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ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR AFRICA

Second Conference of Chief Executives
of ECA-sponsored Regional and
Subregional Institutions

1 - 5 December 1981

Abidjan, Ivory Coast

FOLLOW-UP ACTION ARISING OUT OF THE INAUGURAL CONFERENCE OF CHIEF EXECUTIVES
OF ECA-SPONSORED REGIONAL AND SUBREGIONAL INSTITUTIONS: A COMMON LEGAL
ADMINISTRATIVE, MANAGEMENT AND AUDIT SERVICE

At the Inaugural Conference of Chief Executives it was agreed to establish a common legal, administrative management and audit service to provide ECA-sponsored institutions with legal, auditing and management services. What was implied was that a separate organizational entity might be established within ECA for this purpose. Upon consideration the report of the Inaugural Conference of Chief Executives the Seventh meeting of the ECA Conference of Ministers decided slightly differently by requesting in operative paragraph 6 (b) of their resolution 409(XVI), the Executive Secretary of ECA to give the fullest institutional support to ECA-sponsored institutions by providing in a systematic manner, legal, administrative management and audit services to these institutions if requested. To the extent that such requests have come from ECA sponsored institutions, the Executive Secretary has always responded promptly and since the Inaugural Conference of Chief Executives staff members of ECA qualified in the legal, financial and management fields have spent a great deal of time reviewing draft financial regulations and rules and draft staff rules and regulations for ARCT and ARCEDEM and in counselling the Chief Administrative Officers of these institutions on these and other matters. Legal services were also rendered to the Regional Centre for Services in Surveying and Mapping concerning the co-ordination of its remote sensing activities by the African Remote Sensing Council, and to the African Institute for Higher Technical Training and Research and the Regional Institute for Population Studies in the negotiations concerning their respective Headquarters Agreement.

To strengthen the capacity of ECA to continue to provide such services, two posts which were approved for ECA at the General Assembly's 35th session at P4 and P3 levels, have been earmarked to form the nucleus of a team for this purpose. Recruitment is underway and will be completed in due course. When Chief Executives submit their proposals on the kind of legal, administrative and audit services that they would be required from the ECA Secretariat and an estimate of the nature and magnitude of such services, than ECA would be in a better position to make use of the expertise at its disposal.