guinea in February 1984:

(a) Assistance to member States in the identification and preparation of project documents on village and pastoral water supply projects (ECA/MULPOC/NIA/VII/XXI) which highlighted the activities so far carried out by the secretariat to assist member States in these critical areas;

(b) Study of irrigation techniques: experiences of some Sahelian countries (ECA/MULPOC/NIA/VII/XXII) whose purpose was to disseminate information on such experiences;

(c) Inventory of studies related to water resources in the subregion (ECA/MULPOC/NIA/VII/XXIII) whose purpose was also to disseminate information which can be shared by member States;

(d) Development of water resources in Africa (ECA/MULPOC/NIA/VII/XXIV) which provided a more comprehensive information than that available in the subregion.

The secretariat also prepared and submitted the following reports to the eighth meeting of the Council of Ministers of the Niamey MULPOC held in February 1985:

(a) Establishment of a subregional intergovernmental committee at the expert level (ECA/MULPOC/NIA/VII/XV) which contained proposals for the establishment of an intergovernmental committee of experts for the purpose of continuously monitoring and discussing water problems at the subregional level and advising the secretariat of the MULPOC accordingly;

(b) Study on the appropriate techniques for the development and effective use of water resources (ECA/MULPOC/NIA/VII/XVI) which provided information on appropriate techniques that member States could adopt at no great costs; and

(c) Study on national institutions for establishing and servicing water points in coastal countries (ECA/MULPOC/NIA/VIII/XVII) that emphasized the importance of regular maintenance of water points in these countries.

In response to the drought crisis in Africa in general and the General Assembly resolution 39/29 and Annex on the critical economic situation in Africa in particular, the secretariat submitted a paper entitled "Crisis and water development, preservation and utilization" (E/ECA/CM.11/30) to the twentieth session of the Commission/eleventh meeting of the Conference of Ministers held in Addis Ababa in April 1985. The paper, which presented a regional perspective on water resources development in Africa and analysed related issues, such as water resources availability and use, problems of drought, environmental degradation, aspects of land and water resources management, and problems related to institutions, manpower and finance, also made proposals for action in the short, medium and long terms.

In collaboration with UNEP, the secretariat provided technical support to the working group of Government experts from Botswana, Malawi, Mozambique, the United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe on developing a strategy to integrate environmental considerations into the management and development of water resources in the Zambezi river system with a view to reconciling conflicting interests and ensuring co-ordination of activities in the basin.

Advisory services were also provided to the Governments of the Niger and Somalia in the field of water resources development. These took the form of field missions to identify problems, to assess priorities and to prepare project proposals.

One of the major continuing activities under this subprogramme relates to the assessment of progress in the implementation of the Mar del Plata Action Plan (MPAP) adopted by the United Nations Water Conference in 1977 and the International Drinking Water Supply and Sanitation Decade in Africa. In this context, a report entitled "Progress on the implementation of Mar del Plata Action Plan in Africa (1978-1984)" (E/ECA/CM.11/9) was presented to the ECA Conference of Ministers in 1985. The report

highlighted the limited progress achieved in implementing the MPAP and made recommendations for removing some of the major constraints being faced by African countries.

ECA, jointly with the Department of Technical Co-operation for Development (DTCD) and the Department of International Economic and Social Affairs (DIESA), conducted a survey of services available in Africa in the area of water resources relevant to technical co-operation among developing countries (TCDC) for publication in the TCDC directory of such services. The publication contains information and references that would benefit member States in the area of technical co-operation programmes.

Cartography and remote sensing

During the period under review, the secretariat prepared a technical report for the Government of Mozambique on its manpower requirements and carried out an appraisal of the country's cartographic as well as remote sensing needs. The technical report was to be used as the foundation for self-reliant supply of maps and the application of remote sensing techniques in the implementation of the country's economic recovery plan.

The secretariat also prepared a technical report for the Government of Uganda. The report contained a project formulation and proposals on steps to be taken in rehabilitating the country's cartographic infrastructure for mapping which had been seriously disrupted during the civil disturbances of the last decade. The secretariat also advised the Governments of Burkina Faso, Benin, Mali and Zimbabwe on how to strengthen their national cartographic and remote sensing capabilities to meet their needs for the supply of maps required for development.

In its efforts to strengthen the capabilities of institutions for multilateral co-operation, the secretariat continued to provide technical support to the activities of the Regional Centre for Services in Surveying, Mapping and Remote Sensing (RCSSMRS), Nairobi, Kenya and the Regional Centre for Training in Aerial Surveys (RECTAS), Ile-Ife, Nigeria.

In particular, the secretariat assisted each of these centres in project formulation for external funding. In its role as executing agency for a UNDP-funded project of the Nairobi Centre, it provided technical services and was actively involved in the purchase of cartographic equipment required for the implementation of the project.

Due to inadequate financial resources, it was not possible to publish the first edition of the Cartographic Inventory of Basic Data for Africa. Negotiations were entered into with the Regional Centre for Services in Surveying, Mapping and Remote Sensing (RCSSMRS) to undertake the publication as soon as an offset printing press and necessary materials were secured. However, revision of the index sheets for which materials were available continued throughout the period.

The secretariat organized and serviced from 28 October to 1 November 1985 at Addis Ababa a meeting of a group of 10 experts to consider a set of specifications for the standardization of topographical mapping in Africa. The meeting recommended the adoption, by the sixth United Nations Regional Cartographic Conference for Africa which will take place in November 1986, of conventional signs which will make it possible for topographical maps prepared by national cartographic institutions or private firms from within and outside Africa to be on uniform scales. This will have a substantial impact on the formulation of regional projects.

During the period under review, the secretariat published 200 maps and 170 charts all of which were distributed to member States for their use.

Two exhibitions were mounted at the headquarters of the secretariat in Addis Ababa in 1984 and three in 1985. The exhibitions highlighted the critical economic crisis in Africa with particular reference to the prevalent drought and famine.

The secretariat also published one accessions list of holdings in its Map Documentation and Reference Centre (MDRC) in 1984 and two in 1985. The lists were distributed to member States and to organizations and institutions on the MDRC's automatic distribution list.

The African Remote Sensing Programme (ARSP), established in February 1975, has continued to have a stunted growth during the period under review. In 1985, the situation worsened as a result of inadequate staff and financial resources. Indeed, the only expert in remote sensing has had to be redeployed for lack of financial resources, leading to a significant reduction in planned activities in the remote sensing field.

During the period under review, there was also visible evidence of decline in member States' interest in the programme as evidenced by the irregular or non-payment of their financial contributions to the principal and subsidiary organs established to foster the development of the Programme.

In 1984, the African Remote Sensing Council (ARSC) could not convene its sixth ordinary meeting as scheduled. The secretariat, however, assisted in convening an extraordinary meeting of the bureau of the ARSC which tried to find solution to its chronic financial problems. In 1985, the activities of the ARSC secretariat were considerably reduced due to lack of resources, both human and material, to implement the programme of work and priorities approved by its Governing Board.

The ECA secretariat fielded a mission to the Council's headquarters in Bamako, Mali, in September 1985 to have an on-the-spot assessment of the problems faced by the Council's secretariat prior to the sixth meeting of the Conference of Plenipotentiaries of the Council in November 1985 which ECA also hosted and which looked further into the financial and material problems of the Council.

At the insistence of the Council of Ministers of the Gisenyi-based MULPOC, the secretariat led a mission to the member States of both the Gisenyi- and Yaounde-based MULPOCs in December 1985 to arouse the interest of member States towards effective participation in the Regional Remote Sensing Centre (CRTK) in Kinshasa, Zaire. The report of the mission containing appropriate recommendations on measures to be taken to strengthen the Centre to be submitted to the 1986 meetings of the Councils of Ministers of the two MULPOCs.

The feasibility study on the establishment of model national remote sensing units, programmed for execution during the period under review, could not be undertaken for lack of resources.

Resources of the sea

During the biennium 1984-1985, work in the resources of the sea subprogramme concentrated on assisting in the development of African countries' capabilities for the development and management of resources of the sea at the national, subregional and regional levels. In this connection, a survey of the state-of-the-art in African capabilities for exploration, exploitation and management of marine resources was carried out in three selected countries, namely Morocco, Somalia and Tunisia. The survey was presented to the Intergovernmental Meeting of Experts on the Applications, of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea held in September 1984. The secretariat took the observations and recommendations of the meeting into account and prepared the report entitled "Development of African capabilities for the exploration, exploitation and development of marine resources in Africa" (E/ECA/CM.11/18) which was presented to the twentieth session of the Commission/eleventh meeting of the ECA Conference of Ministers held in April 1985.

Advisory services were rendered to Cameroon, the Central African Republic, Ethiopia, Gabon, the Republic of Côte d'Ivoire, Kenya, Liberia, Mauritius, Morocco, Nigeria, Senegal and Sierra Leone on the implications of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea for the overall exploitation, management and preservation of national natural resources and on the development of capabilities for the exploration, exploitation, development and management of marine resources for the coastal as well as land-locked States in Africa.

In order to further the understanding of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, the secretariat organized two regional intergovernmental meetings. The first, which was on those aspects of the provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea that brought under the jurisdiction of coastal States vast stocks of living and non-living resources, particularly fisheries, commercial minerals, energy and ocean space as well as the potential for increased employment opportunities, income and foreign exchange earning by nationals of such States, was held from 17 to 21 September 1984 in Addis Ababa. Twenty-eight African countries, seven United Nations organizations and one

international organization participated. The meeting highlighted the serious problems existing in Africa with respect to the exploration and exploitation of the exclusive economic zone resources. It also dealt with other problems such as access to finance, required manpower and technology for exploration and exploitation of the resources and surveillance of the areas under individual jurisdiction. Emphasis was placed on the need for co-operation between the developed and developing countries in the field of scientific research, technology transfer and the development of manpower as well as co-operation among African countries (coastal and land-locked) in the development of their requisite capabilities. Special attention was drawn to the problem of the non-adherence of foreign fleets to fishing contracts with some African countries.

The second meeting was held also in Addis Ababa from 11 to 15 November 1985. It considered the likely impact of the development of seabed mining on land-based mining, including the measures that can be taken by African countries individually and collectively to protect traditional land-based mining from the effects of the availability of mineral substitutes from deep-sea deposits. The meeting also considered ways and means by which African countries can rapidly develop their capabilities to harness seabed resources.

ENERGY AND DEVELOPMENT

As opposed to the arrangement under the biennium 1982-1983 whereby energy was part of the natural resources programme, energy was organized as an autonomous programme during the 1984-1985 biennium. However, the main objective of secretariat activities in this important area continued to be assisting member States to integrate energy policies into overall socio-economic development and economic growth policies with special emphasis on the following elements:

- (a) Exploration, evaluation and development of energy resources and integration of energy policy planning into overall socio-economic policy and planning;
- (b) Research, training and information; and
- (c) Institution building.

In the areas of exploration, evaluation and development of energy resources and integration of energy policy and planning into overall socio-economic policy and planning, reports and technical publications were prepared and submitted either to relevant intergovernmental organizations or directly distributed to member States. Thus a report on a study of the prospects for exploration and development of oil and gas, based on information collected from the United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia and Mozambique, was submitted to the meeting of the Council of Ministers of the Lusaka-based MULPOC in March 1985. Similarly a technical publication on existing conditions related to exploration, exploitation, distribution and use of petroleum and natural gas, based on Nigeria, Chad and the Congo was distributed to the member States concerned during the fourth quarter of 1985.

Another publication "energy resources in Africa" was prepared and distributed to member States. This document reviews the status of energy resources in Africa, considers the situation in energy planning and policy and addresses itself to the questions frequently raised by member States in the field of energy.

Missions were mounted to Botswana, Swaziland, Mozambique, Malawi, Zambia and Zimbabwe on the development of coal in these member States. The reports of these missions containing the recommendations of the secretariat were submitted to the member States concerned. Missions were also undertaken to Sierra Leone and the Niger at the request of the Governments of these countries to study operational and organizational aspects of hydropower resources utilization in these countries. Appropriate recommendations were made in the mission reports submitted to the two Governments.

The secretariat also prepared a programme of action on energy for the Preferential Trade Area for Eastern and Southern African States.

Work on the Energy Resources Atlas for Africa continued and 10 out of 18 sheets were ready for fair drawing in 1984. Unfortunately, due to lack of funds, the Atlas could not be finalized even in 1985. Two maps on primary and electrical energy have been updated, printed and made available to member States.

Ten scholarships financed by the Government of France were provided to African researchers, engineers and technicians in the field of solar energy during the biennium. Initially, 24 scholarships were to be provided. However, due to budgetary constraints, the Government of France could only accommodate 10.

As programmed, a report (E/ECA/CM.11/24) on the possibility of developing ocean energy resources in East African coastal member States was submitted to the ECA Conference of Ministers at its eleventh meeting/twentieth session of the Commission in 1985. The report contained a critical review of the possibilities of developing ocean energy resources such as tides, waves, temperature gradients, salinity gradients and currents and pointed out that consideration of these sources of energy by member States was at an early stage and that their practical development and commercial use in Africa could not be expected before the beginning of the next century.

In order to sensitize African member States to the importance of integrating energy policy planning into overall socio-economic policy and planning, the secretariat organized a regional workshop on energy planning in Africa at ECA headquarters from 3 to 7 December 1984. The workshop was attended by 61 participants from member States, developed countries and international organizations. The workshop reviewed the state-of-the-art in energy planning in African countries, evaluated and assessed the achievements and the obstacles being encountered, reviewed existing co-operation arrangements and elaborated a programme of priorities and strategies for energy planning in Africa.

In co-operation with the secretariat of the United Nations Conference for the Promotion of International Co-operation in the Peaceful Uses of Nuclear Energy (UNCPICPUNE), and in preparation for that Conference, the secretariat organized a Regional Expert Group Meeting on Peaceful Uses of Nuclear Energy in Africa at ECA headquarters from 1 to 4 July 1985. The meeting was organized with the objectives of studying the present situation and future perspectives for the peaceful uses of nuclear energy in Africa and of preparing an African position for the United Nations Conference.

A regional workshop attended by 38 government officials on energy supply and demand projections to 1990 in Africa was organized in Addis

Ababa from 25 to 29 November 1985. The main objectives of the workshop were to review the existing projections for the African region and for individual member States, and to identify future avenues for co-operation among African States on the perfection of the existing methods of energy supply and demand projections.

Continued support to member States on the establishment of the African Regional Centre for Solar Energy resulted in two more member States joining the Centre. At the moment, there are 21 State members of the Centre.

POPULATION

Activities undertaken within the population programme of the secretariat fell under three broad areas, namely: (a) population policies and development planning; (b) demographic analysis in the context of economic and social development; and (c) support to regional training and research in population matters. Its three broad objectives were to continue efforts at enhancing awareness of the relationships between population and development among member States based on results of studies on population and development; to provide assistance to member States in formulating and implementing population policies and programmes and analysing demographic and related socio-economic data for planning; and to provide technical support to United Nations-sponsored training institutions as well as at institutions in the member States.

The activities accomplished by the secretariat during the 1984-1985 biennium are as detailed below.

Population policies and development planning

In the area of population policies and development planning, the secretariat assisted Benin, Burundi, the Central African Republic, Chad, the Congo, Guinea and the United Republic of Tanzania in formulating and implementing relevant population policies, integration of population variables in development planning and evaluation of family planning programmes. Assistance to Ethiopia and Guinea on population, health and nutrition was given jointly by the secretariat and the World Bank.

The secretariat assisted the Central Bureau of Statistics in the United Republic of Tanzania in the conduct of a regional seminar on the use of demographic data for regional and district level planning which was held in Morogoro, The United Republic of Tanzania, from 24 to 28 April, 1984. The results and implications of the 1978 census from the three regions of Dar-es-Salaam, Coast and Morogoro and the whole of Tanzania were used for the seminar in which 21 regional and district planners from Dar-es-Salaam, Coast and Morogoro participated. A paper on "Population data requirements and their use in development planning" was prepared and presented by the secretariat at the seminar.

The secretariat also provided advice on the conduct of a workshop on rural development and population held at Eduardo Mondlane University, Maputo, Mozambique, from 3 to 6 July 1984. The seminar focused on population factors in rural and agricultural development. The secretariat prepared a paper "population growth and population policies in the context of African development strategies" which was used at the workshop.

At the request of the Government of Burundi, the secretariat assisted in the organization and servicing of a national seminar on population growth and family planning held in Bujumbura, Burundi, from 19 to 24 November 1984. Thirty-six government officials participated in the seminar.

The secretariat prepared and presented two papers on "Scope and nature of internal migration data in African censuses and surveys (1970 and 1980 rounds)" and "Methods of projecting migration and the incorporation of migration estimates in regional, urban-rural population projections" at the seminar on internal migration and regional development in Africa held at RIPS, Accra, Ghana, from 15 to 29 July 1985. Experts from Ethiopia, the Gambia, Ghana, Liberia, Nigeria, Sierra Leone, Swaziland, the United Republic of Tanzania and Zambia participated in the seminar which focused on data availability, types of data needed, methods of estimation, projection techniques and uses of migration data in the planning process.

In its continuing efforts to highlight the effects of population growth on development and vice versa, the secretariat prepared two studies whose results were made available to member States. The first, entitled "Assessment of population policies in socio-economic development planning" (ECA/PD/WP/1985/1), was based on the experiences of Egypt, Ghana, Kenya and the United Republic of Tanzania, three of which (Egypt, Kenya and Tanzania) were already implementing family planning programmes intended to complement socio-economic development efforts for reducing the rate of population growth. The study revealed that attitudes for larger families as well as lack of proper institutional framework for implementing and evaluating policies adopted are among the factors affecting the implementation of policies aimed at reducing population growth rates. The study also noted that high population growth rates affected the implementation of policies regarding universal primary education in some countries.

The second study, entitled "The demographic, health, economic and social impact of family planning in selected African countries" (ECA/PD/WP/1985/9), which is based on the experiences of Kenya, Egypt, Mauritania and Lesotho, all of which have official policies aimed at planning family size, focused on the comparative analysis of the effect of family planning practice on fertility and maternal and child mortality in the region. The study reveals that the impact of the maternal and child health and family planning (MCH/FP) programmes has been to reduce infant and child mortality while the level of current fertility has risen. It stresses the fact that the impact of MCH/FP on fertility, however, is only possible when attitudes of people change from the desire for many, to few children.

While the results of the studies were not conclusive because of lack of adequate data on, and the low level of, family planning practices in the region, the studies emphasized the importance of government role, education and attitudinal change. It is expected that further studies would be carried out in those few African countries that have established family planning programmes so as to highlight further the experiences of such countries in the areas of population size and development and family planning and maternal and child health.

Regarding the integration of population variables and policies in development plans in some African countries, the secretariat undertook

a study entitled "Integration of population variables and policies in developing Africa" which was distributed to member States. The study revealed that very little has been achieved in integration of population variables in the development plans of member States because many of the States recognized the importance of population factors in development planning only in recent years. To facilitate such an integration, the study recommended the establishment of relevant institutional framework like population units within planning offices and population commissions; provision of relevant demographic data to planners; and training of planners on how to incorporate population factors when preparing development plans and in their implementation.

As part of the preparations for the 1984 International Conference on Population, the fifth inquiry among governments on perceptions and policies on demographic trends in relation to development was conducted by the United Nations. The ECA secretariat analysed the replies of this inquiry for the 39 member States that responded. The analysis was made available to member States in document ECA/PD/WP/1984/3. It revealed that 16 member States considered the growth rate of their population as too high; most of these had programmes to reduce the rates. Most of the member States were concerned about the prevailing conditions of health and levels of mortality and indicated that they were implementing primary health care programmes to reduce the incidence of morbidity and mortality. Regarding perceptions of these States on population distribution, more than 70 per cent of them were not satisfied with their population distribution. International migration in general was not considered as a serious issue by most of these States. However, some of them indicated that the refugee issue was a serious problem. A number of the States reported that they had established agencies for the formulation or co-ordination of population policies and had also established offices responsible for integrating population variables into development planning.

Demographic analysis in the context of economic and social development

The secretariat provided advisory services on census and survey data analysis to Botswana (1981 census), the Central African Republic (1987 census preparations), the Gambia (1983 census), Cameroon (1986 census preparations), Djibouti (1983 census), Equatorial Guinea (1983 census), Lesotho (1986 census preparations), the Niger (1977 census and 1987 census preparations), Nigeria (1981 demographic survey and vital registration and migration statistics systems), Malawi (1977 census), Mauritania (1987 census preparations), Mauritius (1983 census), Sao Tome and Principe (1981 census), Zaire (1984 census) and Zambia (1980 census). In the case of Malawi and Botswana, the detailed analytical reports were published and post-census dissemination seminars were conducted. Data analyses were undertaken for the Gambia and Nigeria. The secretariat also provided advisory services to the Central African Republic in the analysis of infant/childhood mortality.

Assistance was rendered to the central statistical offices of Zimbabwe and Zambia in the organization of on-the-job training for personnel engaged

in census and other related data. Assistance was also rendered to the Ministry of Health, Kenya, in the organization of a training workshop for statistical clerks on maternal and child health and family planning.

The secretariat also conducted studies on fertility levels, patterns, differentials and trends in Senegal, Kenya and Cameroon. The results showed that fertility levels are higher in Kenya than in Senegal and Cameroon. The regional differentials implied by these results suggest that where fertility is relatively high, it can be reduced to lower levels by applying appropriate measures that would induce socio-economic development. The problem in this study was the lack of adequate demographic data for the derivation of reliable fertility indices for use in the formulation of pertinent population policies. It is with this in mind that similar studies will continue in the future in order to improve the quality of data for such use.

As part of the work on analysis of fertility data, a training workshop was conducted on techniques of demographic analysis using World Fertility Survey (WFS) data; nine member States participated, namely the Sudan, Kenya, Rwanda, Cameroon, Nigeria, Benin, the Republic of Cote d'Ivoire, Senegal and Mauritania. At the review seminar following the workshop, the participants presented their country technical reports on the analysis of infant and childhood mortality and fertility levels, trends and differentials. Both the training workshop and the review seminar were conducted jointly by the secretariat and experts from the International Statistical Institute (ISI).

Studies on mortality levels, patterns, differentials and trends in the North African countries of the Sudan, Egypt, Tunisia and Morocco were also undertaken during the biennium. The purpose was to identify regional and socio-economic group variations in mortality in the subregion. The results revealed that mortality variations exist within and between the countries in the subregion. In general, the summary indices of mortality for the region and the accompanying life tables suggested that mortality levels are still high and their patterns somewhat peculiar when compared to the situation in more developed countries. Unfortunately, inadequate data base constituted the main problem for the study. Hence the studies would continue in future biennia so as to provide a better understanding of the effects of mortality with a view to assisting in development of better strategies in African countries.

The secretariat undertook studies on the interrelationship between socio-economic factors and fertility on the one hand, and infant and childhood mortality on the other, because this population subgroup i.e., infant and childhood, which is only a small proportion of the entire population, contributes more than half the total deaths in member States. The study, which covered the Sudan, Kenya, Lesotho, Cameroon and Nigeria, used WFS data. The results suggest that by controlling such socio-demographic factors as maternal age and length of birth intervals, a reduction in infant and childhood mortality could be achieved.

The estimates of child mortality rates were found to be better indicators of socio-economic and health status of African countries. Since data constraints still exist in the region, these studies should be continued as the data situation improves to enable the formulation of better health policies in the region.

The Demographic Handbook for Africa, 1982, which brings together demographic data analyses for the ECA region from various sources was published in July 1984. It contains information for the 50 ECA member States on total population and growth components since the 1970s as derived from the 1982 assessment of population trends in the region by the secretariat. The 16 tables which comprise the handbook are divided into six sections, viz., total population distribution and growth; land areas and population density; age-sex distribution; urbanization; fertility; and mortality.

In the area of projections, the population projections for each of the 50 member States were prepared within the framework of the 1984 round of monitoring global population trends by the United Nations family. A major problem encountered in the preparation of the projections was the lack of good quality base year data for some of the States. Another problem was the lack of information regarding possible future trends in the growth components. It is hoped that as the quality of data improves and the techniques so far developed for discerning trends in these growth components can be tested with respect to their suitability for States in the region, population projections will improve in quality and will provide better guides for planning.

An ECA/RIPS regional training workshop on demographic estimates and projections was organized and held in Accra, Ghana, from 15 to 29 July 1985. Fifteen participants shared experiences regarding the use of projections in planning and were provided training in the use of the United Nations computer programme in preparing national population projections. The workshop also dealt with subnational and sectoral projections. The other regional training institute, IFORD, the Sahel Institute and the United Nations Population Division as well as OAU, the United States Bureau of the Census, FAO and the Pathfinder Fund also participated at the workshop.

With regard to population information and clearing house service activities, the following publications were produced and disseminated: space four issues of the African Population Newsletter (issues 46, 47, 48 and 49), POPINDEX Africa, a population abstract journal (vol. I, No.7) and POPIN-Africa Briefs, a newsletter of the Population Information Network for Africa (Nos. 1 and 2). These were in addition to documents submitted to the second African Population Conference, the African Population Profile, seminar reports, regular publications of the Population Division (Demographic Handbook for Africa, 1982 and Population Study Series Nos. 5, 6, 7 and 8) as well as working papers of the secretariat.

Regional training and research

This subprogramme is designed to assist member States in meeting their need for the training of their nationals in demography and for the promotion of demographic research. Such training is provided mainly at the two regional demographic institutes, RIPS and IFORD, and also through short-term national training courses for middle-level personnel organized through the collaboration of member States. The training provided at the regional institutes and funded by UNFPA is geared towards providing high-level (post-graduate) manpower for the member countries, capable of undertaking the collection, analysis and integration of population data into the socio-economic development planning process. The secretariat assisted the institutes in identifying 104 candidates for fellowships funded by UNFPA for such training.

As stated above, the secretariat provided technical support to RIPS in the organization of the seminars on internal migration and regional development in Africa, held at RIPS from 2 to 8 August 1985 and the regional training workshop on demographic estimates and projections, also held at RIPS from 15 to 29 July 1985.

The secretariat also collaborated with IFORD in organizing two introductory courses on demography and statistics in the Comoros (1984) and Djibouti (1985). It provided technical support to the meetings of the Governing Councils of both RIPS and IFORD in 1984 and 1985. In 1984, it evaluated the academic programme of IFORD and participated as adviser in the meetings of the advisory boards on studies and research for both institutes. Since both institutes were regionalized, the member States have been taking an active part in the management. With the reduction of financial support by UNFPA and the low level of contributions received from member States, however, the institutes experienced financial problems. The secretariat took steps to solicit increased funding from the member countries and to study alternatives for reducing the cost of running the institutes, making them more cost-effective and thus ensuring their continued existence for the benefit of the member States. The efforts are paying off especially in the case of IFORD, contributions which have improved somewhat.

The Demographic Unit of the Sahel Institute continued to receive the administrative support of the secretariat.

PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE

Public administration

During the 1984-1985 biennium, the main objective of the public administration subprogramme was to assist member States to improve their capability to formulate and execute realistic policies and programmes for accelerated socio-economic development, and for the efficient delivery of services. In pursuance of this objective, particular attention was focused on improving institutional capabilities and upgrading the quality of the performance of public officials.

In this context, advisory missions were undertaken to Malawi in October 1984 to review and advise on local government and public enterprise management and on managerial problems of parastatal enterprises; and to Zambia in December 1984 to advise on local government, the promotion of effective central management, and the direction of public and parastatal services through the development of internal consultancy capability. An advisory mission was undertaken to Uganda in 1984 to review the curriculum and training programmes of the Institute of Public Administration in Uganda.

In 1984, the secretariat participated in two tripartite review missions organized and sponsored by the World Bank and UNDP respectively on the Eastern and Southern African Management Institute (ESAMI) to review the organization and management of institutions for rural development, and for promoting administrative reform measures. In 1985, advisory missions were undertaken to the Gambia, Mauritius, Botswana, Cameroon and Uganda to advise the Governments of those countries on the management services function in the public services, to study innovative approaches to the management of public enterprises and to foster rural development.

As regards the management of public enterprises and institutions, the secretariat participated in a review exercise on CAFRAD, Tangier, Morocco, undertaken at the request of the institute in February 1985, to review the work performance of the Centre and evaluate the effectiveness of its training programmes in vis-à-vis the changing needs of member States. Another advisory mission on management improvement services was undertaken to ESAMI during the third quarter of 1985. It was in connection with a tripartite review of the ESAMI (phase II) project which was conducted together with the associated agencies, namely ILO and ITCI, UNDP and the Director of the Institute. The purpose of the review was to appraise the performance of the project in so far as its contribution to ESAMI's development was concerned. The secretariat also prepared for ECOWAS in 1985 a study on the rationalization of co-operative efforts in West Africa.

As regards training, two workshops were held in Zambia in 1984 at the request of the Zambian Government. The first, which was attended by 20 senior executives of Zambian parastatals, focused attention on the development of managerial capabilities in parastatal enterprises. The second workshop was on the public administration needs of an independent Namibia in which exiled Namibians participated.

In February 1984, an advisory mission was sent to Chad at the request of the Government to advise on requirements for rehabilitating the public administration management.

At the request of the Government of Botswana, the secretariat in 1985 provided technical support to the Botswana Institute of Administration and Commerce in the conduct of an induction course for new graduate entrants into the public service. The secretariat also provided advice on ways and means of strengthening the functions, programmes and organizational capacity of the Public Service Training Section of the Institute.

In 1985 also a training of trainers workshop was conducted for the Government of Mauritius for members of the public service of Mauritius. The workshop, in which 24 middle-grade public service officers participated, was intended to provide participants with the following: a broad knowledge of administration and management and the critical issues and problems confronting government; a conceptual framework of training in the public services and the role it can play in improving performance and quality of services; and knowledge and skills for training others.

In the area of procurement and supply management, a three-week national workshop was organized in Addis Ababa from 5 to 24 June 1985 for officials of the Government of Ethiopia. Forty-one participants attended the workshop which focused on procurement and supply functions, organization and planning; basic principles, techniques and quantity determination in stock control; stores accounting, stock-taking and storehouse operations; materials handling and storage preservation; safety and security precautions; and training and staff development.

Similar workshops were held at government request in the Sudan and Kenya from 3 to 17 September 1985 and from 25 November to 13 December 1985 respectively. Fourteen participants from both the public and private sectors took part in the workshop in the Sudan while 24 participated in the one held in Kenya.

In the field of local government, a national training workshop was organized from 1 to 16 November 1984 for the Government of Cameroon. The workshop was attended by 20 participants and focused on the role of local government for national development. The secretariat undertook a study, which it has made available to member States, on the "Role of local

government in national development" (document ECA/PAMM/PAM/85/1). The study covers the philosophical and practical basis of local government, current situation and future of local government in Africa and measures to strengthen local government.

Development of budgetary and taxation systems

During the biennium 1984-1985, three national training courses were organized. In March 1984, the secretariat organized in Gaborone, Botswana, a technical workshop for African tax administrators on the theme "Issues of tax fraud and evasion, the promotion of tax awareness and techniques of tax legislation". The workshop, which was attended by 20 representatives from 14 member States, also benefited from the participation of representatives of the International Monetary Fund (IMF), the Harvard Law School and the Southern and Eastern African Tax Administrators Liaison Organization (SEATALO).

At the request of the Botswana Institute of Administration and Commerce, the secretariat collaborated with the Institute in organizing in September 1984 an induction course for 21 newly recruited Botswana public officers. The induction course dealt, among other issues, with public financial administration and budgetary management. In October 1984, a national training workshop on the management of public finances for development in Ethiopia was organized for 30 Ethiopian Government officials drawn from the Ministry of Finance, Inland Revenue Department, Customs and Excise Administration and the office of the Auditor-General.

In collaboration with the Association of African Tax Administrators (AATA), a technical conference on tax issues was organized in Yaounde, Cameroon, from 11 to 19 October 1985. The Conference, which was attended by the representatives of 17 member States, considered and made recommendations on the following topics: evaluation of administrative systems in Africa with special reference to tax administration; the role of management information in tax administration; computer application in tax administration; and the importance of audit and collection in tax administration.

The secretariat serviced the second meeting of the General Assembly of the Association of African Tax Administrators which was held in Gaborone in March 1984 and a subregional seminar on the harmonization, facilitation of customs procedures and customs enforcement held in Lusaka, Zambia, in April 1984. The second meeting of the General Assembly of the Association of African Tax Administrators considered and approved the biennial programme of work and budget of the Association for the period March 1984 to February 1986. The meeting was attended by representatives from Botswana, Cameroon, the Congo, Comoros, Ethiopia, the Gambia, Liberia, Lesotho, Malawi, Morocco, Somalia and Zambia. The seminar on the harmonized system, facilitation of customs procedures and customs enforcement, which

was organized in collaboration with the Customs Co-operation Council, had as its objective the familiarization of officials with the Kyoto and Nairobi conventions and the harmonized system (for the classification of goods) in anticipation of the coming into effect in January 1987 of the Harmonized System. The seminar was attended by 23 participants from Botswana, Ethiopia, Kenya, Lesotho, the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malawi, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

In the area of publication, the second edition of the Roster of African Taxation Experts was completed. A training material package to be used in national training courses on public financial management was also published.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

During the biennium 1984-1985, the science and technology programme of the Commission focused on the following three main areas which constitute its subprogrammes:

(a) Development of policies, machinery and capabilities for science and technology;

(b) Development of manpower for science and technology; and

(c) Promotion of regional and interregional co-operation in science and technology.

Development of policies, machinery and capabilities for science and technology

The secretariat continued its efforts aimed at ensuring the creation of appropriate infrastructure for science and technology development in the member States. In this connection, an advisory mission to the Comoros was undertaken at the request of the Government from 16 to 24 February 1984. The mission made recommendations on the establishment of a national commission for science and technology including its structure, organization and functions in the context of the present level of socio-economic development of the country. The recommendations of the mission were submitted to the Government for its consideration. Similarly, the secretariat undertook a mission to Madagascar from 1 to 5 July 1985 to advise on measures to strengthen the existing national machinery for science and technology development. The mission recommended the establishment of a science and technology commission which, while operating under the ambit of the newly created Ministry for Scientific Research for Development, would co-ordinate science and technology activities in all sectors. The mission also recommended that the national research centres in oceanography, pharmaceuticals, and the production of school science equipment, which have made big strides in their respective fields, should be upgraded to serve the needs of other countries in the Eastern and Southern African subregion.

The secretariat organized and serviced two meetings of the Intergovernmental Committee of Experts for Science and Technology Development which took place in Addis Ababa from 26 to 30 November 1984 and from 18 to 22 November 1985 respectively. Both meetings were attended by over 20 member States and around 10 international organizations. Progress in the implementation of the science and technology chapter of the Lagos Plan of Action was reviewed. The meetings also considered, and made recommendations on, measures to be taken in the science and technology field to cope with the current economic and social crisis facing Africa.

The secretariat assisted member States to get the activities of the subregional working groups of the Intergovernmental Committee off the ground. Thus, it assisted with the organization and servicing of the meeting of the Working Group for the East African subregion, which met in Addis Ababa

from 21 to 23 November 1984. In 1985, it mounted a mission jointly with the OAU secretariat to the convenor countries of the subregional working groups, viz: Egypt, from 26 March to 1 April 1985; Zambia, from 8 to 11 April 1985; Cameroon, from 12 to 17 April 1985; and Togo, from 19 to 24 April 1985. The objective of the mission was to sensitize Governments on the role of the working groups. Following the missions, the West and Southern African Working Groups held their meetings in Addis Ababa on 18 November 1985.

As a contribution to the global document on mobilizing resources for science and technology being prepared by the United Nations Centre for Science and Technology for Development and in response to the wish expressed in the Lagos Plan of Action about the necessity to mobilize additional resources for science and technology, the secretariat prepared a study on measures for mobilizing additional resources for science and technology based on study visits to Ethiopia, Egypt, Cameroon and Nigeria. The results and recommendations of the study were also considered by the Intergovernmental Committee of Experts for Science and Technology Development in November 1985, which endorsed a number of actions for enhancing national efforts for mobilizing financial resources for science and technology.

The secretariat prepared and distributed to member States a study entitled "Examen des législations et mecanismes nationaux reglementant les importations de technologies dans quelques pays africains". The study was based on an examination of national legislations and mechanisms for regulating imports of technology. To prepare the study, the secretariat visited Rwanda and the UDEAC secretariat from 28 May to 15 June 1984.

With respect to the work of regional institutions in science and technology, the secretariat continued to provide technical support to the legislative organs of the African Regional Centre for Technology (ARCT) in programme development, organization of their meetings, staff recruitment and in the promotion of the Centre among the African countries.

Development of manpower for science and technology

As a follow-up to the 1983 Informal Sector Workshop, the secretariat undertook a mission to Nigeria, the Niger and the headquarters of ECA's West African Multinational Programming and Operational Centre (MULPOC) from 27 July to 4 August 1984. The mission made recommendations on the development and effective utilization of the adaptive technology potential of the informal sector in the countries of that MULPOC. Further follow-up activities in that region are expected during 1986 and funds are being sought for that purpose.

The secretariat in collaboration with the German Foundation for International Development (DSE) and the African Regional Centre for Technology (ARCT) organized from 28 January to 8 February 1985 a workshop which dealt with technology policy and planning in the informal sector, focusing on food, energy and agriculture in the East African subregion. The workshop was a follow-up to the 1983 regional workshop on science and

technology policy and planning for mobilizing the adaptive technology potential in the metal working branch of the informal sector of African economies. The purposes of the workshop were to enable participants gain better understanding of the policy related measures which could be applied to galvanize the informal sector in the selected areas of focus, to obtain an insight into approaches to technology policy research and to plan possible national level follow-up actions.

In pursuance of its concern for the need to introduce qualitative improvements in the professional training of engineers in African universities, the secretariat presented proposals for the establishment of model training and production workshops at the second Conference of Deans and Directors of the African Network of Scientific and Technological Institutions (ANSTI), held in Nairobi from 14 to 18 May 1984. The Conference approved a series of actions to be taken by ANSTI in response to the requirements of scientific and technological manpower spelt out in the Lagos Plan of Action. It mandated ECA and ANSTI to work out modalities for establishing such workshops at a few institutions in the Africa region. As a follow-up, ECA and ANSTI developed a programme for ascertaining the suitability of institutions at which to base this activity.

Promotion of regional and interregional co-operation in science and technology

In collaboration with the United Nations Centre for Science and Technology for Development (UNCSTD), the secretariat carried out a regional review and appraisal of progress achieved in the implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action on Science and Technology in the African region. The review was presented to the fifth meeting of the Technical Preparatory Committee of the Whole and was subsequently endorsed by the tenth meeting of the Conference of Ministers. The review was also presented as the African component to the global review undertaken by the Intergovernmental Committee of Experts for Science and Technology Development at its seventh session, held in New York from 27 May to 7 June 1985. The study undertaken by the secretariat was partly hampered by the lack of accurate information and trends in national science and technology activities.

The secretariat, with the collaboration of relevant national institutions, conducted a study on progress in the implementation of the science and technology chapter of the Lagos Plan of Action. The study was presented to the fourth meeting of the Intergovernmental Committee of Experts for Science and Technology Development, which undertook the review of progress in this regard. Again, the secretariat encountered problems such as lack of response from several member States which limited the coverage of the situation in the region.

In line with its mandate to provide information to member States on developments in fields of science and technology, the secretariat in collaboration with OAU, UNIDO, UNFSSD, UNCSTD, the International Development Research Centre (Canada), the German Foundation for International Development, and the Swaziland Government organized in Mbabane from 22

to 26 October 1984 a meeting for African experts on the implications of new and advanced technologies for Africa's development strategies. The meeting examined developments in such areas as biotechnology, micro-electronics, and recommended measures by which member States could benefit from developments in such fields particularly with a view to solving the drought and food problems in Africa. The meeting also recommended the setting up of an advance technology alert system for Africa.

The secretariat hosted the fifth ECA/UNESCO joint Concertation Meeting held in Addis Ababa on 8 and 9 July 1985 at which representatives of the two organizations reviewed the execution of collaborative activities and recommended measures for improving future collaboration generally and in specific fields of common interest.

SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

During the period under review, the secretariat's activities in the field of social development covered case studies, technical publications, expert consultations, inter-agency meetings and technical advisory services to member States, which were directed at the prevailing socio-economic crisis in Africa, specially in the rural sector, including agriculture and the integration of women in the development process.

Integrated rural development

The secretariat has long recognized that the development of rural life, institutions and economy is the bootstrap by which Africa can hope to pull itself out of the current crisis. Thus in view of the declining self-sufficiency ratio of food in Africa, the secretariat, in collaboration with the FAO, ILO, UNIDO and the International Co-operative Alliance, organized an expert consultation on the role of rural co-operatives in the productive sectors in Africa. The consultation was held in Addis Ababa from 7 to 11 October 1985 and attended by experts from 11 member States, four intergovernmental organizations and two non-governmental organizations. The main document for the consultation was the role of rural co-operatives in the productive sectors in Africa.

The consultation, which concentrated on the review of the genesis, structure and declared objectives of national production co-operatives, their achievements and failures, as well as government policies towards them, made the following conclusions and recommendations:

- (a) There are no standard blueprints or manuals for successful production co-operatives;
- (b) Historical background, political context, social environment and the stage of development should be given due consideration in deciding their organizational form, structure, size and functions;
- (c) They should be self-reliant, viable and participatory development organizations;
- (d) The State may assist them, but the intervention of the State must not substitute internal self-management and self-financing; and
- (e) Their programme of work and its priority must be decided upon by dialogue between the members of the societies themselves.

Steps were taken to revive the African Regional Inter-Agency Committee on Rural Development. In this connection, FAO and ECA agreed that the meeting of the African Regional Inter-Agency Committee on Rural Development and FAO's Inter-Agency Meeting for Africa should henceforth be held together

instead of as two separate meetings. Accordingly, the first joint meeting was held at ECA headquarters, Addis Ababa, from 20 to 22 November 1984. The meeting, which was attended by 10 United Nations organizations and OAU was on the follow-up activities on WCARR. The following documents were presented to the joint meeting: Summary of ECA's activities in rural development and strengthening of inter-agency co-operation in the field of rural development in Africa.

Rural Progress, the secretariat newsletter on rural development activities in Africa, was revived and two issues, one devoted to the "International Youth Year" and the other to "Women: Partners in African Development", were published. A readership survey of the newsletter is in progress to assess interest in it and its utility.

Youth and Social Welfare

The youth and social welfare subprogramme has continued to address itself to the social aspects of development as an integral part of socio-economic development. The major focus, therefore, has been on the wellbeing of the entire population and its effective participation in the process of development and in the fair share of its benefits. Emphasis has been put on encouraging member countries to adopt the developmental rather than the remedial approach to social welfare, and on assisting them in the design and delivery of integrated social services. In addition, the subprogramme has continued to concentrate on issues concerning special and disadvantaged groups including the family, youth, aging and disabled persons. In this respect, member States have been encouraged to formulate relevant and effective policies and to develop appropriate programmes to promote the participation and integration of these groups, as agents and beneficiaries, in the process of development.

Specifically, two major studies, namely "social trends and major social development problems in Africa" and "strategies and action programmes for the implementation of the social aspects of the Lagos Plan of Action", were submitted to the fourth meeting of the Conference of African Ministers of Social Affairs jointly organized by ECA and OAU. As part of the implementation of the World Programme of Action for Disabled Persons and pursuant to General Assembly resolution 38/23 of 28 October 1983, the secretariat completed a study on the "situation of disabled persons in Africa". The study, which was distributed to member States and interested organizations, is intended to assist the Commission in reviewing its activities for the disabled, with a view to formulating a regional disability programme. A study on "peace and development: an African perspective", was prepared for the African Regional Seminar on the International Year of Peace. It analyses the close link and interdependence between peace and development and emphasizes that the primary conditions for economic and social progress and development are peaceful co-existence, friendly relations and co-operation among States.

The secretariat prepared two project proposals relating to youth. One on the "promotion of employment opportunities for young people in the rural areas" was prepared in accordance with the recommendation on the promotion of interregional ECDC/TCDC of the meeting of the Executive Secretaries of Regional Commissions held in Addis Ababa on 22 and 23 February 1985 and is expected to be funded on an interregional basis. The second on "African youth" is presently under consideration by the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs, for possible funding from the International Youth Year Trust Fund.

During the period under review, the secretariat organized two major meetings. The African Regional Seminar for the International Year of Peace was held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, from 8 to 11 January 1985, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 38/56 of 7 December 1983 which requested the Secretary-General to carry out, during 1984-1985, the necessary preparations for the observance of the year, including the organization of regional seminars devoted to the promotion of the objectives of the International Year of Peace. The seminar, whose main objectives were to define conditions and basic approaches to peace from the regional and global perspective, facilitate a dialogue and exchange of experience among experts and scholars, as well as prepare appropriate documentation for distribution to the general public during the Year, was attended by 26 member States of the Commission as well as several United Nations organizations and non-governmental organizations.

In collaboration with the OAU secretariat, the secretariat organized the fourth Conference of African Ministers of Social Affairs, held in Addis Ababa on 25 and 26 March 1985. The Conference, which was preceded by the Intergovernmental Expert Group Meeting, held from 18 to 22 March, was attended by representatives of 35 member States of ECA and OAU, liberation movements, United Nations and international and regional organizations. The Conference reviewed the existing social situation in African countries in the light of prevailing socio-economic conditions and recommended a number of strategies and action programmes for the improvement of the social development sector in African countries.

The secretariat participated in the seventh United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and Treatment of Offenders, held in Milan, Italy from 26 August to 6 September 1985. Some of the major topics which the Congress dealt with and on which it made several recommendations were new dimensions of criminality and crime prevention in the context of development; criminal justice processes and perspectives in a changing world; victims of crime; youth, crime and justice; formulation and application of United Nations standards and norms in criminal justice. The meeting adopted a resolution requesting the creation of an African institution on crime prevention. At the invitation of the West African Federation of Associations for Disabled Persons, the secretariat presented a report on its activities

for the disabled to the international seminar on the implementation of the World Programme of Action for Disabled Persons in Africa, held in Nouakchott, Mauritania, from 16 to 25 February 1985. The Seminar reviewed the extent to which the World Programme had been implemented at the national, regional and international levels, particularly in the area of prevention, legislation, environment, social security, education and training, employment, culture, leisure and sports and international co-operation.

As part of the activities to promote the objectives of the International Youth Year (IYY), the secretariat mounted a number of publicity activities. More than 30 member States set up committees, commissions or similar bodies to co-ordinate the activities of IYY. A joint statement on IYY by the United Nations system in Ethiopia was issued by the ECA Executive Secretary and subsequently disseminated to all African countries.

The secretariat participated in the organization and substantive servicing of the second International Conference on Assistance to Refugees in Africa (ICARA II) which convened in 1984 at Geneva.

The secretariat also participated in the follow-up meeting to the 1979 and 1983 Conferences on refugees as well as the fifteenth ordinary session of the OAU Co-ordinating Committee on assistance to refugees in Africa.

In pursuance of General Assembly resolutions on migrant workers, the ECA secretariat, jointly with the OAU secretariat, circulated to all African Governments relevant information and documentation. Assistance was also provided to African representatives in New York during the sessions of the General Assembly Working Group on the Protection of the Rights of Migrant Workers and their Families. Consultations have been held with ILO and UNCSDHA on the preparation of a study on the situation of African migrant workers.

At the request of the Joint Inspection Unit (JIU), the secretariat advised on, and formulated suggestions with regard to the African region for inclusion in the programme of the proposed world decade for cultural development.

The secretariat advised on United Nations/League of Arab States co-operation in the field of social development and participated in the Arab League/United Nations Conference on Social Development which took place in Amman, Jordan in August 1985.

Missions to Guinea and Chad were organized respectively on assistance to victims of earthquake in the former and on human resources and social development in latter.

Integration of women in development

The solution to some of the problems confronting Africa today is the effective mobilization and judicious exploitation of national and collective potentials on the basis of well-formulated development strategies and plans. This approach is specially relevant for the eradication of famine and hunger at present experienced in the region. In this context, it would be a grievous waste of resources to ignore the potential contribution of women who constitute more than half the human resources of the region and play an important productive role in its economies, specially in the agriculture and the domestic trade sectors.

Unfortunately, however, it has not been possible to harness the full potential of women in the socio-economic development process. There is, for instance, a significant lack of appropriate and readily available data on the situation of women in the region. Women's needs are therefore seldom planned for, and integrated in, national development plans. Women's full integration in the development process is also hampered by inequities in their legal status, particularly with regard to land holding and customary laws.

The objectives of the subprogramme - the integration of women in the development process - have accordingly been to promote research particularly on the economic participation of women and to undertake activities that would make that participation more effective and more productive. The major thrust of the subprogramme during the period under review was thus directed towards training and institution building.

To address the problem of data inadequacies, the secretariat produced and disseminated widely, within and outside the region, a number of technical publications on women and development in the region. These included "the role of women in the Industrial Development Decade for Africa"; "situation and needs of women in the Comoros"; "marketing in Ghana"; "training opportunities for out-of-school girls in Dar-es-Salaam"; "vocational training and employment of out-of-school girls in the Great Lakes subregion"; "comparative studies on the situation of women in agriculture"; "women and the artisanal fishing industry in Ghana and Senegal"; and "role of women in the solution of the food crisis in Africa". Two issues of the newsletter, ATRCW Update, were published yearly in both English and French, and in 1985, also in Portuguese. Projections on the situation of women in Africa over the next 15 years were prepared and included in the technical publication "women in Africa to the year 2000". The Directory of National Machineries was revised.

Other activities undertaken to improve statistics and indicators on women and development and to disseminate results of work in this area included work with the United Nations Statistical Office and the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women in the development of

a curriculum for the workshop on improving statistics and indicators on women for development planning, organized by ECA and hosted by the Government of Zimbabwe in Harare, from 29 April to 7 May 1985. Forty-five participants from 13 countries of the East and Southern African subregion, representing producers (generally from national statistical offices) and users (staff of national machineries for the integration of women in development) as well as numerous observers, took part in the workshop. While no formal recommendations were made, participants expressed their commitment to work for continued dialogue between users and producers of statistics on women in development at the national level. Requests have since been received for technical assistance in mounting similar workshops at the national level.

Efforts continued to be made to promote the inclusion of women's needs in development planning through training activities organized for men and women from government planning ministries and institutions. Thus, during the biennium, three courses on women's management and development planning for participants from the Lusaka- and Niamey-based MULPOC subregions were held at the East and Southern Africa Management Institute (ESAMI) in Arusha, the United Republic of Tanzania. The study "women, planning and policy in Malawi", and "guide to the preparation and implementation of projects on women" as well as several of the relevant technical publications produced during the biennium were used in developing the material for these courses.

In an effort to correct the image of women in Africa, presented by the media, ECA organized with UNESCO a regional seminar on women and decision-making in the media, in Addis Ababa, from 11 to 14 February 1985. Participants from 15 English-speaking countries of the region, who were high-level government officials dealing with the media, information specialists and media professionals discussed ways and means of improving the manner in which the media portrays women as well as the closely related issue of the participation of women in decision-making in the media. Recommendations made at the meeting were presented by UNESCO to the World Conference on the United Nations Decade for Women (Nairobi, July 1985).

The following studies were completed on women and the law: "women and the law in Ghana", "law and the status of women in Uganda"; "le statut de la femme au Cameroun"; "le droit et la condition de la femme en République centrafricaine", and "le droit et la condition de la femme au Zaïre". A comparative analysis of the studies will be undertaken in 1986 along with further work on the legal situation of women with special attention to the implementation in Africa of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women.

During the period under review, the fifth and sixth meetings of the Africa Regional Co-ordinating Committee for the Integration of Women in Development (ARCC) were held from 14 to 16 May 1984 and from 15 to 17 April 1985 in Addis Ababa respectively. The meetings considered preparatory activities towards the holding of the World Conference on the United Nations

Decade for Women held in July 1985. In addition, the fifth meeting of the Committee, inter alia, continued its discussion of suitable institutional arrangements for governing relations between the various organs established to promote the integration of women in development. It also considered the mobilization of women for response to natural disasters. A number of ways in which women could participate in the implementation of the plan of action adopted by the ECA/OAU/UNDRO Regional Meeting on Natural Disaster Prevention and Preparedness in Africa (Addis Ababa, 23 to 24 February 1984) were suggested. The meeting also considered the link between the mobilization of women to deal with natural disasters and the role of women in alleviating the food crisis.

That regional preparatory meeting which was also the regional conference on the integration of women in development was held in Arusha, the United Republic of Tanzania from 8 to 12 October 1984. The meeting, which was jointly organized by ECA and OAU, was attended by 39 member States as well as nine States from outside the Africa region as observers.

The meeting reviewed and appraised the achievements of, and obstacles encountered in the United Nations Decade for Women in the Africa region and adopted the Arusha Strategies for the Advancement of Women in Africa which spells out strategies for enhancing the role of women in priority areas. The meeting also worked out a common African stand on the issues before the World Conference, especially the question of women and apartheid.

The meeting was followed by a Donors Roundtable held on 13 October 1984 to identify key areas of intervention by actual and potential donors in the implementation of the strategies.

Since its adoption at the meeting, the Arusha Strategies have been published as a separate pamphlet. These strategies, which were subsequently endorsed by the eleventh meeting of the ECA Conference of Ministers, had significant impact in shaping the Forward-Looking Strategies that were adopted by the World Conference on the Decade for Women on 27 July 1985.

It is a well-known fact that the majority of women in the region are in the informal sector and are self-employed. Thus, women engaged in small businesses of their own need to improve their knowledge in marketing and business management, accounting, production and design, access to credit, etc. Unfortunately, admission to existing training institutes in these fields requires high levels of academic education which most women do not have. In an attempt to tackle the problem, the ATRCW developed a curriculum package geared to women's special needs. It also mounted training courses in collaboration with existing institutions in the region. With funds provided by the Swedish International Development Agency, a curriculum workshop was organized from 14 to 18 August 1984 at the College of Adult and Distant Education in Nairobi, Kenya, for English-speaking countries. It was attended by the Kenya Women's Bureau, National Chamber of Commerce

and Industry in Kenya and the African Association for Literacy and Adult Education. A second workshop was organized from 27 to 30 November 1984 in Abidjan at the Centre ivoirien de gestion des entreprises (CIGE) for French-speaking countries. The Centre d'assistance et de promotion de l'entreprise nationale (CAPEW), the Group d'epargne mutuel centre de perfectionnement audio visual and the Ministère de la condition Feminine participated in the workshop.

Two training workshops on women in entrepreneurship were organized in Kenya from 15 April to 21 June 1985 and from 14 October to 20 December 1985 respectively for participants from English-speaking African countries; and another two in the Republic of Côte d'Ivoire for French-speaking African countries from 25 February to 3 May 1985 and from 20 May to 26 July 1985 respectively. In all, 22 women from English-speaking countries and 28 from French-speaking countries covering the 50 ECA member States participated in the workshops.

The special programme for women in the least developed countries, newly independent countries and national liberation movements continued in the period under review. In response to requests for assistance from national liberation movements, a mission was undertaken in September 1984 to SWAPO Women Settlements in Zambia to study the possibility of developing income-generating and enterprise-training projects for Namibian women in those settlements. A project was prepared and submitted to the SWAPO Women's Council for consideration. The project is to be implemented in co-operation with UNICEF and ILO in Zambia. Based on two case studies of textile industries in Zaire and Burundi, an interregional seminar on development and management of women textile co-operatives was organized for French-speaking countries in Mali from 14 October to 1 November 1985. The seminar was intended to assist women in improving the quality of their products as well as to acquire better management skills. Participants from the seminar came from Burundi, the Congo, Chad, Guinea, the Republic of Côte d'Ivoire, Togo and Senegal.

For a long period, language barriers impeded efforts to help Portuguese-speaking countries. In August 1984, a United Nations volunteer from Guinea-Bissau joined the subprogramme on the integration of women in development. Following fact-finding missions in Angola, Mozambique and Sao Tome and Principe, three project documents were developed for consideration by the countries concerned and submitted to UNDFW for funding in 1985. If funds are procured in 1986, assistance to Portuguese-speaking countries will be enhanced. As stated above, the newsletter ATRCW Update was published in Portuguese for the first time in 1985. It is planned to publish two issues in that language each year.

Operational programmes designed to assist low-income women were carried out as follows: technology improvement in fish smoking and preservation

(Republic of Côte d'Ivoire); upgrading of traditional techniques in tie-dye (Togo, Senegal and Republic of Côte d'Ivoire); training in optimal nutritional use of food donated for relief, and placement of two national volunteers to set up day-care programmes in the context of the relief and rehabilitation programme of Ethiopia.

STATISTICS

As in previous years, the activities under the statistics programme have focused on the continuous review of statistical organization problems in the African region and the provision of institutional support to national statistical offices. The programme for the biennium 1984-1985 consisted of three subprogrammes: statistical development, economic statistics and consensus and surveys. Within this framework, the major ongoing programmes to respond to the needs of national statistical services include: the statistical data base, the Statistical Training Programme for Africa (STPA), the National Accounts Capability Programme, the Regional Advisory Service in Demographic Statistics (RASDS), and the African Household Survey Capability Programme (AHSCP).

Statistical development

The third session of the Joint Conference of African Planners, Statisticians and Demographers was held in March 1984. Thirty-eight ECA member States participated. In addition to the three disciplines - planners, statisticians and demographers - represented at the previous session, a fourth group, specialists in informatics and documentation participated. Among the reports and studies presented to the Joint Conference were a progress report and selected issues on the African Household Survey Capability Programme; a report on the development of the ECA statistical data base; and a review of African statistical services.

Work has continued in the development of the statistical data base. During the biennium 1984-1985, activities have focused on computerization of the statistical yearbook under level III; and work under level II has been mainly in connection with trade statistics.

As in the past, computer printouts and special statistical tables on national accounts, finance, prices, external trade, industry, agriculture, transport and communications, tourism, distributive trade, demographic and social conditions were issued twice each year.

The secretariat, in collaboration with the United Nations Statistical Office, continued to reprocess external trade statistics in standard quantity and unit values. Foreign Trade Statistics for Africa, Series A: Direction of Trade; and Series C: Summary Tables were published as planned, while Series B: Trade by Commodity has been discontinued.

Work on the development of data base series in other economic statistics such as production and trade in agriculture/commodities, the public sector and external transactions has also continued.

The African Statistical Yearbook, African Economic Indicators and Statistical Information Bulletin Nos. 16 and 17 were issued.

A seminar on the development of statistical data bases for English-speaking African countries was held in September/October 1984, at which representatives of four ECA member States and a number of observers participated.

Under the Statistical Training Programme for Africa (STPA), the secretariat prepared guide syllabuses for professional statistical training for use at participating training centres, and for in-service training for the use of Portuguese-speaking African countries. Numbers 6, 7, 8 and 9 of STPA News were also prepared and distributed.

The secretariat organized and serviced the fourth meeting of directors of centres participating in STPA which was held in Addis Ababa from 4 to 8 November 1985. This meeting considered and made recommendations on the following topics: evaluation of STPA and future work programmes; impact of guide syllabuses for training at STPA centres, other training centres and statistical offices; co-operative development of teaching programmes; special assistance to Portuguese-speaking African countries in the field of statistical training; technical and financial assistance in the field of statistical training; and dissemination of information on training activities. The report of the meeting is available in document E/ECA/PSD.4/20.

Economic statistics

Work in economic statistics centred on national accounts, finance and prices, agriculture, industry, transport and communications and tourism statistics, with national accounts, agriculture and industry statistics being the main features of the overall subprogramme. As the African region plunged into economic crisis resulting from, among other things, unmanageable foreign debt, drought and global recession, the need for up-to-date and comprehensive statistical data for proper planning and better management of African economies became urgent during the biennium 1984-1985.

In recognition of the great dearth of statistical data for monitoring and evaluating economic performance of member States, the ECA National Accounts Capability Programme (NACP) was established in December 1982. Advisory services have been provided to 22 countries under the programme with added attention to African least developed countries and newly independent countries.

The vacancy of the post of regional adviser in national accounts from July 1984 to June 1985 caused a reduction in the level of advisory services to member States in this area during the biennium. Problems addressed by the advisory services include availability of basic economic data and their reliability, conceptual and methodological problems

encountered by national staff in constructing the national accounts, types of surveys and other enquiries for filling data gaps, timeliness of the data, on-the-job training, and capability building as against ad hoc technical assistance.

Work on country and regional estimates of national accounts was carried out in close collaboration with the advisory services. Co-operation between the World Bank and the secretariat in this area was greatly strengthened, and a number of joint World Bank/ECA technical assistance missions to ECA member States was undertaken.

In the area of industrial statistics, advisory services were provided to member States in applying the international recommendations for improving the coverage and timeliness of their data and publications, and in setting up integrated industrial statistical systems.

A meeting on the International Comparison Project (ICP), Africa-Phase IV, was held in Addis Ababa in March 1984 under the joint sponsorship of the Statistical Office of the European Economic Communities and ECA. Twenty-two experts from 20 African countries participated in the meeting which made recommendations to the third session of the Joint Conference of African Planners, Statisticians and Demographers on the integration of ICP in national statistical programmes.

Two workshops on national accounts, one each for French-speaking and English-speaking countries, were held in September/October 1984. The workshops were attended by 27 participants from 14 countries. Among the topics addressed at the workshops was the ongoing review and revision of the United Nations System of National Accounts scheduled to be completed by 1990. Recommendations as to how the revision of the system could reflect the special circumstances of statistical development in the African region were made.

Censuses and surveys

Established at the beginning of 1978 as a sequel to the African Census Programme, the Regional Advisory Service in Demographic Statistics, the Pan-African Documentation and Information System has continued to provide technical support to projects in the region concerned with population censuses, demographic surveys and expansion, and improvement of civil registration and vital statistics systems. With funding by UNFPA, six regional advisers, one each in demographic statistics for French- and English-speaking African countries, one cartographer each for the two language groups, one civil registration adviser for French-speaking African countries, and one data processing adviser have continued to provide advisory services to a large number of African countries. During the period under review about 100 missions were carried out by this team.

Advisory services were also undertaken in support of national civil registration projects.

To satisfy the requirements for more integrated and continuing supply of demographic, social and economic data on households and household members, the African Household Survey Capability Programme (AHSCP) was initiated in 1978 with the support of UNDP. In spite of funding problems in 1985, the two experts attached to this programme have provided technical assistance to Benin, Botswana, Cameroon, Djibouti, Kenya, Malawi, Mauritania, Rwanda, Somalia, the Sudan, Zaire, Zambia and Zimbabwe. So far, 18 African countries are participating in the Household Survey Capability Programme, with 11 of them fully operational.

A training workshop on household surveys was held in Lusaka from 1 to 6 October 1984 with participation at the level of directors of national statistical offices or surveys. The meeting, jointly sponsored by the Commonwealth Fund for Technical Co-operation and ECA in collaboration with the Government of Zambia, was attended by 14 participants from Commonwealth African countries and one participant from the Sudan.

The secretariat continued its activities in methodological studies and workshops on demographic data collection. In this connection, a regional workshop on census taking for French-speaking countries and the use of statistical software packages was held in Yaounde, Cameroon, from 1 to 26 October 1984 in which 24 experts from 15 African countries participated. Also a bilingual working group on the development of civil registration systems and vital statistics collection in Africa was held in October 1985 with the financial support of UNFPA. Twenty-five participants from 21 ECA member States attended.

As the executing agency for the UNFPA funded project on demographic statistics in UDEAC, ECA continued to monitor and provide directives for the activities of the project experts.

TRANSPORT, COMMUNICATIONS AND TOURISM

The biennium 1984-1985 marked the beginning of the second phase of the United Nations Transport and Communications Decade in Africa. It would be recalled that the main objective of the Decade is the complete physical integration of the region through the promotion and development of integrated infrastructures; the formulation and implementation of harmonized transport and communication regulations and rules on a subregional and regional basis; the minimization and facilitation of procedures, to permit easier access to land-locked countries and isolated regions, including the faster movement of persons and goods; and the promotion of the development of basic transport and communications industries in Africa. The programme for the second phase of the Decade had provided the focus of action by the secretariat during the period under review.

Activities carried out under the programme were organized around the following subprogrammes: general and multimodal transport, maritime transport, inland water transport and ports, land transport, air transport, tourism and communications. The accomplishments of the secretariat in respect of these areas are reviewed in the first part of the report below under implementation of specific projects. In the second part, the general features of the second phase programme as well as the efforts devoted to the mobilization of resources for the implementation of the programme are reviewed.

A. Implementation of specific projects

General and multimodal transport

The secretariat, in collaboration with UNCTAD, rendered assistance to the Preferential Trade Area (PTA) for Eastern and Southern African States in the preparation of a project document and of the terms of reference of a study on prospects for establishing a multinational coastal shipping line in the subregion. The draft terms of reference were approved at the meeting of the PTA Transport and Communications Committee held in Lusaka, Zambia, from 23 to 25 May 1985. The report of a similar study entitled "Creation of multimodal coastal shipping for North Africa" (ECA/MULPOC/TANGIER/VII/7) was completed for consideration by the member States of the North African subregion through the Council of Plenipotentiaries of the Tangier MULPOC.

A two-week seminar on transport statistics organized and conducted in collaboration with the Ecole nationale des ponts et chaussées (ENPC) of Paris, France, for government experts was held from 11 to 22 June 1984 in Addis Ababa. Twenty-two participants from 18 African countries participated in the seminar whose objective was to expose the experts to the need and techniques for developing satisfactory transport statistics for planning the sector.

A study on harmonization and co-ordination of transport modes in Africa based on information collected on subregional basis was undertaken in response to General Assembly resolution 38/150 on the Transport and Communications Decade in Africa. The objective of the study is to establish a rational integrated transport system in Africa that can respond to existing and potential transport demand, promote the development of intra-African trade and contribute to the economic and social integration of the African region.

The following reports were presented to the 1985 meetings of the policy organs of the Lusaka MULPOC: Progress report on activities in the field of inland water transport [ECA/MULPOC/Lusaka/VIII/8(a)]; Joint ECA/PMAESA report on training needs and facilities in the ports of Eastern and Southern Africa; [ECA/MULPOC/Lusaka/VIII/8(b)]; and Progress report on the implementation of the first phase of the Decade programme [ECA/MULPOC/Lusaka/VIII/8(d)].

A report on the co-ordination of the activities of national and multinational airlines in West Africa (ECA/MULPOC/NIA/XXX) was presented to the seventh meeting of experts of the Niamey MULPOC held in Conakry, Guinea, in January 1984.

At the request of the Gisenyi MULPOC, a document on co-ordination of airlines activities and identification of viable links (ECA/MULPOC/Gisenyi/VI) was prepared and presented during the Gisenyi MULPOC experts meeting in Kinshasa, Zaire, in March 1984.

Assistance was provided to the Eastern and Southern African Management Institute (ESAMI) in Arusha, the United Republic of Tanzania, through lectures delivered at two training courses for senior and middle management staff on problems of railway and port management.

A course on railway management performance improvement was organized in collaboration with ESAMI and the Union of African Railways. The course, which was attended by nine participants from four countries, was held at ESAMI from 26 August 1985 to 20 September 1985. The objective of the course was to provide participants the opportunity to acquire, through lectures and interaction with experts from other countries, knowledge and practical skills as well as an appreciation of the experiences with railway management systems that have undergone adjustment and structural change, so that they may be in a better position to advise on policies and/or make better policy investment, operational and pricing decisions and thus ensure that their own railways play their transport role efficiently and effectively.

The fourth meeting of the Conference of African Ministers of Transport, Communications and Planning was held in Conakry, Guinea, in February 1984. In addition to servicing the meeting and that of the experts, reports were submitted on the following subjects: The Paris Round Table meeting

(DEC/TRANSCOM/CM/IV/1); Implementation of the first phase of the Decade programme (DEC/TRANSCOM/CM/IV/2); Follow-up action on resolutions adopted by the third Conference of African Ministers of Transport, Communications and Planning, the ninth meeting of the ECA Conference of Ministers, the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC), and the General Assembly, (DEC/TRANSCOM/CM/IV/3); Preparation of the second phase programme of the Decade (DEC/TRANSCOM/CM/IV/4); Preparation of the fifth, sixth and seventh technical consultative meetings (DEC/TRANSCOM/CM/IV/5).

Work on the Transport Master Plan continued during the biennium with the Government of Brazil providing two consultants who prepared the terms of reference for the study. UNDP and the Government of Brazil provided funds for the activities carried out by the experts.

Maritime transport, inland water transport and ports

Assistance was rendered to various Port Management Associations in designing way and means of greater co-operation among them in the improvement of port and shipping activities and services so as to satisfy shipping demands.

A seminar on port operations organized and conducted in collaboration with UNCTAD was held in Leningrad, the USSR, from 30 July to 12 August 1984 for port personnel from Africa. Forty-one experts from 27 African countries participated. The objective of the seminar was to expose African experts to the organization and methods of management and operations of ports in the USSR so that they could use such experience to improve their professional and managerial competence and skills. Participants recommended that the seminar should be conducted on an annual basis.

In connection with Ethiopia's project on the "Improvement of navigability and development of inland water transport on the Baro and Akobo rivers" which includes inland water lakes, the secretariat prepared a report for the Government, which highlighted actions to be taken to improve the present inland water situation in Ethiopia.

A technical publication entitled "Training Programme Handbook for Dock Workers and Supervisors in African Ports" was prepared and distributed to member States as part of the secretariat's efforts to assist them to improve the productivity of dock workers.

Land transport

A report (TRANS/TCAH/84/4) on the general alignment and final itinerary of the Trans-Central African (North-South) Highway was prepared for the Trans-Central African Highway Co-ordinating Committee. Substantive servicing was also provided to the inaugural meeting of the Committee which was held in Bangui, the Central African Republic, from 26 to 29 June 1984.

The first Road Safety Congress in Africa was jointly organized by ECA and the Nordic countries (report E/ECA/TRANS/18). The Congress, which was held from 17 to 30 August 1984 in Nairobi, was attended by participants from 32 countries from Africa, Asia, Europe and the United States of America and by six United Nations and intergovernmental organizations. The objective of the Congress was to make African countries aware of the consequences of road accidents to the economy in terms of fatalities, injuries and property damage which are estimated to absorb about 2 per cent of GNP in Africa annually. Some of the recommendations for action were the need to strengthen road safety efforts including the creation of road safety councils in each country. It concluded also that appropriate government and civic agencies review present road traffic legislations and their enforcement with a view to revising and strengthening them where necessary and ensuring their appropriate enforcement.

Advisory services were rendered to the Government of Morocco in its review of progress on the studies on the construction of a fixed Europe-Africa connection across the Strait of Gibraltar, which is being promoted by the Spanish-Moroccan Committee and the representatives of the Economic Commission for Europe (ECE).

At the request of the ECOWAS secretariat, a report (E/CN.14/TRANS/154/Rev.1) on the establishment of a West African Highway Association was prepared for consideration by the member States of the Community.

The annual meeting of the Governing Council of the Cairo-Gaborone Trans-East African Highway Authority (TEAHA) held in Harare, Zimbabwe, from 5 to 8 May 1985 was serviced. The meeting considered the inception report on the prefeasibility study of the Trans-East African Highway, which was prepared by a group of consultants with the financial support of the Government of Canada.

ECA participated in the organization and servicing of the joint ECA/ADB/World Bank Seminar on Highway Maintenance which was held in two sessions for two separate groups of countries (English-speaking and French-speaking) in Abidjan from 11 to 14 and 17 to 21 June 1985 respectively.

The objective of the Seminar, which was attended by 63 participants from 27 African countries, was to expose the relevant experts to the need and measures for highway maintenance with a view to encouraging them to carry it out at the national level. Some of the factors identified and discussed as being responsible for poor highway maintenance were inadequate funding for road maintenance; insufficient utilization of available funds and resources; lack of trained and experienced personnel at all levels; lack of incentives for maintenance staff; and lack of skills in the field of road management system.

In the areas of railway transport, the secretariat provided assistance to countries in Central and West Africa and to the Union of African Railways (UAR) on policy-making, planning and preparation of programmes and projects in the field of railways.

Air transport

In this area, assistance was given to the CEPGL countries in the preparation of the terms of reference for the creation of a multinational cargo company.

In this connection, a seminar on air transport for the CEPGL countries was organized. The seminar considered the current situation of air transport in the subregion; identified the problems which hamper the development of air transport services among the CEPGL countries on the one hand and between CEPGL countries and other States on the other; examined the recommendations included in the study carried out under the United Nations Transport and Communications Decade in Africa (UNTACDA) on optimum development of air services between CEPGL States and agreed on the terms of reference of a study financed by the Institute du transport aérien of France on the establishment of a joint air cargo company for CEPGL countries. Among the recommendations of the seminar were the need to elaborate a common air transport policy for the three States; resume the exploitation of air services between the three States especially those that were previously stopped; and establish a permanent inter-company committee to deal with specific problems of air transport co-ordination and co-operation.

The secretariat rendered advice to the African Civil Aviation Commission (AFCAC) and the African Airlines Association (AFRAA) on the implementation of their work programmes and provided information on progress in the implementation of the programme for the United Nations Transport and Communications Decade in Africa.

In collaboration with OAU, AFCAC and AFRAA, the secretariat organized a Conference on Freedoms of the Air in accordance with resolution ECA/UNTACDA/Res.79/6 of the Conference of African Ministers of Transport, Communications and Planning and United Nations General Assembly resolution 38/150 which called on African States to facilitate the granting of the fifth freedom rights to African airlines. The Conference, which took place at Mbabane, Swaziland, from 19 to 23 November 1984, was attended by 90 participants from 19 African countries, 14 African airlines and nine United Nations and intergovernmental organizations and considered the following documents: Report to the Conference on Freedoms of the Air in Africa on Facilitation (TRANS/AIR/CONF/84/8); Inadequacy of the African air services network (TRANS/AIR/CONF/84/4); Impact of the fifth freedom (TRANS/AIR/CONF/84/6); and Elimination of obstacles to the development of air transport in Africa (TRANS/AIR/CONF/84/7/d).

The Conference adopted the Mbabane Declaration on African Air Transport which, inter alia, requested ECA to establish a technical committee on air transport.

Tourism

The Regional Conference on Tourism was organized in collaboration with the World Tourism Organization (WTO) in Niamey, the Niger, from 2 to 6 October 1984. The Conference considered the following documents: Tourism trends in Africa (CRCIAT/84/3); Accommodation in Africa: Characteristics, development and adaptation to market (CRCIAT/84/5); The state of facilitation - desired measures (CRCIAT/84/7); Transport modes: Air, road, rail, sea, river and lake (CRCIAT/84/8); Development of human resources for tourism employment (CRCIAT/84/9); The function of tourism and movement of persons in Africa (CRCIAT/84/10); and Intra-African tourism co-operation (CRCIAT/84/11).

The Conference decided, among other things, to establish a Conference of African Ministers of Tourism which will convene every two years. It also requested the Executive Secretary of ECA and the Secretary-General of WTO to study the possibility of establishing an ad hoc machinery for co-ordinating the activities of regional and subregional tourism development institutions, and to make the necessary arrangements for convening the Conference of African Ministers of Tourism.

Communications

Significant progress has been made during the biennium in the implementation of the PANAFTEL project with two satellite earth stations and five microwave links being put into service. Several other links are also in the process of being installed. Now that the Botswana-Zimbabwe link has been put into service, it is possible to have direct telephone communications (without transiting through Europe) between Botswana and Djibouti as well as between the countries along the route. At its fifteenth meeting held in July 1984, the PANAFTEL Co-ordinating Committee noted that while considerable progress continued to be made in the implementation of the PANAFTEL network, attention needed to be focused on the maintenance of the network with administrations taking appropriate action to develop their maintenance structures and to ensure that their staff were given every opportunity to improve their knowledge of the equipment installed.

During the period under review, the Inter-Agency Co-ordinating Committee (IACC) on the Regional African Satellite Communications System concentrated on resource mobilization for the implementation of the feasibility study of the System.

IACC held its ninth and tenth meetings and organized a consultation meeting with potential donors and financial institutions at which eight

countries and 15 organizations participated. The Committee has reached agreement on the terms of reference and organization of the feasibility study. It has also secured \$US\$600,000 from UNDP, and was promised seed money for the project by UNESCO. The African Development Bank (ADB) has also offered to finance part of the feasibility study through a concessionary loan from its technical assistance account. This offer, which has been accepted by the Committee, is seen as providing a nucleus for attracting funds for, as well as an assurance of, African participation in financing the study, which would ensure the impartiality of the study and a safeguard of Africa's interest.

EEC has also restated its interest in the project and has announced its offer to finance, in totality, the cost of the study within the framework of Lome II Convention. The terms and conditions of the offer are however not in conformity with resolution ECA/UNTACDA/Res.83/26 of the Conference of African Ministers of Transport, Communications and Planning. Negotiations are accordingly in progress with EEC on the terms and conditions of the offer.

In spite of these efforts, it is unfortunate to note that parallel moves are still being made to undertake a study of the Regional African Satellite Communications System outside the framework of IACC.

In collaboration with the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany, a seminar on planning of rural telecommunications networks was organized in Addis Ababa from 17 to 22 September 1984.

The seminar, whose objective was to exchange views, expertise and skills between representatives of industrialized countries and telecommunication experts from African countries on major problems of telecommunications infrastructure usable in the rural areas, was attended by 22 participants from 15 African countries and 15 others representing 11 broadcasting equipment manufacturers and international organizations.

Within the framework of co-operation arrangement between ECA and the Government of Brazil, begun in 1985, a report was prepared in collaboration with the Brazilian Government on "The state of the Pan-African Telecommunications Network and measures for its improvement" (E/ECA/TCTD/84/310). The report assesses the current state of PANAFTEL and examines measures for its future improvement including the areas in which Brazil could provide assistance. The report was submitted to member States, African intergovernmental organizations and the Government of Brazil for their comments and use.

The secretariat participated in and presented a paper at each of the following meetings: the eighteenth annual Regional African Telecommunications Conference for Eastern and Southern Africa; Brazil/Africa Telecommunications Seminar; and the first World Telecommunications Development Conference.

A co-operation agreement between the Pan-African Telecommunications Union (PATU) and ECA was signed.

In the area of postal services, the secretariat, in collaboration with the Universal Postal Union (UPU), has continued work on the study on the development of rural postal services. A report on the subject was prepared and presented at the conference of the Pan-African Postal Union (PAPU) held in Harare in 1984.

A report on the standardization of postal regulations and harmonization of postal tariffs was also prepared and presented at the 1984 PAPU conference.

B. United Nations Transport and Communications Decade in Africa

The programme for the second phase of the United Nations Transport and Communications Decade in Africa was adopted and launched by the Conference of African Ministers of Transport, Communications and Planning at its fourth meeting held in Conakry, Guinea, from 7 to 11 February 1984 amidst high expectations that the forthcoming five years could see a marked improvement in the execution of the Decade programme.

Whereas the first phase had been characterized by hasty preparation of the programme, with some countries submitting projects in large numbers in the hope that substantial international assistance would flow towards Africa, the programme for the second phase had been prepared with more care and with the advantage of early conception in order not to repeat the mistakes made during the first phase.

Thus, in June 1983, a Round Table meeting involving highly placed individuals from some industrialized countries and Africa was organized in Paris to evaluate the performance of the first phase and to advise on a realistic programme for the second phase. Among the recommendations of the Paris Round Table was that the new programme should be seen to address itself to the major issues facing transport development in Africa, particularly the maintenance and rehabilitation of existing transport infrastructure and training and technical assistance to enhance the better management of transport enterprises.

The third meeting of the Conference of African Ministers of Transport, Communications and Planning, held in March 1983 in Cairo, had also previously given very clear guidelines for the acceptance of projects into the second phase programme. The Ministers had directed, *inter alia*, that only projects that were included in national development plans, or, if regional, were strongly committed to by governments, would be considered.

The programme that was finally prepared and adopted by the Conference of African Ministers of Transport, Communications and Planning at its fourth meeting in 1984 amounted to \$US18 billion. Its main areas of emphasis are

maintenance and rehabilitation, training and technical assistance, inter-State links, regional and subregional projects and projects which, while purely national in character, are of such high priority that they ought to be included in the programme.

Technical consultative meetings continued to be the main fund-raising method for implementing the Decade programme. In 1984, two such meetings organized to seek financing of about \$US1.7 billion (roads \$US624.3 million, shipping \$US353 million and ports \$US727.28 million) only obtained expressed donors' interest in projects totalling \$US178 million or 10.44 per cent of the funds sought (\$US117.3 million or 19 per cent for road projects, \$US60.7 million or 8 per cent for port projects and none for shipping projects).

The sixth Technical Consultative Meeting, the first ever devoted exclusively to broadcasting projects in Africa and which sought to mobilize additional financial resources for this subsector within the Decade programme, was held from 4 to 6 June 1984 in Harare, Zimbabwe. The proposals submitted to the meeting contained 88 broadcasting projects, grouped into five categories, namely rehabilitation and maintenance, training, technical assistance, regional and national projects. The total estimated cost was \$US393 million out of which 20 per cent had either been locally earmarked or externally secured.

The total amount of funds which donors declared were likely to be available from them if member States concerned took the necessary initiative, was \$US59.70 million, that is 16.2 per cent of the total resources required for financing the broadcasting programme of the second phase.

The seventh Technical Consultative Meeting on projects relating to postal services, air transport and railways included in the second phase programme was convened in Brazzaville, the Congo, from 25 to 28 November 1985.

A total of 134 postal projects at an estimated cost of \$US527.2 million were submitted, 24 of which, at an estimated cost of \$US40.1 million or 7.6 per cent of the total cost of all the projects, attracted the interest of donors; 91 air transport projects at an estimated cost of \$US974.1 million were also submitted, out of which 24, at an estimated cost of \$US157.2 million or 16.1 per cent of the cost of all projects in the subsector, appeared to have prospects of being supported. In the railways subsector, the meeting considered 84 projects including some from phase I of the Decade, at an estimated cost of \$US5.6 billion. Interest was expressed in only 13 projects at an estimated cost of \$US460 million, or 8.2 per cent of the total cost of the subsector.

During the period under review, various donors and financial institutions as shown below provided financial support for the development of transport and communications in Africa.

The World Bank provided \$US463.7 million for transport out of which \$US390.2 million was for road construction, maintenance and rehabilitation; \$US66.0 million for railway rehabilitation; and \$US7.5 million for port improvement. The Bank also provided \$US28.0 million for telecommunications in Africa.

For these projects additional co-financing was provided by the African Development Bank to the tune of \$US85.1 million; the Arab Bank for Economic Development in Africa, \$US90 million; the Kuwait Fund for Arab Economic Development \$US5.1 million; the Caisse centrale de coopération économique (France) \$US6.25 million; Belgium \$US5.85 million; and the International Development Agency of the United States of America \$US3.1 million.

The assistance contributed substantially to the development of transport and communications in Africa although most of the resources provided were not directly related to the Decade programme. Similarly the resources allocated to telecommunications were only for one country.

In addition to the co-financing with the World Bank, the Arab Bank for Economic Development in Africa also provided \$US43.25 million for transport in Africa, out of which \$US24.0 million was for road construction and rehabilitation; \$US15.25 million for railways; and \$US4.0 million for air transport.

UNDP, in addition to financing the activities of the Decade Co-ordination Unit in ECA, also provided \$US57.0 million for the period 1983-1986 for the development of transport and communications in Africa. From this assistance, \$US23.1 million was for national projects in the transport sector, \$US11.5 million for communications and \$US22.4 million for regional projects in both subsectors.

Other donors and financial institutions have either provided or promised financial support for the development of transport and communications in Africa during the period under review although it was not possible to obtain information on the exact amount. Indeed, in addition to the financing of projects, some donors provided assistance directly to ECA for studies and training activities as well as for the co-ordinating functions of UNTACDA.

Thus, the Italian Government has agreed in principle to finance the African Highway Master Plan study which will cover the entire continent, and will be used for co-ordinating and harmonizing the road planning processes at the national and subregional levels. The Government of Canada has committed itself to financing the prefeasibility study of the Cairo-Gaborone Trans-East African Highway (TEAH), which is primarily designed to identify the missing links in the TEAH and determine the technical and financial resources required to upgrade those links, so as to provide an all-weather access on the entire Cairo-Gaborone Highway.

A technical co-operation agreement between ECA and the Government of Brazil, the first of its kind with a developing country in the field of transport and communications, was signed in 1984. Under this agreement, the joint study to evaluate the performance of PANAFTEL Network and the strategy for completing the network, setting up or strengthening existing operations and maintenance centres reported above was carried out in 1984.

The Government of India and the Pan-African Telecommunications Union (PATU), in collaboration with UNIDO, are in the process of defining a programme of assistance by India in the fields of training, telecommunications and the manufacture of telecommunication equipment. Arrangements are also being made for a regional seminar on the manufacture of telecommunication equipment for African countries.

The Governments of the Federal Republic of Germany, France and the USSR (in collaboration with UNDP) provided financing for the training seminars in rural telecommunication network planning, transport statistics, and ports operations respectively.

The ECOWAS Fund provided \$US5.0 million for the Freetown-Monrovia highway, 0.4 million ECUs for feasibility and detailed engineering studies of the Tapeta-Tobli-Kley highway, \$US0.11 million to Mali for a feasibility study of the Senegal-Kenieba-Kita-Bamako highway, \$US0.235 to Togo for an engineering study of the Ghana-Noepé-Agobanakin highway, and 1.5 million FCFA to Benin for the construction of the Mono-Sazue bridge.

Under bilateral co-operation arrangements between ECA and the Governments of France and the Federal Republic of Germany, two railway experts and one telecommunications expert, have been provided for the UNTACDA Co-ordination Unit.

CHAPTER IV

RESOURCES FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE WORK PROGRAMME AND PRIORITIES, 1984-1985

1. Introduction

In the preceding chapters and particularly in chapter III, the activities carried out by the Commission and its secretariat in the biennium 1984-1985 have been reported upon. In this chapter, the financial resources available for carrying out those activities are discussed with particular reference to their sources and allocation by programmes.

Basically, the resources available to the Commission and its secretariat are derived from two sources: regular budget and extrabudgetary. The regular budget resources are voted by the General Assembly of the United Nations on the basis of the activities proposed by the Secretary-General of the United Nations to be carried out in the biennium, in the light of the resources that are likely to be available to the United Nations and the importance which Member States through their representatives attach to those activities, taking into account the requirements of other regions of the world and of global entities. The proposals by the Secretary-General are based on the proposals made by the Executive Secretary of the Commission, in consultation with member States through the Conference of Ministers responsible for economic development and planning. As far as extrabudgetary resources are concerned, they are resources which the secretariat negotiates with bilateral donors, multilateral agencies and under special funds such as trust funds for implementing specific activities in which such donors show interest and for which they allocate resources accordingly. While the General Assembly is interested in the source and amount of such funds and so they must be programmed in the same way as regular budget resources are programmed, the determination of the amount of the funds and the conditions for their use are matters of negotiation between the donors and the secretariat of the Commission.

Another distinction which is also made between regular budget and extrabudgetary resources is that regular budget resources are meant to be used for the implementation of "substantive" activities, that is, the traditional activities of the United Nations, namely organization of "legislative organs" meetings, conducting research including data collection and analysis, preparation of reports and publications of technical documents, whereas extrabudgetary resources are meant for the implementation of "technical assistance and operational" activities, that is, activities designed to benefit member States directly, such as formulation and implementation of investment projects, organization of workshops, institution-building and advisory services.

This distinction cannot of course always be kept. Thus, the United Nations provides resources under the regular budget for technical co-operation activities and some donors sometimes provide resources to the secretariat in order to assist it to expand its substantive activities, although such support is understood to be on a temporary basis. Moreover, the use of resources invariably overlaps, since, apart from the possibility of co-financing under the two sources, operational activities are normally supervised by programme managers who are recruited and financed under the regular budget and followed up and monitored by project officers who are also recruited and financed under the regular budget. In the same vein, the services provided under legislative organs, executive direction and management, administration and common services, and conference services cover activities under the two sources of finance.

Therefore, the figures shown in this chapter are more meaningful in terms of sources of allocation than of end-use by programme allocation.

In the report on the 1982-1983 biennium, we expressed concern about the fact that extrabudgetary resources both in relation to themselves and to regular budget resources were falling. The situation deteriorated further in the biennium 1984-1985 (see tables 1 and 3). This was particularly the case with resources under the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the United Nations Trust Fund for African Development (UNTFAD) (table 3). Thus, the almost-at-par relationship between the regular budget and the extrabudgetary resources observed in the 1980-1981 biennium continued to be disturbed in the 1984-1985 biennium as it was in the biennium 1982-1983.

In order to highlight the features of the different sources of resources and their allocations, the components of the resources intended mainly for substantive activities during the biennium 1984-1985 with those for the biennium 1982-1983 shown for comparison are discussed by source in section 2, while section 3 is devoted to the discussion of their allocation by programme. Similarly, in section 4, the resources intended mainly for technical assistance and operational activities are discussed by source, whereas their allocation by source and programme is the subject of section 5. Section 6 deals with the allocation of the resources from the two sources by programme. The chapter concludes with an overview of resource availability during the two bienniums, particularly in the light of the changing climate of aid through multilateral channels.

2. Resources intended mainly for substantive activities by source, 1982-1983 and 1984-1985

Table 1: Resources intended mainly for substantive activities by source, 1982-1983 and 1984-1985

Source	1982-1983	1984-1985
	(US dollars)	
(a) Direct regular budget allocation by the General Assembly		
Section 13 Economic Commission for Africa	37 639 600	45 998 000
Section 28 Administration and management services	567 100	201 200
- Staff language training for ECA	(103 200)	(201 200)
- Translator training programme	(463 900)	-
Section 32 Construction, alteration, improvement and maintenance of premises	339 100	3 120 000
(b) Allocations through other United Nations units		
Section 9 Transnational corporations	489 200	380 500
Section 17 UNIDO	416 830	425 234
(c) Allocations by the specialized agencies of the United Nations		
Food and Agriculture Organization	1 335 000	1 560 000
Total	40 786 830	51 684 934

(a) Direct regular budget allocation by the General Assembly

The United Nations programme budget is divided into parts, sections and programmes. As indicated in the report on the biennium 1982-1983,

the bulk of the resources allocated to the Economic Commission for Africa comes from three sections - 13, 28 and 32 - based on the proposals made by the Executive Secretary (after consultation with the ECA Conference of Ministers) through the Secretary-General of the United Nations. Resources from section 13 - which constitute the largest - are voted directly by the General Assembly for implementing the substantive activities of the Commission and its secretariat. The resources from sections 28 and 32 represent ECA's shares from these sections which are managed directly from United Nations Headquarters, New York, for certain aspects of administration and management and for building and construction, including maintenance respectively.

As table 1 shows, allocation to section 13 in the biennium 1984-1985 was substantially more than the allocation in the biennium, 1982-1983. The increase was due mainly to the costs of the five new posts approved by the General Assembly including three infrastructure posts for the ECA Population Programme which UNFPA had financed up to 31 December 1983 but declined to finance thereafter. The other two posts were for food and agriculture, and energy and development programmes respectively in recognition of the priority which the Secretary-General attached to these two programmes during the biennium. The new post for food and agriculture was in fact for a specialist in post-harvest food losses in conformity with one of the principal objectives of the Lagos Plan of Action, namely to reduce post-harvest food losses by about 50 per cent within five years of the start of the Plan. Other factors responsible for the big increase were reclassifications of some existing posts to higher levels in recognition of the increased volume and quality of the tasks of the posts, currency fluctuations and inflations.

As far as section 28 was concerned, the only increase in the allocation was for language training for ECA staff, a reflection of the increased number of ECA staff who enrolled either in English, French or Arabic language classes. Participation by staff in language training is partly at the expense of the staff's time and partly at the expense of the Organization's time. The translator training programme was suspended during the biennium in order to allow the Commission to absorb first the trainees who were successful in their examinations since the supply was running ahead of the demand of the Commission.

The big increase in the allocation to construction, alteration, improvement and maintenance of premises under section 32 was due to increased activities in alteration, improvement and maintenance of premises and the initial allocation for planning the implementation of the project on expanded conference facilities.

(b) Allocations through other United Nations units

One of the methods of operation of the Commission is to have joint programmes with some other members of the United Nations system. Thus,

the Commission has joint programmes with the Centre on Transnational Corporations implemented by a joint unit, the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, implemented by a joint division and with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, implemented by a joint division. The figures shown represent the contributions of the organs and agencies to the implementation of the joint programmes.

The slight decrease in the contribution of the Centre on Transnational Corporations was due to the decreased number of seminars and workshops.

The contribution of UNIDO remained almost the same with the slight increase accounted for by normal increase of existing staff, inflation and currency fluctuations.

(c) Allocations by the specialized agencies of the United Nations

The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations is the only specialized agency of the United Nations with which ECA has a joint Division at present. The allocations by the Organization represent its contribution to the resources required for implementing the joint programme. The increase in 1984-1985 represented normal increase in the costs of maintaining the existing staff, and such other objects of expenditure as consultants, official travel and operating expenses as well as the effects of inflation and currency fluctuations.

3. Allocation of resources intended mainly for substantive activities by programme of activity, 1982-1983 and 1984-1985

Table 2: Allocation of resources intended mainly for substantive activities by programme of activity, 1982-1983 and 1984-1985

Programme	1982-1983	1984-1985
A. Policy-making organs	406 300	442 000
B. Executive direction and management	2 276 500	3 083 900
C. Programmes of activity		
Food and agriculture in Africa	2 588 400	2 981 300
Development issues and policies in Africa	5 902 500	7 118 300

Programme	1982-1983	1984-1985
- Socio-economic research and planning and least developed countries	2 388 850	21 142 445
- Policies, institutions and technical assistance for economic co-operation	2 638 750	4 172 080
- Management of economic co-operation and integration (ECO)	(1 350 100)	(1 338 130)
Gisenyi MULPOC	(112 750)	(338 130)
Lusaka MULPOC	(269 150)	(765 165)
Niamey MULPOC	(276 450)	(780 700)
Yaounde MULPOC	(149 600)	(454 685)
Tangiers MULPOC	(480 700)	(497 775)
Education and training and manpower planning	874 900	803 775
Environment in Africa	122 800	169 600
Human settlements in Africa	403 700	517 100
Industrial development in Africa	2 490 930	2 638 834
International trade and development finance in Africa	2 218 300	2 446 000
Transnational corporations	489 200	380 500
Natural resources in Africa	1 794 500	1 587 600
Energy and development in Africa	- a/	374 000
Population in Africa	401 600	1 030 500
Public administration and finance in Africa	904 900	988 80
Science and technology in Africa	484 900	725 300
Social development in Africa	1 341 100	1 244 000
Statistics in Africa	1 853 000	2 017 800
Transport, communications and tourism in Africa	2 973 800	4 212 900
D. Programme support		
Conference services	2 999 400	3 715 800
Management of technical co-operation activities	517 000	759 500

Programme	1982-1983	1984-1985
Administration and common services	10 278 900	12 092 500
Construction, alteration, improvement and maintenance of premises	339 100	3 158 700
Total	40 786 830	51 684 934

a/ Resources for 1982-1983 are included in the natural resources programme which included energy and development as a subprogramme in the biennium 1982-1983.

As table 2 shows, the largest allocation in the biennium 1984-1985 (\$US 12,092,500) was as in the biennium 1982-1983 (\$US 10,278,900) for administration and common services which comprise overall administration, personnel services, finance and budget services, medical, library, general and building management services, all of which constitute the major support services to the substantive and technical assistance and operational activities. The other support services such as conference services, and management of technical co-operation activities also accounted for \$US 3,715,800 (\$US 2,999,400) and \$US 759,500 (\$US 517,000) respectively. It will be observed that while only an amount of \$US 339,100 was allocated to construction, alteration, improvement and maintenance of premises in the biennium 1982-1983, the allocation to the same activities in the biennium 1984-1985 went up to \$US 3,158,700 because there were increased activities not only in alteration, improvement and maintenance of premises, but also in activities related to the proposed expanded conference facilities for the Commission.

The line entitled "Policy-making organs" represents the costs of organizing and servicing the meetings of the Commission's legislative organs such as the Conference of Ministers responsible for economic development and planning, which constitute the Commission when it is meeting, and the meetings of its Technical Preparatory Committee of the Whole. The costs of organizing and servicing the meetings of the sectoral conferences of ministers such as Conference of African Ministers of Transport, Communications and Planning, the Councils of Ministers of the MULPOCs, and of other subsidiary bodies of the Commission are shown with the costs of implementing the relevant activities.

Executive direction and management represent the costs of the activities of the Executive Secretary in directing and managing the work of the Commission and its secretariat, including the formulation and execution of programmes and maintaining liaison with member States. As the figures show, the costs were fairly stable during the two bienniums, the slight increase being a reflection of world inflationary situation and currency fluctuations.

The allocations to programmes of activity normally reflect the priority and importance attached to the different programmes, although,

owing to various factors such as the changing priority and importance over time, such perfect reflection may not always obtain. However, as the figures in the table indicate, there is no doubt that the figures allocated to development issues and policies in Africa which comprise macro-economic research, surveys, development planning, monetary and financial issues at the national level and the problems of the least developed African countries; policies, institutions and technical assistance for economic co-operation; and education and training for development and manpower and employment planning and policies reflect faithfully the importance of these areas in African development. This is particularly so when it is realized that the activities carried out under these areas cut across the substantive sectors such as food and agriculture, industry, transport and communications, etc.

However, what is significant in the allocations in this programme is the huge increase in the allocations to policies, institutions and technical assistance for economic co-operation as reflected in the allocations to the MULPOCs in the 1984-1985 biennium. As indicated in the report on the biennium 1982-1983, the activities of the core staff of the MULPOCs were financed from the regular budget effective 1 January 1983. The full effect of that change was felt for the first time in the biennium 1984-1985, particularly in the cases of the four MULPOCs based at Gisenyi, Lusaka, Yaounde and Niamey, where the new posts were located. The staff in the Tangier-based MULPOC had always been part of the existing staff of the secretariat.

Another programme that received a substantial increase in resource allocation was the transport, communications and tourism programme. The increase reflected the increased allocation by the General Assembly for the programme of the United Nations Transport and Communications Decade in Africa (UNTACDA) particularly in connection with the series of technical consultative meetings organized for the purpose of soliciting the interest of donors in projects in the specific transport and communications modes.

Similarly, in the case of the population programme, the huge increase reflects the decision of the General Assembly to absorb the "infrastructure" posts which the United Nations Fund for Population Activities had up to 31 December 1983 funded and refused to fund thereafter. Thus, the increase reflected a replacement of extrabudgetary resources with regular budget resources which in terms of availability of overall resources to the Commission, did not constitute additional resources to what were available in the biennium 1982-1983.

The slight increase in the allocation to food and agriculture represented, in addition to the normal increases in the costs of maintaining existing staff, the costs of the additional post for a specialist in post-harvest food losses which the General Assembly approved

for the biennium. On the other hand, the apparent decrease in the allocation to Natural Resources in Africa programme reflected the fact that in the biennium 1984-1985, energy was upgraded to the status of a programme whereas in the biennium 1982-1983, it was a subprogramme of the natural resources and energy programme.

4. Resources for technical assistance and operational activities by source, 1982-1983 and 1984-1985

Under normal circumstances, the volume of resources for technical assistance and operational activities should be a good measure of the capacity of the Commission as executing agency for the different donors - the General Assembly of the United Nations, the United Nations Development Programme, other multilateral donors, bilateral donors, etc., since it can easily be assumed that the more goods and services an executing agency delivers, the more it should be given to execute. Unfortunately, circumstances are not always normal particularly in the field of aid and technical assistance where, apart from economic considerations, the donor's policy represents a dominant factor. In the period under review, economic circumstances and donor policy did affect the volume of extrabudgetary resources available to us. This was particularly so in the cases of funding agencies of the United Nations, especially UNDP and of the special funds administered by the United Nations, particularly under the United Nations Trust Fund for African Development. The situation improved in the cases of the specialized agencies of the United Nations and of bilateral donors.

Table 3. Resources for technical co-operation and operational activities by source, 1982-1983 and 1984-1985

Source	1982-1983	1984-1985
	(US dollars)	
(a) General Assembly	2 910 600	2 953 200
United Nations Regular Programme of Technical Co-operation (UNRPTC)	2 910 600	2 953 200
(b) Funding agencies of the United Nations	22 656 593	18 675 651
(i) United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)	15 974 908	12 001 775

Source	1982-1983	1984-1985
	(US dollars)	
(ii) United Nations Fund for Population Activities (UNFPA)	6 071 780	6 295 076
(iii) United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO)	19 700	20 000
(iv) United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)	362 605	326 800
(v) United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)	227 600	32 000 a/
(c) Special funds administered by the United Nations	2 406 191	1 132 553
(i) United Nations Trust Fund for African Development (UNTFAD)	1 843 247	669 735
(ii) Voluntary Fund for the United Nations Decade for Women	416 402	365 960
(iii) Pledging for the United Nations Transport and Communications Decade in Africa	146 542	76 858
(iv) United Nations Sudano Sahelian Office	-	20 000
(d) United Nations Specialized agencies		
(i) Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)	50 363	94 000
(ii) World Maritime Organization	-	10 000
(iii) World Bank	-	8 500
(e) Organization of African Unity (OAU)	-	10 000

Source	1982-1983	1984-1985
	(US dollars)	
(f) OAU/CIDA/UNCSTD/UNFSSD		73 417
(g) Bilateral resources	4 110 593	5 467 353
(i) Belgium	453 223	983 258
(ii) Federal Republic of Germany	485 842	934 156
(iii) Finland	-	50 000
(iv) France	375 570	544 000
(v) The Netherlands	861 340	426 268
(vi) Norway	-	47 801
(vii) India	507 692	875 229
(viii) International Development Research Council of Canada (IDRC)	304 569	255 380
(ix) Swedish International Development Agency (SIDA)	473 331	725 511
(x) Swedish Agency for Research Co- operation with developing countries (SAREC)	-	4 979
(xi) United States Agency for International Development (USAID)	649 026	437 052
(xii) Ford Foundation	-	100 170
(xiii) Intergovernmental Committee for Migration (ICM)	-	83 549
Total	32 134 340	28 424 647

a/ Provided by ZONTA through UNICEF.

(a) The General Assembly of the United Nations

As it is, the allocation under the United Nations Regular Programme of Technical Co-operation (section 24) was stagnant in the two bienniums with the slight increase in the biennium 1984-1985 being a reflection of currency fluctuations and inflationary situation. In fact, the allocations have been stagnant for a long time with the result that the short-term specialized technical advisory services which they are meant to finance may eventually not be available.

(b) Funding agencies of the United Nations

(i) United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

UNDP continued to be the main donor to ECA's operational activities. However, while the allocations to the Commission in the biennium 1982-1983 were \$US 15,974,908, the allocation dropped to \$US 12,001,775 in the biennium 1984-1985 mainly because of reduced allocations to ongoing projects, following the financial difficulties which confronted the Organization during the biennium. The distribution of the allocations is shown in table 4.1.

(ii) United Nations Fund for Population Activities (UNFPA)

One of the components of UNFPA's contributions to ECA's operational activities was the financing of three "infrastructure" posts for the Commission's population programme. However, by decision 82/20 of 18 June 1982, the Governing Council of UNDP endorsed guidelines which, inter alia, called for the discontinuation by UNFPA of infrastructural support to its project-executing agencies, including the regional commissions. Thus, as from the biennium 1984-1985, that component of UNFPA's support to ECA's operational activities ceased.

However, despite that stoppage, the Fund's allocations to the Commission in the biennium 1984-1985 were still slightly higher than those of the biennium 1982-1983 both because the costs of the infrastructure posts were not too significant and because the Fund stepped up its financing of existing projects and financed some new activities.

(iii) United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO)

The allocations by UNIDO during the biennium 1984-1985 were hardly different from those of the biennium 1982-1983 because the activities supported remained on the same level.

(iv) United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)

Contributions by UNEP during the biennium 1984-1985 were slightly less than contributions during the biennium 1982-1983, because of reduced allocations to such objects of expenditure as travel and local level staff.

(v) United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)

During the biennium 1984-1985, UNICEF ceased supporting staff costs of ECA's operational activities in the areas in which UNICEF is interested. Unfortunately, there were not many technical assistance projects forthcoming for its financing. However, through the

Organization, the Commission was able to obtain the sum of \$US 32,000 from ZONTA, a world-wide classified service organization of over 33,000 executive women in business and the professions.

(c) Special funds administered by the United Nations

(i) United Nations Trust Fund for African Development (UNTFAD)

The most disappointing component of the resources for technical co-operation and operational activities was the United Nations Trust Fund for African Development. Indeed, the allocations under the UNTFAD during the biennium 1984-1985 were less than half of the allocations during the biennium 1982-1983. The serious fall in allocations under this Fund resulted not only from the severely reduced contributions by member States during the fifth Biennial Pledging Conference in 1985 but also from the fact that some members have not paid what they pledged during earlier pledging conferences. The figures shown for 1984-1985 include contributions to the Fund by non-African States such as India; and of the total pledgings of \$US 6,014,809 since 1977, \$US 2,171,232 are still outstanding as compared to \$US 2,075,786 outstanding at the end of 1983.

(ii) Voluntary Fund for the United Nations Decade for Women

The decrease in the allocation under this Fund reflected the decrease in the number of technical assistance projects submitted for funding in the biennium.

(iii) Pledging for the United Nations Transport and Communications Decade in Africa (UNTACDA)

Pledging for the United Nations Transport and Communications Decade in Africa also suffered during the biennium. The dwindling contributions to the programme of the Decade inevitably reflect the growing tendency of donors to prefer bilateral arrangements between them and member States rather than multilateral arrangements through the Commission, although as indicated below a few Governments continue to provide technical assistance to the programme through the Commission rather than make general cash contributions.

(iv) United Nations Sudano-Sahelian Office (UNSO)

The amount of \$US 20,000 contributed by the United Nations Sudano-Sahelian Office was an indication of the growing collaboration between that Office and the Commission to deal with the problems of drought and desertification in Africa.

(d) United Nations specialized agencies

(i) Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)

Apart from FAO's contributions to the resources for implementing the programme of the joint Division, the Organization occasionally provides extra resources for the execution of technical co-operation and operational projects. The small amount shown in the table shows the value of such projects.

(ii) World Meteorological Organization (WMO)

The small amount of \$US 10,000 contributed by WMO in the biennium 1984-1985 reflected the growing collaboration between the Organization and ECA in the area of drought and desertification control.

(iii) International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD the World Bank)

Apart from the increasing collaboration between the Commission and the World Bank particularly in the area of exchange of views on the problems of African development in general, the figure shown in the table represents the Bank's contribution to an operational activity in the field of statistics.

(e) Organization of African Unity (OAU)

In chapter VI below, much is said about the growing collaboration between the Organization of African Unity and ECA in assisting member States to deal with their development problems. The figure shown in the table represents the contribution of the Organization to the implementation of a particular operational activity in the field of environment.

(f) OAU/CIDA/UNCSTD/UNFSSD

The amount of \$US 73,417 shown in the table against these four organizations represents their joint financial contribution to the organization of a regional expert group meeting to assess the implications of new technologies for the Lagos Plan of Action.

(g) Bilateral resources

As far as bilateral donors were concerned, the fact was that more donors supported ECA activities in the biennium 1984-1985 than in the biennium 1982-1983 with almost all that contributed in the biennium 1982-1983 increasing their contributions in the biennium 1984-1985.

Indeed, bilateral financing has been and continues to be a significant feature of the voluntary contributions granted to the Commission in order to cover its activities, and its relevance is constantly increasing. Consequently, the Commission ascribes a great deal of importance to its co-operation with donor governments and organizations which have indeed continued to exhibit a profound commitment to its programmes covering all sectors of economic development.

Even though the resources allocated by bilateral donors and organizations have often invariably reflected particular fields of special interest and significance to them, the options shown by these donors indicate that generally their assistance to the Commission aims at fostering the socio-economic development of Africa. Moreover, the agreements which the Executive Secretary signed with some governments particularly in 1985 have shown clearly that if our case can be properly presented and our performance improved, more bilateral donors are likely to support the Commission's activities.

5. Resources for technical co-operation and operational activities, 1982-1983 and 1984-1985

Table 4.1. below shows the distribution of resources available for technical co-operation and operational activities by source and programme. The information on distribution by activities in effect shows the combined preference of donors and the Commission.

Table 4.1. Resources for technical co-operation and operational activities by source and programme, 1982-1983 and 1984-1985

Source and programme	1982-1983	1984-1985
	(US dollars)	
(a) General Assembly: United Nations Regular Programme for Technical Co-operation (UNRPTC)	2 910 600	2 953 200
1. Development issues and policies	979 000	1 074 700
- Economic surveys	(176 900)	(286 500)
- Policies, institutions and technical assistance for economic co-operation	(802 100)	(788 200)

	1982-1983	1984-1985
Source and programme	(US dollars)	
2. Public administration and finance	547 500	596 000
3. Energy and development in Africa	215 600	247 600
4. Social development in Africa	171 300	225 000
5. Statistics in Africa	190 700	226 500
6. Transport, communications and tourism in Africa	489 400	500 400
7. Administration and common services and others	317 100	83 000
(b) Funding agencies of the United Nations	22 656 593	18 675 651
1. United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)	15 974 908	12 001 775
a. Development issues and policies in Africa	6 743 387	3 868 896
(i) Socio-economic analysis and planning	(2 487 868)	(1 593 911)
(ii) Policies, institutions and technical assistance for economic co-operation	(1 900 000)	(754 618)
(iii) Education and training for development	(784 080)	-
(iv) Development Information System (PADIS)	(1 571 439)	(1 520 367)
b. Human settlements in Africa	488 000	65 000
c. Industrial development in Africa	600 000	987 325
d. International trade and development finance in Africa	595 000	32 018
e. Natural resources in Africa	1 316 900	686 338
f. Public administration and finance		-431 678
g. Science and technology	781 054	1 119 271
h. Social development	1 268 025	1 507 865
i. Statistics	1 042 927	1 063 649
j. Transport, communications and tourism	3 139 615	2 239 735

2. United Nations Fund for Population		
Activities	6 071 780	6 295 076
a. Population	4 820 080	4 500 094
b. Statistics in Africa (demographic)	1 251 700	1 794 982
3. United Nations Industrial Development		
Organization (UNIDO)	19 700	20 000
Industrial development in Africa	19 700	20 000
4. United Nations Environment Programme		
(UNEP)	362 605	326 800
Environment in Africa	362 605	326 800
5. United Nations Children's Fund		
(UNICEF)	227 600	32 000
Social development in Africa	227 600	32 000 <u>a/</u>
(c) Special funds administered by the		
United Nations	2 406 191	1 132 553
1. United Nations Trust Fund for		
African Development (UNTFAD)	1 843 247	669 735
a. Development issues and policies		
in Africa	358 018	258 041
(i) Policies, institutions and		
technical assistance to		
economic co-operation		-
(ii) Education and training for		
development	348 898	27 353
(iii) Least developed countries	9 120	
b. Food and agriculture		
in Africa	26 997	19 708
c. Human settlements	-	8 654
d. Industrial development		
in Africa	189 253	65 654
e. International trade and develop-		
ment finance in Africa	440 000	69 614
f. Natural resources in Africa	375 960	80 549
g. Public administration		
and finance	228 202	27 353
h. Social development in Africa	24 817	
i. Administration and common		
services	200 000	167 515
2. Voluntary Fund for the United		
Nations Decade for Women	416 402	365 960
Social development in Africa	416 402	365 960

3.	Pledging for United Nations		
	Transport and Communications		
	Decade in Africa	146 542	76 858
	Transport, communications and		
	tourism in Africa	146 542	76 858
4.	United Nations Sudano-Sahelian		
	Office (UNSO)	-	20 000
	Environment in Africa	-	20 000
(d)	United Nations specialized agencies	50 363	112 500
1.	Food and Agriculture Organization		
	(FAO)	50 363	94 000
	Food and agriculture in Africa	50 363	94 000
2.	World Maritime Organization (WMO)		
	Environment in Africa	-	10 000
3.	World Bank		
	Statistics in Africa	-	8 500
(e)	Organization of African Unity (OAU)		
	Environment in Africa	-	10 000
(f)	OAU/CIDA/UNCSTD/UNFSSD		
	Science and technology in Africa	-	73 417
(g)	Bilateral resources	3 956 208	5 467 353
1.	Belgium	453 223	983 258
a.	Food and agriculture		
	in Africa	-	603 465
b.	International trade, finance		
	and development		
	in Africa	10 581	-
c.	Natural resources		
	in Africa	-	358 500
d.	Social development		
	in Africa	155 389	21 293
e.	Transport, communications		
	and tourism in Africa	287 253	-

2.	Finland	-	50 000
	Transport, communications and tourism in Africa	-	50 000
3.	Federal Republic of Germany	485 842	934 156
	a. Food and agriculture in Africa	-	190 114
	b. Natural resources in Africa	243 163	-
	c. Social development in Africa	42 772	-
	d. Energy and development in Africa	-	207 057
	e. Statistics in Africa	58 205	160 865
	f. Transport, communications and tourism in Africa	141 702	376 120
4.	France	375 570	544 000
	a. Natural resources in Africa	117 570	-
	b. Energy and development in Africa	-	232 000
	c. Transport, communications and tourism in Africa	258 000	312 000
5.	India	507 692	875 229
	a. Human settlements in Africa	92 275	-
	b. Industrial development in Africa	-	459 000
	c. Natural resources in Africa	19 826	-
	d. Public administration and finance in Africa	251 456	118 716
	e. Science and technology in Africa	144 135	297 513
6.	Netherlands	861 340	426 268
	a. Development issues and policies in Africa	385 111	118 591
	(i) Education and training for development	330 541	84 747
	(ii) Manpower and employment planning	-	33 844

b. Food and agriculture in Africa	54 490	192 926
c. Industrial development in Africa	164 474	114 751
d. International trade and develop- ment finance in Africa	168 969	-
e. Social development in Africa	43 239	-
f. Transport, communications and tourism in Africa	45 057	-
7. Norway	-	47 801
Transport, communications and tourism in Africa	-	47 801
8. International Development and Research Council of Canada (IDRC)	304 569	255 380
Development information system (PADIS)	304 569	255 380
9. Swedish Agency for Research Co-operation with developing countries (SAREC)	-	4 979
Development issues and policies in Africa	-	4 979
10. Swedish International Development Agency (SIDA)	473 331	725 511
a. Development issues and policies	44 952	59 359
b. Environment in Africa	20 000	-
c. Social development in Africa	408 379	666 152
11. United States Agency for International Development (USAID)	649 026	437 052
a. Development issues and policies in Africa	77 762	131 840
b. Food and agriculture in Africa	170 526	-
c. Natural resources in Africa	89 155	-
d. Social development in Africa	157 198	233 160
e. Administration and common services	154 385	72 052

12.	Ford Foundation		100 170
	Social development in Africa		100 170
13.	Intergovernmental Committee on Migration (ICM)		83 549
	Development issues and policies in Africa		83 549
Total		32,134 340	28 424 674

a/ Provided by ZONTA through UNICEF.

(a) United Nations Regular Programme for Technical Co-operation

Since the allocations of resources under this programme have been stagnant for some time, the distribution of the resources into programmes has also remained the same. Thus in the biennium 1984-1985, policies, institutions and technical assistance for economic co-operation received the largest allocations \$US 788,200 (\$US 802,100) followed by public administration and finance \$US 596,000 (\$US 547,500); transport and communications \$US 500,400 (\$US 489,400); energy and development in Africa \$US 247,600 (\$US 215,600); statistics in Africa \$US 226,500 (\$US 190,700); and social development in Africa \$US 225,000 (\$US 171,300).
 1/ The exceptions noticed in administration and common services, and economic surveys reflect redistribution between these two activities.

(b) Funding agencies of the United Nations

(i) United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

As shown in the table, the allocations by UNDP (mainly the Regional Bureau for Africa) in the biennium 1984-1985 were, except in very few cases, lower than those for the biennium 1982-1983. The change reflected the financial difficulties which confronted the Programme during the biennium. The exceptions were industrial development in Africa; science and technology; social development, particularly the subprogramme on integration of women in development; and statistics.

1/ Figures in brackets represent allocations in the biennium 1982-1983.

Specifically the decline in the allocations to development issues and policies from \$US 6,743,387 to \$US 3,868,896 resulted from the decision of the organization not to finance any longer the project on the African Institute for Future Studies, the activities of the ECA subprogramme on least developed African countries, the "infrastructure" posts in the subprogramme on policies, institutions and technical assistance for economic co-operation and non-allocation to education and training for development, and the cancellation of assistance to the Eastern and Southern African Mineral Resources Development Centre.

The result of such decisions was that, of the total \$US 12,001,775 available for the different activities supported by the organization, (a) \$US 3,868,896 went into development issues and policies to finance the activities of the Institute for Economic Development and Planning (IDEP) (\$US 1,593,911); the development of information system (PADIS) (\$US 1,520,367); economic co-operation activities among the Economic Community of the Great Lakes countries (CEPGL) (\$US 567,500), and some of the operational activities of the Tangier-based MULPOC through the Regional Bureau of Arab States (\$US 187,118); (b) \$US 2,239,735 went into transport and communications to finance the activities of the Co-ordination Unit for the United Nations Transport and Communications Decade in Africa (\$US 1,398,000); the preparation of the programme for the second phase of the Decade (\$US 292,735); the preparation of part of the Transport Master Plan for Africa (\$US 19,000); and the preparatory assistance to the African gas pipeline (\$US 530,000); (c) \$US 1,507,865 went into social development to finance the activities of the integration of women in the development process located in the MULPOCs in Lusaka (\$US 347,079), Niamey (\$US 279,099), Yaounde (\$US 223,000), and Gisenyi (\$US 212,600), as well as the activities of the Africa Regional Co-ordinating Committee for the Integration of Women in Development (\$US 68,349); (d) \$US 1,063,649 went into statistics to support the Statistical Training Programme in Africa (\$US 723,578); and the African Household Survey Capability Programme (\$US 340,071); (e) \$US 1,119,271 went into science and technology to finance the activities of the African Regional Centre for Technology (\$US 1,079,271); and of the African Regional Organization for Standardization (ARSO) (\$US 40,000); (f) \$US 987,325 went into industrial development in Africa as assistance to the African Regional Centre for Engineering Design and Manufacturing (ARCEDEM); (g) \$US 435,470 went into natural resources to support the activities of the Regional Centre for Services in Surveying, Mapping and Remote Sensing (RCSSMRS); (h) \$US 431,678 went into public administration and finance to support the activities of ESAMI (\$US 377,738); (i) \$US 65,000 went into human settlements to support the Cacavelli centre; and (j) \$US 32,018 went into international trade and development finance in Africa to assist in the work of the Central African Clearing House.

(ii) United Nations Fund for Population Activities (UNFPA)

As already indicated, UNFPA stopped its support for the "infrastructure" posts for the ECA population programme at the end of the biennium 1982-1983. However, it continued to fund the two regional demographic training institutes, other operational projects on population and the regional advisory services on population policy analysis and demographic statistics. In the end, the Fund's allocations in the biennium 1984-1985 were almost the same as in the biennium 1982-1983 with distributions between population policies and demographic statistics slightly altered in favour of demographic statistics \$US 4,500,094 to \$US 1,794,982 in the biennium 1984-1985 as opposed to \$US 4,820,080 to \$US 1,251,700 in the biennium 1982-1983.

The allocation of \$US 4,500,094 to population issues during the biennium 1984-1985 financed the activities of the Regional Institute for Population Studies (RIPS) (\$US 1,533,831); the activities of the Institut de formation et de recherche démographiques (IFORD) (\$US 1,443,062); regional advisory services in population policies and demographic analysis (\$US 501,960); Population Information Network in Africa (POPIN) project (\$US 421,281); the work of the Socio-Economic and Demographic Unit in the Sahel Institute (\$US 303,726); analysis of national world fertility data (\$US 232,089); a national seminar on population and development (\$US 11,639); the second African Population Conference (\$US 8,586); and the work on demographic estimates and projections (\$US 43,920). The allocation of \$US 1,794,982 to statistics in the biennium 1984-1985 financed the regional advisory services in demographic statistics (\$US 1,258,106); the work of the UDEAC Regional Bureau (\$US 327,793); civil registration and vital statistics system (\$US 79,972); census training workshops for French-speaking African countries (\$US 73,611); and a working group on coverage and content-error evaluation of census (\$US 55,000).

(iii) United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO)

As in the biennium 1982-1983, the amount of \$US 20,000 provided by UNIDO to ECA in respect of technical co-operation and operational activities represented the costs of administrative support for the two regional advisers - one in engineering industry and the other in industrial policies and strategies - and the officer for industrial policies provided by the Organization.

(iv) United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)

As in the biennium 1982-1983, the amount of \$US 326,800 allocated by UNEP to ECA in the biennium 1984-1985 was meant to strengthen the Commission's environment capabilities programme. The slight decrease was due to shortfall in the allocations to objects of expenditure such as travel and local level staff.

(v) United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)

UNICEF stopped its support for ECA's activities in the area of integration of women in development in the biennium 1984-1985 as a result of the decision not to fund any longer staff posts for the activities. Unfortunately, there were no operational projects for its funding during the biennium.

However, the secretariat was able to obtain, through the organization, the sum of \$US 32,000 from ZONTA, a world-wide classified service organization of over 33,000 executive women in business and the professions. The grant was used to (i) recruit consultants to prepare studies on tie-dye; and (ii) organize a workshop on the development and management of women's textile and garment co-operatives, held in Bamako, Mali, from 13 October to 1 November 1985. Part of the grant was used to finance staff travel to the workshop.

(c) Special funds administered by the United Nations

(i) United Nations Trust Fund for African Development (UNTFAD)

The relatively small amount of \$US 669,735 which was allocated in the biennium 1984-1985 under this Fund was distributed as follows: (a) \$US 258,041 went into development issues and policies to finance: (i) some of the activities of the Yaounde-based MULPOC (\$US 41,584); (ii) the study on road linkages between countries of the Central African subregion; a subregional seminar on project appraisal; a national seminar on national mechanisms for the integration of women in the development process; and a study in the field of agricultural research and rural development (\$US 31,812); (iii) some of the activities of the Lusaka-based MULPOC (\$US 29,821); (iv) some of the activities of the Gisenyi-based MULPOC (\$US 89,051); (v) the project on the establishment of modalities and formulation of projects related to co-operation among subregional economic groupings (\$US 38,420); (vi) fellowships in African institutions for technical and science teachers, etc. (\$US 23,771); and (vii) some of the activities of the African Institute for Higher Technical Training and Research (\$US 3,582); (b) \$US 167,515 to administration and common services to finance the translation of documents into the Arabic language; (c) \$US 80,549 to natural resources to finance: (i) activities in cartography and remote sensing including preparation of atlases (\$US 29,214); (ii) preparation of papers for the second Regional Conference on the Development and Utilization of Mineral Resources (\$US 51,335); (d) \$US 69,614 to international trade and development finance to finance the study on African Monetary Fund and the meeting of expert group to discuss it; (e) \$US 65,654 to industrial development to finance: (i) follow-up activities related to the eighth meeting of the Councils of Ministers of the MULPOCs and preparation

of feasibility studies on pesticides and other pharmaceuticals (\$US 26,427); (ii) preparation of working documents on metal and engineering industries and servicing of meetings of the Intergovernmental Committee of Experts on Engineering Industries for Eastern and Southern African Subregion and West Africa (1984) (\$US 8,518); (iii) the third meeting of Intergovernmental Committee of Experts on Engineering Industries for Eastern and Southern African Subregion and West Africa (1985) (\$US 23,844); and (iv) advisory services and preparation of technical reports to intergovernmental organizations on the establishment of the iron and steel industry in Eastern and Southern Africa (\$US 6,685); and (f) \$US 19,708 to food and agriculture to finance: (i) participation in the meetings of the MULPOC Councils of Ministers with a view to presenting the progress report on the implementation of the Regional Food Plan for Africa (\$US 1,211); and (ii) preparation of field survey reports on fruit and vegetables for Togo and fish preservation and marketing for Sierra Leone (\$US 18,497); (g) \$US 2,654 went to human settlements to finance field work on the technical publication: planning the establishment of decentralized production facilities and construction services.

(ii) Voluntary fund for the United Nations Decade for Women

The amount of \$US 365,960 allocated to ECA for operational activities during the biennium 1984-1985 was to the programme Social development in Africa to finance the following projects under the subprogramme "integration of women in development": training scholarships in technical leadership/managerial fields (\$US 53,668); supplementing legal and basic welfare assistance for women victims of apartheid in South Africa and colonial rule in Namibia (\$US 30,000); national machineries for the integration of women in development in Africa (\$US 23,071); training in optimal nutritional use of food donated for relief and for food-for-work activities (\$US 155,974); effective utilization of law to improve the status of women in West Africa (\$US 19,764); seminar on participation of women in development (\$US 19,232); effects of technology on rural villages (\$US 15,120); project development and monitoring of ECA's women's programme (\$US 14,733); improving techniques for fish curing, smoking, preservation and marketing (\$US 12,000); workshop on preparation and implementation of project proposals (\$US 10,117); forward-looking strategies assessment (\$US 9,300); and Somali women's Democratic Organization Handicraft Training Centre (\$US 2,976).

(iii) Pledging for the United Nations Transport and Communications Decade in Africa

The small amount of \$US 76,858 pledged in the biennium 1984-1985 was used to support the activities of the Co-ordination Unit of the Decade.

(iv) United Nations Sudano-Sahelian Office (UNSO)

The amount of \$US 20,000 shown for UNSO was the contribution of the Organization to the organization and servicing of the Scientific Round Table on the Climatic Situation and Drought in Africa, held in Addis Ababa in 1984.

(d) United Nations specialized agencies

(i) Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)

The sum of \$US 94,000 contributed by FAO, which was over and above the contribution of the Organization to the programmed activities of the joint Division, was for a seminar for agricultural experts on the identification, monitoring and evaluation of agricultural projects.

(ii) World Meteorological Organization (WMO)

The amount of \$US 10,000 shown for WMO in the table was the contribution of the agency to the organization and servicing of the Scientific Round Table on the Climatic Situation and Drought in Africa, held in Addis Ababa in 1984.

(iii) International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD)
- the World Bank

The amount of \$US 8,500 shown against the World Bank in the table was used in the provision of advisory services to member States in national accounts.

(e) Organization of African Unity (OAU)

The amount of \$US 10,000 shown for OAU in the table was the contribution of the Organization to the costs of the Scientific Round Table on the Climatic Situation and Drought in Africa, held in Addis Ababa in 1984.

(f) OAU/CIDA/UNCSTD/UNFSSD

The amount of \$US 73,417 shown in the table was contributed by the four organizations to the African expert group meeting to assess the implications of new technologies for the Lagos Plan of Action, held in Mbabane, Swaziland, in 1984.

(g) Bilateral resources

As indicated in section 4 above, not only did more bilateral donors contribute to the operational activities of ECA during the biennium, almost all who contributed in the biennium 1982-1983 increased their contributions during the biennium 1984-1985.

The distribution of the contributions of donors by programme and project activities is given below.

The total contribution of \$US 983,258 by the Government of Belgium was distributed as follows: (a) \$US 358,500 to natural resources in Africa to finance a project on inventory of mineral resources by the Eastern and Southern African Mineral Resources Development Centre (Dodoma); (b) \$US 603,465 to food and agriculture to finance: (i) a project on reduction of food losses through insect pest management (\$US 263,250); (ii) a project on improvement of food self-sufficiency through prevention of post-harvest food losses (\$US 203,909); and (iii) a project on technological improvement in post-harvest food losses operations (\$US 136,306); and (c) \$US 21,293 to social development to finance the following project in the Integration of women subprogramme; training in tie-dye co-operative formation in Togo.

The amount of \$US 50,000 by the Government of Finland was for transport and communications in support of the first African Road Safety Congress held in Nairobi, Kenya, in 1984.

The sum of \$US 934,156 given by the Federal Republic of Germany was distributed as follows: (a) \$US 376,120 to transport and communications to finance: (i) the services of a telecommunications expert (\$US 269,848); and (ii) telecommunications seminars in rural network planning (\$US 106,272); (b) \$US 190,114 to food and agriculture to finance a project on prevention of post-harvest food losses; (c) \$US 207,057 to energy and development in Africa to finance the costs of the services of the expert to implement the project on the development of coal and lignite resources in Africa; and (d) \$US 160,865 to statistics to finance: (i) the costs of the services of a data processing expert (\$US 139,176); and (ii) the costs of preparing a manual on household survey data analysis and applications for use by African specialists (\$US 21,149).

The amount of \$US 544,000 provided by the Government of France was distributed as follows: (a) \$US 232,000 to energy and development to finance the costs of the services of two experts in solar energy; and (b) \$US 312,000 to transport and communications to finance the costs of the services of the two experts provided for the United Nations Transport and Communications Decade in Africa - both in railways.

Of the total amount of \$US 875,229 provided by the Government of India \$US 459,000 went into industrial development to finance the costs of scientific equipment for the African Regional Centre for Engineering Design and Manufacturing (\$US 350,000); and (ii) study tours for African experts (\$US 109,000); (b) \$US 297,513 to science and technology to finance: (i) the purchase of equipment and consultancy services in rural technology for the Demonstration "Mother" Centre in Dakar, Senegal (\$US 250,000); and (ii) as assistance to the general development of technologies suitable to the problems and needs of rural technologies, including the financing of seminars and study tours for

African experts (\$US 109,000); (b) \$US 297,513 to science and technology to finance: (i) the purchase of equipment and consultancy services in rural technology for the Demonstration "Mother" Centre in Dakar, Senegal (\$US 250,000); and (ii) as assistance to the general development of technologies suitable to the problems and needs of rural technologies, including the financing of seminars and study tours for African experts (\$US 47,513); and (c) \$US 118,716 to public administration and finance to support activities in the critical area of consultancy and training services in procurement and supply management in Africa.

Of the \$US 426,268 provided by the Government of the Netherlands, (a) \$US 192,926 went into food and agriculture to finance: (i) a project on feasibility study on multinational co-operation in cereal seed production (\$US 12,926); (ii) a project on the application of research to the development of maize production (\$US 105,000); and (iii) a project on the identification of pre-investment projects for the development of forest resources in the East African arid and semi-arid areas (\$US 75,000); (b) \$US 114,751 went into industrial development to finance: (i) the production of a technical compendium on the milling, baking and utilization of composite flours (\$US 102,008); and (ii) the market survey of Ethiopian potash (\$US 12,743); and (c) \$US 118,591 into development issues and policies to finance: (i) the ECA/Netherlands programme of manpower studies in Africa (\$US 84,747); and (ii) seminar on project analysis and human resource planning/survey of skill deficiencies (\$US 33,844).

The sum of \$US 47,801 contributed by the Government of Norway was for transport and communications and in support of the first African Road Safety Congress held in Nairobi, Kenya, in 1984.

The sum of \$US 255,360 provided by the International Development and Research Council of Canada (IDRC) was for its continued support to the project on the Development Information System (PADIS) particularly the support for training activities and for the publication of the Dev-Index Africa.

The sum of \$US 4,979 contributed by the Swedish Agency for Research Co-operation with developing countries (SAREC) was for development issues and policies to publish a book entitled "Migratory labour in Southern Africa: Papers presented to the Conference on Migratory Labour in Southern Africa, Lusaka, Zambia, 4-8 April 1978".

The amount of \$US 725,511 made available by the Swedish International Development Agency (SIDA) was distributed as follows: (a) \$US 666,152 for social development to finance: (i) part of the activities of the African Women's Development Task Force (\$US 259,099); and (ii) the project on training of African women in entrepreneurial skills (\$US 407,053) both in the subprogramme on integration of women in development; and (b) \$US 59,359 for development issues and policies to finance the study on migratory labour in Southern Africa.

The reduced amount of \$US 437,052 contributed by the United States International Development Agency (USAID) was distributed as follows: (a) \$US 233,160 to social development to finance: (i) information and communication activities in the subprogramme on integration of women in development (\$US 208,160); and (ii) the project on Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (\$US 25,000); (b) \$US 131,840 to development issues and policies to finance a project on strengthening human resource planning and development management training at the Institute for Economic Development and Planning (IDEP), Dakar, Senegal; and (c) \$US 72,052 to administration and common services to support the ECA staff training programme.

The amount of \$US 100,170 contributed by the Ford Foundation was for social development to finance a study on the situation of women in Africa in the year 2000 and the project on the role of African women in the United Nations Industrial Development Decade for Africa.

The sum of \$US 83,549 provided by the Intergovernmental Committee on Migration (ICM) was for development issues and policies to support the Commission's project on the return of skills to Africa in the manpower and employment planning and policies subprogramme.

The allocation of resources for technical co-operation and operational activities by programme is summarized below in table 4.2.

Table 4.2. Allocation of resources for technical co-operation and operational activities, 1982-1983 and 1984-1985, by programme: a summary

Programme	1982-1983	1984-1985
	US dollars	
Development issues and policies in Africa	8 892 799	5 827 982
Food and agriculture in Africa	302 376	1 100 213
Environment in Africa	382 605	366 800
Human settlements in Africa	580 275	67 654
Industrial development in Africa	973 427	1 646 730
International trade and development finance in Africa	1 214 550	101 632
Natural resources in Africa	2 162 574	1 125 387
Energy and development in Africa	215 600	686 657
Population	4 820 080	4 500 094
Public administration and finance in Africa	1 027 158	1 173 747
Science and technology in Africa	925 189	1 490 201
Social development in Africa	2 915 121	3 157 600
Statistics in Africa	2 543 532	3 254 496
Transport, communications and tourism in Africa	4 507 569	3 602 914
Administration and common services	671 485	322 567
Total	32 134 340	28 424 674

It is clear from the table that in general, support given by donors to the different programmes has not changed from the biennium 1982-1983 to the biennium 1984-1985 although as in the cases of food and agriculture and statistics, and to a lesser extent, social development, science and technology and public administration and finance, the allocations did improve. The improvement in the allocations to food and agriculture had come mainly from the support which some bilateral donors had given the programme in the biennium 1984-1985. On the other hand, the increase in the allocation to statistics was from the United Nations Fund for Population Activities in respect of the activities in the area of regional advisory services in demographic statistics. The slight increase in the allocations to social development was in fact the result of decreasing support to the activities under the subprogramme - integration of women in development. The other subprogrammes of the programme, namely integrated rural development, and youth and social welfare, have so far not attracted the attention of donors. Even though science and technology received a slight increase due to the generosity of the Government of India, that programme has so far not received the support which it deserves in view of the key role that it has to play in the transformation of African economies.

While development issues and policies and transport and communications still retain their dominant positions, the decision of UNDP not to finance any longer the staff posts of the MULPOCs and to scale down its support in other programmes as well as the decreasing contributions of donors to the central fund of UNTACDA have adversely affected these two programmes.

The effects of the declining support from these two important sources for programmes like international trade and development finance in Africa and natural resources in Africa were also felt in the 1984-1985 biennium.

In general, given the importance of food and agriculture, industry, natural resources and science and technology, it can be safely said that the programmes have not yet received donors' support which they deserve.

Programme support income

As already indicated, funding of operational projects by donors is a question of negotiation between the secretariat of the Commission and the individual donors. Moreover, such projects are negotiated on behalf of and implemented in favour of member States. Since the execution of the projects by the Commission through its secretariat entails the expenditure of resources for such activities as recruitment of experts, monitoring of the implementation, etc., donors usually pay the Commission for such services. It is the income from such services that is called "programme support income", and its distribution into programmes and relevant supporting activities is shown in table 4.3 below.

Table 4.3. Allocation of extrabudgetary programme support income by programme, 1982-1983 and 1984-1985

Programme	1982-1983	1984-1985
	US dollars	
A. Policy-making organs	-	-
B. Executive direction and management	1 256 380 a/	477 374
C. Programmes of activity:		
Development issues and policies		
in Africa	237 810 b/	476 210
Food and agriculture in Africa	21 500	27 050
Environment in Africa	-	24 550
Human settlements in Africa	-	7 500
Industrial development in Africa	114 910 c/	112 560
International trade and development		
finance in Africa	43 000	24 100
Natural resources in Africa	328 130	196 190
Energy and development in Africa	-	-
Population in Africa	121 570	66 940
Public administration and finance		
in Africa	-	-
Science and technology in Africa	-	-
Social development in Africa	203 950	192 343
Statistics in Africa	21 500	25 130
Transport, communications and		
tourism in Africa	-	-
D. Programme support		
Conference services	439 350	311 260
Management of technical co-operation		
activities	-	204 030
Administration and common services	982 580	949 270
Construction, alteration, improvement		
and maintenance of premises	-	-
Total	3 770 680	3 094 507

a/ Includes environment in Africa and management of technical co-operation activities, classified under this programme of activity in the 1982-1983 biennium.

b/ Includes the Pan-African Development Information System classified under this programme of activity from the 1984-1985 biennium.

c/ Includes human settlements in Africa, classified under this programme of activity in the 1982-1983 biennium.

6. Allocation of total regular budget and extrabudgetary resources by programme, 1982-1983 and 1984-1985

While in sections 2 and 4 above, accounts of the distributions of resources intended mainly for substantive activities and of resources intended mainly for technical co-operation and operational activities have been given respectively, the purpose of this section is to pull the distributions together with a view to presenting the picture of overall distribution by programme. Accordingly, the figures shown in table 5 comprise the resources mainly for substantive activities, resources mainly for technical co-operation and operational activities and programme support income.

Table 5. Allocation of total regular budget and extrabudgetary resources by programme, 1982-1983 and 1984-1985

Programme	1982-1983	1984-1985
	US dollars	
A. Policy-making organs	406 300	442 000
B. Executive direction and management	3 532 880	3 561 274
C. Programmes of activity:		
Development issues and policies		
in Africa	15 033 109	13 422 492
Food and agriculture in Africa	2 912 276	4 108 563
Environment in Africa	505 405	560 950
Human settlements in Africa	983 975	592 254
Industrial development in Africa	3 579 267	4 398 124
International trade and development		
finance in Africa	3 475 850	2 571 732
Transnational corporations	489 200	380 500
Natural resources in Africa	4 285 204	2 909 177
Energy and development in Africa	215 600 a/	1 060 657
Population in Africa	5 343 250	5 597 534
Public administration and finance		
in Africa	1 932 058	2 162 547
Science and technology in Africa	1 410 089	2 215 501
Social development in Africa	4 460 171	4 593 943
Statistics in Africa	4 418 032	5 297 426
Transport, communications and tourism		
in Africa	7 481 369	7 815 814
D. Programme support		
Conference services	3 438 750	4 027 060
Management of technical co-operation		
activities	517 000	963 530
Administration and common services	11 932 965	13 364 337
Construction, alteration, improvement		
and maintenance of premises	339 100	3 158 700
Total	76 691 850	83 109 608

a/ Part of the resources for energy and development for the 1982-1983 biennium are included under the natural resources programme.

As the figures in the table show, allocations to the programme - development issues and policies - dominate the overall pictures in the two bienniums, even though the first position was nearly shared with it in the biennium 1984-1985 by administration and common services mainly because of the shortfall in the allocation to it from such sources as the United Nations Trust Fund for African Development and the United Nations Development Programme particularly with respect to operational activities. Transport and communications, and population programmes also retained their important positions because of the continuing support of the General Assembly of the United Nations, and UNDP for the United Nations Transport and Communications Decade in Africa programme and of UNFPA for the population programme respectively.

But while programmes such as transport and communications and population continue to enjoy support of donors, important programmes such as food and agriculture and industrial development have depended mainly on regular budget resources. Thus, the capacity to promote technical co-operation and operational projects in the two programmes is highly constrained. Indeed, the possibilities of pursuing and achieving the objectives of the Industrial Development Decade as programmed are very limited.

The international trade and development finance programme may soon be in the same position as food and agriculture and industrial development programmes since the extrabudgetary resources available to it in the biennium 1984-1985 were less than 10 per cent of what were available during the biennium 1982-1983.

As far as policy-making organs are concerned, it will be observed that the final figures remain those shown under regular budget. This is because policy-making organs are not involved in the implementation and management of operational projects. On the other hand, in the case of executive direction and management, allocations from programme support income have been added because the Executive Secretary is not only involved in the management of operational projects, but also takes the lead in mobilizing resources for such projects.

In general, while more regular budget resources were available to some programmes in the biennium 1984-1985 because of the replacement of extrabudgetary resources by regular budget resources or because of increase in the established posts approved by the General Assembly, the overall conclusion which one can draw from the resource picture in the 1984-1985 biennium is that the trend of extrabudgetary resources is unmistakably downwards notwithstanding the apparent surge in bilateral assistance.

7. Conclusion

The preceding sections have highlighted the volume, characteristics and the allocations to programmes of the resources made available to the Economic Commission for Africa - by the General Assembly, bilateral and multilateral donors in the 1984-1985 (with those for the biennium 1982-1983 for comparison) so as to enable the Commission to assist its member States in their efforts to transform their economies. The information in the tables shows unmistakably that while resources from the regular budget, particularly from section 13 - Economic Commission for Africa increased from the biennium 1982-1983 to the biennium 1984-1985, resources from extrabudgetary sources have been falling. In fact, the rise in regular budget resources has been due to the fact that through the mobilization of support from many quarters, the Commission has so far succeeded in getting the General Assembly to agree to take over some of the objects of expenditure particularly salary and staff costs which some donors had decided to stop. Thus, what has happened was that extrabudgetary resources have been replaced by regular budget resources with the result that the overall resources have not increased significantly.

Such a situation has at least two negative effects. First, the rigid structure of regular budget resources means that the historical relationships between programmes tend to be perpetuated, thus making it difficult, if not impossible, to respond to the changing importance of some programmes vis-à-vis others. Second, which is in fact a corollary of the first, is the fact that the flexibility which resources from extrabudgetary sources particularly trust funds like the United Nations Trust Fund for African Development (UNTFAD) can and do provide for augmenting the existing unbalanced resources available to some programmes so as to redress such imbalances no longer exists. But perhaps the most disturbing fact is that with the increasing desire of some leading contributors to the regular budget resources of the United Nations to stabilize and even reduce the volume of resources allocated to the substantive activities of the Organization, it will increasingly be difficult to absorb resources formerly provided under extrabudgetary sources into the regular budget. In fact, there had been occasions when some of the major contributors had threatened to reduce their contributions if such absorptions were accepted by the General Assembly. In the face of all these, the overall resources available to the Commission will likely become stagnant since resources from extrabudgetary sources may no longer be available and those from the regular budget will be stabilized. The end result of such a situation is that the operational activities of the Commission, which have always been geared towards support for collective self-reliance activities, will be seriously weakened.

It is in the light of the possibility of that situation occurring in the future that emphasis is being put on the need for member States to redouble their efforts to support financially and materially the activities of all the intergovernmental development institutions which they have jointly established. Such support will inevitably include contributions to UNTFAD. There is no doubt that the economic difficulties which have faced member States in the last few years have weakened their resolve to support institutions for collective self-reliance. Unfortunately, any neglect to support such institutions now may eventually lead to their death and even greater costs in trying to revive them in the future. Therefore, the only way open to us is to do as much as possible to sustain these institutions, particularly because of their strategic importance and the danger that their death now may require heavier costs for reviving them in the future because, whether we like it or not, we shall need them in the future.

CHAPTER V

PROMOTION OF TECHNICAL CO-OPERATION AND ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION AND INTEGRATION

Introduction

In the section entitled "Policies, institutions and technical assistance for economic co-operation" under the programme - development issues and policies - the activities organized around the secretariat unit charged with the responsibility for general economic co-operation and integration as well as the ECA Multinational Programming and Operational Centres (MULPOCs) have been reported upon. In the same section, it was indicated that the substantive Divisions also carry out activities devoted to promoting economic co-operation and integration and that accordingly such activities are reported upon in the sections on the specific substantive sectors. Yet, in the context of the central focus of the activities of the Commission, namely, the initiation and participation in measures for facilitating concerted action for the economic development of Africa, including its social and technological aspects, such scattering of information on activities geared towards the promotion of technical co-operation and economic co-operation and integration is not justified. The purpose of this chapter is therefore to pull together such activities so as to present a coherent picture.

As in the report on the biennium 1982-1983, the activities now pulled together in this chapter are grouped under two headings: subregional and regional technical co-operation and economic co-operation and integration; and interregional technical and economic co-operation.

Subregional and regional technical co-operation and economic co-operation and integration

While the Final Act of Lagos calls for strengthening of existing economic groupings and assisting in the creation of others until the whole of the continent is covered, activities during the biennium 1984-1985 were concentrated on strengthening existing economic groupings and sharpening the instruments for sectoral integration, namely, the preparation of investment projects.

During the period under review, steps were taken to assign more staff to the headquarters of the MULPOCs with a view to providing more staff for the needs of member States at the subregional levels. The staff assigned are either general economists who can deal with general policies on economic co-operation and integration or sectoral specialists whose focus will be on issues connected with the sectors, including investment projects identification and analysis.

In the Eastern and Southern African subregion, the ECA secretariat, through the Lusaka MULPOC, the Economic Co-operation Office and the

substantive Divisions, continued to assist the Preferential Trade Area in various ways. Specifically, in the administrative and legal fields, the amendments to the PTA Treaty were drafted; the official gazettes were prepared; the Protocol on Free Movement of Persons was drafted; and the constitution of its Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry and the Charter of its Trade and Development Bank were also drafted.

In the field of industrial development, the secretariat provided technical support to PTA in the organization and servicing of the third meeting of its Technical Committee on Industrial Co-operation, held at Lusaka, Zambia, from 19 to 27 May 1984. In the same context, following the approval by the Committee of the framework proposed by the secretariat for dealing with the broad issues related to the need and conduct of negotiations, areas of co-operation, new options of co-operation, special role of indigenous industrial enterprises in industrial co-operative ventures, and the concept of core industries for implementing modalities for co-operation, the secretariat, in collaboration with UNIDO and the Commonwealth Secretariat, mounted missions on industrial co-operation possibilities in the PTA subregion. Relevant recommendations on this were submitted to the Committee at its July 1985 meeting.

Other activities related to the promotion of economic co-operation in the subregion and which the secretariat promoted through the Lusaka-based MULPOC related to participation of the other members of the subregion in the ZISCOSTEEL of Zimbabwe and the ammonia/urea complex of the United Republic of Tanzania.

At the invitation of the Mining Sector Co-ordinating Sub-committee of the Southern African Development Co-ordination Conference (SADCC), assistance was provided by the secretariat on medium- and long-term programme formulation and co-ordination. Priority areas of common interest to the two organizations in the field of mineral resources development were identified for future joint action.

During the period under review, the Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS) gradually assumed responsibility for the management of its own affairs. Thus, the ECA and OAU secretariats, which had acted as interim secretariat for the Community, ceased to carry out that responsibility as from December 1984 when the Conference of Heads of State and Government of the Community established the permanent secretariat. Later in the year, the Secretary-General of the Community, one of his deputies and some of his other senior officials visited ECA headquarters and had discussions with various Divisions on possible co-operation and assistance in various fields.

In the Yaounde-based MULPOC area, emphasis continued to be placed on multinational projects to be financed and implemented by member States of the subregion. In this framework, a document entitled "Initial integrated

industrial promotion programme for the Central African subregion" was presented at the ECA/OAU/UNIDO-sponsored subregional meeting on the promotion of intra-African co-operation within the framework of the Industrial Development Decade for Africa held in Bangui, the Central African Republic, from 18 to 22 February 1984. Similarly, at the request of UDEAC, a study entitled "Common industry development policy for the UDEAC" was prepared and submitted to the Governments of the countries concerned.

During the biennium under review, the FAO/ECA/UNIDO Forest Industry Advisory Group (FIAG) made proposals to the CEPGL countries on the location of the proposed integrated forest industries complex.

Support for the activities of existing economic groupings in West Africa during the biennium continued to focus on the rationalization of the activities of the groupings. Thus, as reported in the biennial report of the Executive Secretary for the period 1982-1983, a report entitled "Proposals for strengthening economic integration in West Africa" was prepared by ECA in response to the request of the Council of Ministers of the Niamey-based MULPOC. The report was discussed by the heads of West African intergovernmental organizations in April 1984, by the Council of Ministers of the MULPOC at a special meeting in May 1984 and by the Authority of Heads of State and Government of ECOWAS in November 1984. After considering the report, the ECOWAS Authority requested that an additional study on proposals for the rationalization of economic organizations in West Africa should be carried out with the co-operation of ECA. The study entitled "Proposals for the rationalization of intergovernmental economic organizations in West Africa" was submitted to the ECOWAS secretariat for action.

Prior to the preparation of these two documents, the ECA secretariat, through its Niamey-based MULPOC, had prepared a comprehensive Directory of Intergovernmental Organizations in West Africa as a basis for promoting the co-ordination and harmonization of the activities of these organizations. Similarly, a general agreement on co-operation was prepared for consideration by the chief executives of West African intergovernmental organizations who considered and endorsed it at their seventh meeting held in January 1985.

The secretariat also continued to support the activities of ECOWAS. Specifically, the secretariat prepared the ECOWAS Protocol on the regime to be applied to ECOWAS enterprises as well as the Statute of the ECOWAS Tribunal. Work on the study on transit trade and transit facilities in the subregion was being speeded up so as to assist ECOWAS in the implementation of its protocol in that field. Similarly, the Community is being assisted in the finalization of the terms of reference for, and in the conduct of the study on harmonization of pricing policies of agricultural products.

With respect to investment projects, the study on the Togo-Burkina Faso-Niger railway project was completed and the Council of Ministers of the Niamey MULPOC urged Burkina Faso, Togo and the Niger to support the project. Similarly, the subregional meeting on West African multinational projects was organized by ECA, OAU and UNIDO in the framework of the IDDA programme and the Council of Ministers of the Niamey MULPOC later endorsed the projects identified. Proposals on fertilizer needs of the subregion were also prepared.

Activities connected with the promotion of technical co-operation and economic co-operation and integration in North Africa were directed mainly at investment projects particularly in the crucial area of food and agriculture as well as measures for intra-subregional trade, particularly in food and agricultural products.

Interregional technical and economic co-operation

During the biennium 1984-1985, interregional technical and economic co-operation between Africa and the other regions was at a low ebb. This is particularly shown by the decline in the amount of extrabudgetary resources pledged for the support of the Commission's activities. Similarly, quite a number of the projects submitted in the biennium 1982-1983 for funding are yet to be funded.

With respect to Afro-Arab co-operation, the Executive Secretary did visit the headquarters of the League of Arab States in 1984 and a memorandum of understanding was signed by the two organizations. In April 1985, the secretariat submitted a report on the activities of the economic, financial and technical organs of Afro-Arab co-operation for the period 1977-1984 to the second session of the Joint Afro-Arab Ministerial Conference held in Tripoli, the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya. The report also covered project proposals that the secretariat had submitted to Arab funding agencies during the biennium under review, for funding in the areas of industry, agriculture, research and training, the environment, population, innovative housing finance mechanisms, drought and desertification, migratory labour and brain-drain. On 10 June 1985, another project on the promotion of Afro-Arab trade was submitted to the League of Arab States.

Due to various factors, it was not possible to establish, during the biennium, the proposed intergovernmental consultative machinery for monitoring the implementation of the action-oriented resolutions on interregional co-operation in the fields of trade, manpower development and science and technology, which were adopted by the first joint meeting of governmental experts from Africa and Latin America on economic and technical cooperation, held in Addis Ababa, in June 1982. It is hoped to establish such a machinery in 1986.

The Government of Brazil continued its support to the United Nations Transport and Communications Decade in Africa programme during the biennium.

Co-operation with Asia and the Pacific continued to revolve around India and China.

Thus, India continued to support the ECA-sponsored African Regional Centre for Engineering Design and Manufacturing (ARCEDEM) based in Ibadan, Nigeria, particularly through the supply of equipment. At the fifth biennial Pledging Conference to the United Nations Trust Fund for African Development in 1985, the Government of India indicated that it was willing to sponsor a project to promote small-scale industries in Africa through preparatory missions, seminars, workshops and study tours in India, which at that time were estimated by ECA to cost approximately \$US 400,000. The Government also put 25 scholarships at the disposal of ECA, which would co-ordinate nominations from its member States for studies in India.

In the field of the engineering subsector, negotiations with the Government of India led to a grant of \$US 350,000 for the engineering industry development. After the completion of the preliminary analyses, a four-month mission was mounted jointly by ECA, UNIDO, PTA and the Government of India to Kenya, Uganda, the United Republic of Tanzania, Mauritius, Ethiopia, Zimbabwe and Zambia to identify and determine the potential of existing engineering industries and indicate the required expansion to meet the needs in the PTA subregion.

Finally, the secretariat participated in the workshop on welding technology development held in the Welding Research Institute in Trichi, India, in February 1985 for African specialists. The workshop focused on the manufactured welding electrodes at small-scale level.

The secretariat participated in and presented a paper on "The promotion of multipurpose production of engineering products in developing African countries" at the workshop on the same subject, held in Guangzhou (Canton), China, in November 1984.

ECA hosted the first meeting in 1985 of the executive secretaries of the regional commissions at its headquarters, Addis Ababa, in February/March 1985. The executive secretaries' meeting was preceded by that of their senior officials in charge of ECDC/TCDC activities who prepared, for their consideration, a list of project proposals for the promotion of interregional ECDC/TCDC activities. The list and the recommendations of the officials on the lead role of each commission in the implementation of each of the project proposals were approved by the executive secretaries. ECA was assigned the lead role in respect of the following project proposals:

- (a) Development of low-cost housing construction materials;
- (b) Fertilizers and pesticides; and
- (c) Containerization and multimodal transport.

The progress on the implementation of these proposals was again discussed in July 1985 at the summer meeting of the executive secretaries which was again preceded by that of their senior officials in charge of ECDC/TCDC activities.

CHAPTER VI

CO-OPERATION WITH AFRICAN INTERGOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

With the increasing complexity of African development problems and the consequent need for the pooling of all resources - intellectual and financial - by all the intergovernmental development-oriented organizations in the continent with a view to maximizing them for the benefit of member States, co-operation between ECA and the other organizations had been intensified in the period under review. In chapters III and V of this report, some indication has been given to the scope of such co-operation, particularly in the context of promoting technical co-operation and economic co-operation and integration in the continent and of strengthening existing economic groupings. However, such indication has been scattered. Therefore, the main purpose of this chapter is to make an integrated report on co-operation between the Commission, its secretariat and some of the leading other African intergovernmental organizations.

A. Co-operation under existing arrangements

Co-operation with the Organization of African Unity (OAU)

The biennium 1984-1985 saw the further strengthening of the existing co-operation between the Economic Commission for Africa and the Organization of African Unity to the benefits of member States. While the traditional activities of jointly servicing the meetings of sectoral conferences of ministers and organizing of technical meetings together increased, the further strengthening of co-operation occurred around the twenty-first ordinary session of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity and through the work of the Joint Inter-Secretariat Committee about which we reported in the report on the biennium 1982-1983. Indeed, the Committee met five times during 1984 and 1985 and four of those meetings focused on the preparations for the twenty-first ordinary session of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government.

As is now well known, the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of OAU at its twentieth ordinary session in November 1984 decided to devote the greater part of its twenty-first ordinary session in 1985 to economic issues; established a seven-nation Steering Committee to prepare for the summit by finalizing the documentation; and requested the secretariats of OAU and ECA to give technical support to the Steering Committee. That request was the marching order to the two secretariats.

Accordingly, from December 1984 to July 1985 when the twenty-first ordinary session was held, the two secretariats, in collaboration with other international organizations both African and global, prepared technical papers for, and serviced the meetings of the Steering Committee, including those of its experts. The planning of the activities, including the sharing

of responsibilities, was done through the Joint Inter-secretariat Committee and its subsidiary bodies.

The focus of the tenth meeting of the ECA Conference of Ministers/nineteenth session of the Commission was the economic crisis in Africa, on which the Ministers adopted a Special Memorandum which was addressed to both the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of OAU at its twentieth ordinary session in November 1984 and the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations at its second regular session of 1984. The discussion and endorsement of the Memorandum by Heads of State and Government contributed largely to their decision to devote the greater part of their twenty-first ordinary session in 1985 to economic issues.

At its forty-first session in February-March 1985, the OAU Council of Ministers in its resolution CM/Res.963(XLI) urged the ECA Conference of Ministers responsible for economic planning in Africa to focus its deliberations at its eleventh meeting in April 1985 on the economic issues in the draft agenda of the twenty-first ordinary session of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government and to recommend concrete measures to be undertaken including proposals for the follow-up and monitoring and urged further the Steering Committee at its second meeting to take fully into account the recommendations emerging from the Council's forty-first session as well as from the forthcoming meeting of the ECA Conference of Ministers and to finalize the preparatory arrangements including documentation for the twenty-first Assembly of Heads of State and Government of OAU. In response to this request, the ECA Conference of Ministers focused on the economic issues on the draft agenda of the twenty-first ordinary session of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government and came out with a document entitled "Recommendations of the ECA Conference of Ministers concerning the economic issues on the draft agenda of the twenty-first ordinary session of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity" (E/ECA/CM.11/80/Rev.1). The recommendations were submitted to the Steering Committee which used them in formulating its own recommendations which, as amended later by the OAU Council of Ministers, later formed the basis of Africa's Priority Programme for Economic Recovery 1986-1990 adopted by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government at its twenty-first ordinary session in July 1985.

Subsequent activities of the secretariats of the two organizations in the rest of 1985 centred on ways and means of assisting member States, through the Permanent Steering Committee which was established by the Heads of State and Government to monitor the implementation of the decisions of its twenty-first ordinary session, to translate the Priority Programme into operational terms particularly in the context of the special session of the United Nations General Assembly on the African economic situation, which the OAU Assembly of Heads of State and Government also called for as part of the decisions taken at its twenty-first ordinary session.

The efforts to assist in the translation of the Programme into operational terms had involved joint field missions to member States by the staff of the two secretariats.

Other highlights of the co-operation between OAU and ECA during the period under review were the joint servicing of the regional population conference in Arusha, the United Republic of Tanzania, and participation in the World Population Conference in Mexico, all in 1984; the joint servicing of the Regional Intergovernmental Preparatory Meeting for the World Conference on the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace held in Arusha in 1984 and participation in the World Conference in Nairobi in 1985; the joint servicing of the fourth meeting of the Conference of African Ministers of Social Affairs in 1985; and the joint servicing of the eighth meeting of the Conference of African Ministers of Trade in 1985.

Co-operation with the African Development Bank (ADB)

Co-operation with the African Development Bank under the existing agreement on co-operation was stronger during the biennium. Specifically, the secretariats of the two organizations continued the joint preparation and publication of the "Economic Report on Africa". Similarly, as part of the inputs into ADB's twentieth anniversary celebrations, the Bank, ECA and OAU jointly prepared a document on "the African food crisis and the role of ADB in tackling it", which was submitted to the Governors of the Bank for consideration and approval as basis for the Bank's decision to contribute more to the development of African food and agriculture.

Upon the decision of the Board of Governors of the African Industrial Development Fund (AIDF) that the affairs of the Fund should be managed by ADB, and upon ECA being entrusted with the task of negotiating a related management agreement with ADB, a meeting was convened in November 1984 at ADB headquarters between representatives of ADB and ECA. At this meeting, both organizations were able to prepare a draft management agreement which was submitted to the Boards of Governors of ADB and AIDF for their consideration.

During the period under review, ADB took an active part at the fourth and fifth Conferences of the Chief Executives of ECA-sponsored Regional and Subregional Institutions which were convened and organized by ECA.

Co-operation with the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS)

In the biennial report of the Executive Secretary for the period 1982-1983, much was said about the efforts being deployed in West Africa to strengthen economic co-operation and integration in the subregion. In particular, it was reported that as a result of the decision of the Council of Ministers of the Niamey-based MULPOC, a study entitled "Proposals for

strengthening economic integration in West Africa" was prepared. The document was considered by the heads of West African intergovernmental organizations in April 1984, by the MULPOC Council of Ministers at a special meeting in May 1984, and by the Authority of Heads of State and Government of ECOWAS in November 1984. After considering the report, the Authority requested that an additional study on the rationalization of intergovernmental economic organizations in West Africa should be carried out with the co-operation of ECA. A delegation from the ECOWAS secretariat led by the Executive Secretary of the Organization visited ECA headquarters to discuss the guidelines for the study. An ECA delegation then visited ECOWAS headquarters to hold talks with ECOWAS officials and to collect the necessary documents and information. The study entitled "Proposals for the rationalization of intergovernmental economic organizations in West Africa" has been submitted to the ECOWAS secretariat for necessary action.

The new Executive Secretary of the Community seized the opportunity of his participation at the eleventh meeting of the Conference of Ministers/twentieth session of the Commission to hold talks with ECA substantive Divisions on issues of mutual interest.

Co-operation with the Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS)

The efforts of the secretariats of ECA, OAU and UDEAC to assist member States of the Central African subregion to establish an enlarged economic community led to the establishment of the Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS) in October 1983. The Community comprises member States of the Gisenyi- and Yaounde-based MULPOCs. The ECA and OAU secretariats jointly acted as interim secretariat of the Community until December 1984 when its own secretariat was established. During the period, the two secretariats prepared the work programme, determined its staff requirements and produced the organizational chart and the financial and staff regulations.

Since his appointment, the Secretary-General has visited ECA headquarters where he discussed co-operation between the two organizations and continued assistance to the Community.

Co-operation with the Preferential Trade Area (PTA) for Eastern and Southern African States

The period 1984-1985 witnessed further progress in the PTA's efforts to integrate the economies of the subregion. And as stated in chapter III, ECA, through its Lusaka-based MULPOC and the relevant substantive Divisions, provided technical support to those efforts.

Specially, such support included assistance in the launching of the operational phase of the PTA, the preparation of various amendments to its Treaty and of the Protocol on the Relaxation and Elimination of Visa Requirements within the PTA, the preparation of the Charter of its Chambers of Commerce and Industry and of the Charter of its Trade and Development Bank. ECA also participated in the work of its legislative organs.

Co-operation with the Central African Customs and Economic Union (UDEAC)

As indicated above under "co-operation with ECCAS", ECA and OAU in collaboration with UDEAC assisted member States of the Central African subregion to create the Economic Community of Central African States.

Similarly, during the period under review, the ECA secretariat prepared a study entitled "Common industrial development policy for UDEAC" for use by the Governments of the Customs Union. The study, which was based on information collected during an interdisciplinary mission undertaken at the request of the Union, contains specific recommendations and proposals on how UDEAC countries can initiate and implement a self-reliant and self-sustainable strategy of industrial development.

Co-operation with the Conference of the Chief Executives of ECA-sponsored Regional and Subregional Technical Institutions

The meetings of the Conference of Chief Executives of ECA-sponsored Regional and Subregional Technical Institutions have become an annual event organized and serviced by ECA. The objectives of the Conference are, inter alia, to promote the co-ordination of the activities of the ECA-sponsored institutions, develop ways and means of securing financial and political support for their institutions by African countries and to exchange ideas on how the institutions can enhance their ability to contribute to the implementation of the Lagos Plan of Action and the Final Act of Lagos and other related programmes. The fourth and fifth meetings of the Conference were held during the period under review. The fifth meeting was held jointly with the Chief Executives of OAU-sponsored institutions and the members of the 10-member States Ad hoc Committee established by ECA resolution 477 (XVIII) to make recommendations on the co-ordination, harmonization and/or merger of the activities of ECA- and OAU-sponsored institutions. That meeting considered the draft final report of the Ad hoc Committee and made constructive suggestions. The Report of the Ad hoc Committee (E/ECA/CM.11/17/Add.1) was presented to the eleventh meeting of the ECA Conference of Ministers.

B. New Agreements

During the period under review the secretariat concluded co-operation agreements with the following bodies:

- (a) The Organization of African Unity and the United Nations University in respect of the United Nations proposed Institute of Natural Resources in Africa;
- (b) The African Association for Public Administration dated 25 July 1984; and
- (c) The Pan-African Telecommunications Union dated 10 January 1985.