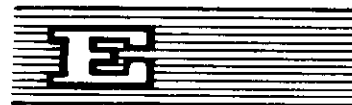




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UNITED NATIONS
ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR AFRICA

Tenth meeting of the Technical
Preparatory Committee of the
Whole

Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
27 March - 3 April 1989

ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR AFRICA

Twenty-fourth session of the Commission/
fifteenth meeting of the Conference
of Ministers

Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
6-10 April 1989

**REVIEW OF RECURRENT PUBLICATIONS OF THE
ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR AFRICA FOR THE
COMMITTEE FOR PROGRAMME AND CO-ORDINATION**

1. In fulfilment of one of its terms of reference, it is customary for the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination (CPC) to review periodically the publications programmes of the United Nations, in terms of their usefulness and cost to the Organization.

2. In view of the financial crisis confronting the United Nations system as a whole, the CPC, at its twenty-sixth session, requested the Secretary-General, through the Publications Board:

"to communicate to the intergovernmental bodies that had authorized recurrent publications a request to review those publications in the light of the criteria set forth in General Assembly resolution 38/32 E, with a view to terminating those publications that did not meet those criteria or to reducing their periodicity or volume of issuance, if that was called for".

3. The request was conveyed to the Executive Secretary of the Commission for Africa by the Chairman of the Publications Board in order that it be brought to the attention of the Conference of Ministers so that a review could be carried out, since all recurrent publications of the Commission have been authorized in the resolutions adopted by the said Conference.

4. By definition, after reviewing all ECA publications, the Conference of Ministers must advise the secretariat on which publications should be maintained, consolidated or dropped and on whether their periodicity or volume should be reduced.

5. For ease of reference, the following documents are included in the annex:

- I. List of recurrent publications of the Economic Commission for Africa;
- II. General Assembly resolution 38/32 E.

ANNEX I

Economic Commission for Africa - list of recurrent publications

Item	Title	Starting date	Frequency of issue	Average preparation by author departments	Justification	Print run official/departmental copies	Sales record
<u>programme: Development Issues and Policies</u>							
1.	Survey of Economic and Social Conditions in Africa	1977	annual	6 months	Conference of Ministers resolution 404 (XVI)	2,800/100/600	584/600
<u>programme: Statistics</u>							
2.	Statistical Training Programme for Africa News	1980	biannual	1 month	Resolution 554 (XX) of eleventh meeting of the ECA Conference of Ministers approving the work programme and priorities of the Economic Commission Africa for the biennium 1986-1987	490/ - /60	not sold
3.	Directory of Statistical Training Programme for Africa and Associate Centres (previously known as Directory of Statistical Training Centres)	1979	biennial	4 months	<u>Ibid.</u>	290/ - /55	not sold
4.	Directory of African Statisticians	-	biennial	6 months	Resolution 554 (XX) of eleventh meeting of the ECA Conference of Ministers approving the work programme and priorities of the Economic Commission for Africa for the biennium 1986-1987	550/ - /50	not sold

Item	Title	Starting date	Frequency of issue	Average preparation by author departments	Justification	Print run official/departmental copies	Sales record
<u>Programme: Statistics (cont'd)</u>							
5.	Statistical Newsletter	1960	2/year	2 months	<u>Ibid.</u>	168/ - /20	not sold
6.	Statistical Information Bulletin for Africa	1973	annually	6 months	<u>Ibid.</u>	550/ - /50	not sold
7.	Foreign Trade Statistics Series A	1962	annually	1 year	<u>Ibid.</u>	2,775/ - /100	not sold
8.	Foreign Trade Statistics Series C	1977	annually	1 year	<u>Ibid.</u>	1,570/ - /100	not sold
9.	African Statistical Yearbook	1971	annually	1 year	<u>Ibid.</u>	1,400/ - /100	not sold
10.	African Socio-economic Indicators	1984	annually	1 year	<u>Ibid.</u>	1,400/ - 100	not sold
11.	Directory of Electronic Data-processing Experts in Africa	1977	biennial	6 months	<u>Ibid.</u>	1,350/ - /100	not sold
12.	Bibliography of African Statistical Publications	1961	biennial	6 months	<u>Ibid.</u>	1,350/ - /100	not sold
<u>Programme: Population</u>							
13.	Demographic Handbook for Africa	1968	biennial	6 months	Resolution 554 (XX) of the eleventh meeting of the ECA Conference of Ministers approving the work programme and priorities of the Economic Commission for Africa for the biennium 1986-1987	830/ - /170	not sold
14.	African Population Studies Series	1973	biennial	6 months	<u>Ibid.</u>	850/ - /150	not sold

em	Title	Starting date	Frequency of issue	Average preparation by author departments	Justification	Print run official/departmental copies	Sales record
<u>Programme: Population (cont'd)</u>							
5.	African Population Newsletter	1970	2/year	3 months	<u>Ibid.</u>	980/ - /20	not sold
6.	Directory of African Demographers	1967	biennial	6 months	<u>Ibid.</u>	600/ - /400	not sold
7.	POPIN-AFRICA Information socio-economic data sheets for ECA member States	1983	annual	6 months	Conference of Ministers resolution 400 (XV)	1500/ - /150	not sold
<u>Programme: Administration and Common Services (Library)</u>							
9.	New Acquisitions in the UNECA Library	1962	monthly	2 months	<u>Ibid.</u>	500/ - /20	not sold
10.	Africa Index: Selected Articles on Socio-economic Development	1971	3 year	4 months	<u>Ibid.</u>	500/ - /20	not sold
11.	List of ECA documents	1964	quarterly	2 days	<u>Ibid.</u>	500/ - /20	not sold
<u>Programme: Industrial Development</u>							
12.	Focus on African Industry	1988	biannual	6 months	<u>Ibid.</u>	900/ - /100	not sold

ANNEX II

Resolutions adopted on the reports of the Fifth Committee

E

Control and limitation of documentation

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 2292 (XXII) of 8 December 1967, 2538 (XXIV) of 11 December 1969, 2732 (XXV) of 16 December 1970, 31/140, section II, of 17 December 1976, 33/56, section II, of 14 December 1978, 34/50 of 23 November 1979, 36/117 of 10 December 1981 and 37/14 C and D of 16 November 1982 and its decision 34/401 of 19 September 1980,

1. Recommends to Member States that they take into consideration the aim of limiting to a minimum requests for the preparation of reports or the circulation of documents;
2. Recommends to Member States and specialized agencies that, when preparing their replies to questionnaires or submissions of agencies and programmes of the United Nations system, they take into consideration the aim of achieving maximum brevity in setting out their positions;
3. Requests the Secretary-General, when sending out such questionnaires, to attach to them a reference to the present resolution;
4. Invites its subsidiary organs to include in their agenda an item on control and limitation of documentation with a view to ensuring the production of concise reports;
5. Commends the Secretary-General for his efforts in reducing the length and number of reports originating in the Secretariat and requests him to continue with these measures;
6. Requests the Secretary-General to examine ways of improving the drafting skills of Secretariat officials who are involved with the various phases of preparing final reports of United Nations bodies with a view to producing more concise reports;
7. Calls upon its subsidiary organs not to reproduce in their reports the full text of earlier resolutions relevant to their work, but instead, as a frame of reference, to include a list of relevant documents in their reports, giving the exact titles and symbols;
8. Decides that the practice of reproducing statements in extenso as separate documents shall be discontinued for all its subsidiary organs that are entitled to summary records;
9. Decides further that any exceptions to this rule may be made by the body concerned only if the statements are to serve as bases for discussions and if, after hearing a statement of the financial implications, the body

decides that one or more statements in extenso may be included in the summary record, or reproduced as separate documents or as annexes to authorized documents;

10. Requests the Committee on Conferences to undertake a study of the feasibility of instituting an abbreviated form of summary record;

11. Requests the Committee on Conferences to examine the various causes of the late issuance of documents in the different official and working languages and to consider possible solutions to this problem;

12. Urges all treaty bodies to review their documentation requirements, with particular reference to the possible reduction of their need for summary records;

13. Invites the Committee on Conferences to examine the report to be issued by the Joint Inspection Unit on publications policy and practice in the United Nations system;

14. Requests its subsidiary organs responsible for the issuance of recurrent publications to review them with the objective of identifying and discontinuing those which no longer serve a useful purpose;

15. Invites the Economic and Social Council similarly to request its subsidiary organs responsible for recurrent publications to undertake such a review;

16. Requests the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination to review recurrent publications in the context of the medium-term plan or the programme budget, as appropriate;

17. Recommends that, in conducting their reviews, intergovernmental bodies bear in mind the following criteria:

(a) Usefulness to the end-user of the publication as gauged from end-user response or from the sales record of a publication;

(b) Filling of a need;

(c) High standard of analysis or data;

(d) Promotion of the principles and purposes of the Organization;

(e) Continued validity of the original mandate;

(f) Recommendations of the Joint Inspection Unit in its report on publications policy and practice in the United Nations system of organizations, if applicable.

F

Improved organization of work and effective use of conference resources

The General Assembly,

1. Requests the Secretary-General to provide the Committee on Conferences with data in summary form on:

(a) The physical and human conference-servicing resources for United Nations Headquarters and United Nations offices generally, including rooms available and documentation, interpretation and translation capacity, in a format enabling comparison of the demand and the conference-servicing capacity for all categories of meetings of United Nations organs - scheduled, anticipated to the extent possible, and held - grouped according to subject-matter;

(b) External conference servicing available to the United Nations in case of urgent or unforeseen demands on the calendar;

2. Requests the Secretary-General to submit to all United Nations bodies the relevant information requested under paragraph 1 above as supplementary data for their implementation of the present resolution.

38/33. Scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of the United Nations

Date: 25 November 1983 Meeting: 71
Adopted without a vote Report: A/38/583

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 37/125 B of 17 December 1983,

Having examined the report of the Committee on Contributions, 1/

Recognizing the need for an improved methodology to assess the real capacity to pay of Member States, in order to increase the fairness and equity of the scale of assessments,

Mindful of the obligation of Member States to bear the expenses of the Organization as apportioned by the General Assembly according to the real capacity to pay,

1. Takes note of the report of the Committee on Contributions on the work in progress as requested in General Assembly resolution 37/125 B;

1/ Official Records of the General Assembly, thirty-eighth session, supplement No. 11 (A/38/11); and A/38/11/Add.1 and Add.1/Corr.2.