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GENERAL

E/ECA/CM.12/36
28 March 1986

Original: ENGLISH

64851 ✓

**UNITED NATIONS
ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL**

ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR AFRICA

Seventh meeting of the Technical
Preparatory Committee of the
Whole

Yaounde, Republic of Cameroon,
7 to 14 April 1986

(Item 13(c) (ii) 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,
17 to 21 April 1986

(Item 6(c) (ii) of the
Provisional Agenda)

**PROPOSALS FOR UPDATING THE 1986-1987 PROPOSED PROGRAMME BUDGET
IN THE LIGHT OF GENERAL ASSEMBLY APPROVED APPROPRIATIONS
AND AVAILABILITY OF EXTRA-BUDGETARY RESOURCES**

* E/ECA/TPCW.7/1.
E/ECA/CM.12/1.

INTRODUCTION

1. In the operative paragraphs of resolution 554(XX) of 29 April 1985 on work programme and priorities of the Economic Commission for Africa, 1986-1987, the Conference of Ministers inter alia:

1. Endorses the proposals for the work programme and priorities of the Commission for the biennium, 1986-1987;

2. Calls upon the African members of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination to support these proposals at the twenty-fifth session of the Committee;

3. Urges the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination:

(a) To consider these proposals favourably at its twenty-fifth session and recommend, through the Economic and Social Council at its second regular session in July 1985, their adoption by the General Assembly at its fortieth session in September-December 1985;

(b) To take, together with all organs of the United Nations (particularly the General Assembly and its Second and Fifth Committees), all necessary steps to ensure that adequate resources are made available to ECA for the implementation of this work programme, particularly in the priority sectors of food and agriculture, drought and desertification, water development, transport and communications, and industrial development.

4. Requests the Executive Secretary of ECA to revise the proposals in the light of such decisions as the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity may make at its twenty-first session in July 1985.

2. In accordance with the instructions and requests mentioned above, the secretariat made available to the African Members of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination during the twenty-fifth session of CPC copies of the resolution. In response to the requests of the Ministers, the African members did support the proposals although some of them were of the opinion that the growth rate of resource allocation being proposed for ECA was too small. Similarly, some other members felt that enough attention was not being paid to food and agriculture in spite of the crisis in the continent while others felt that the proposed number of reports was too large.

3. As far as the CPC itself was concerned, it did not find it difficult to support the proposals, although some delegations complained about the use of regular budget resources to support the activities of private intergovernmental and non-intergovernmental organizations.

4. With respect to the General Assembly, only five out of the 14 new posts requested were approved. The five posts were (i) one, on a temporary basis, for monitoring and evaluation work; (ii) one for work on integration of women in development; (iii) one for work on the development of environmental capabilities; (iv) one for work on environmental statistics; and (v) one on work on marine affairs.

5. Overall, the rate of real growth of the regular budget resources made available to the Commission for the biennium 1986-1987 as compared to those for the biennium 1984-1985 was 1.6 per cent. As regards extrabudgetary resources, while the situation has improved for some programmes, it has remained stagnant or gone worse for others. In the circumstances, while some programme managers can implement their programme commitments through redeployment of resources from one activity to the other, or through the use of extrabudgetary resources that may later become available, others have had to revise their programme commitments in accordance with the regular budget resources provided by the General Assembly and the extrabudgetary that are likely to be available. The details of the programmes and subprogrammes affected are given below.

6. On the question of revising the work programme and priorities on the basis of the decision that might be taken by the Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity at their twenty-first ordinary session in July 1985, it should be noted that the main document that emerged from that session is "Africa's Priority Programme for Economic Recovery, 1986-1990", whose implementation is the subject of the Special Session of the United Nations General Assembly scheduled to take place in New York from 27 to 31 May, 1986. The outcome of that session will be reflected gradually in the work programme and priorities of the Commission during the biennium 1986-1987.

Programme 3: Development Issues and Policies in Africa

Subprogramme 4: Policies, institutions and technical assistance for economic co-operation

Two factors have necessitated the proposals being made for revisions in this subprogramme, namely, the need to (i) reflect the expertise available to the Multinational Programming and Operational Centres (MULPOCs) and (ii) programme more activities in consonance with the resources provided by the General Assembly.

4.1 Promotion and strengthening of interregional economic and technical co-operation.

Output: All programmed outputs (i) to (iv) remain unchanged.

4.2 Promotion and strengthening of subregional economic co-operation and integration.

Output:

(i) Delete the word "five" in the first line and insert "three" and then delete.

(a) agricultural pricing policies and marketing of agricultural products (first quarter, 1987); and

(b) three feasibility studies on roads (first quarter 1987). The remaining three outputs will be renumbered (a); (b); and (c) accordingly.

- (ii) Delete and instead insert "Two reports to the policy organs of the Gisenyi-based MULPOC on (a) administrative procedures as an obstacle to trade promotion within the Economic Community of the Great Lakes Countries (first quarter, 1987); (b) progress towards strengthening economic co-operation within the Economic Community of the Great Lakes Countries (first quarter, 1987)";
- (iii) Delete and instead insert "One report to the policy organs of the Niamey-based MULPOC on mechanisms and institutional framework for financing trade promotion in West Africa (first quarter, 1987)";
- (iv) Delete and instead insert "Advisory services to member States of Niamey-based MULPOC on request, on: (a) the implementation of systems of socio-economic indicators (one mission in 1986; one in 1987); (b) the creation or strengthening of national and subregional organizations for trade promotion, market surveys and trade information (one mission in 1986; one in 1987); (c) preparation of adequate policies and in establishing mechanisms for the promotion of intra-subregional trade (one mission in 1986; one in 1987)";
- (v) Delete and instead insert "Technical publications: (a) Liaison bulletin of West African intergovernmental organizations (third quarter, 1987); and (b) Charter of collaboration among West African Intergovernmental Organizations (third quarter, 1986)";
- (vi) Delete and instead insert "Two reports to the policy organs of the Tangiers-based MULPOC on: (a) subregional trade promotion in North Africa and Afro-Arab trade and financial relations (first quarter, 1987); (b) desertification and economic crisis in North Africa (first quarter, 1986)";
- (vii) Delete and instead insert "Three reports to the policy organs of the Lusaka-based MULPOC on: (a) economic sanctions against South Africa (first quarter, 1987) (extrabudgetary) (d) economic development for post-apartheid South Africa (first quarter, 1987) (extrabudgetary); (c) implementation of the Lagos Plan of Action in the field of trade (first quarter, 1986)";
- (viii) Delete and instead insert "Ten reports to the Council of Ministers of the Lusaka-, Gisenyi-, Yaounde-, Niamey- and Tangiers-based MULPOCs on economic and social conditions at subregional level (five in 1986; five in 1987)";
- (ix) Delete and renumber original (x) - Two reports to the Southern Africa Labour Commission on economic and social aspects of migratory labour matters in Southern Africa (one in 1986; one in 1987) as (ix). Similarly, renumber original (xi) - Substantive servicing of two meetings of the Southern Africa Labour Commission (one in 1986; one in 1987) as (x).

Add new outputs (xi); (xii) and (xiii) as follows:

- (x) Assistance in the development and strengthening of the Nairobi-based subregional Trade Promotion and Training Centre ;
- (xii) Advisory services, on request, to the PTA on trade activities (one mission in 1986; one in 1987);
- (xiii) Substantive servicing of 20 meetings of the Councils of Ministers and their committees of officials (ten, first quarter, 1986); ten, first quarter, 1987).

4.3 Promotion and strengthening of inter-subregional and regional co-operation and integration in implementing the Final Act of Lagos.

Output: (i), (ii), (iii) remain unchanged.

4.4 Co-ordinating and monitoring the implementation of technical co-operation activities.

Remains unchanged.

Subprogramme 5: Education and training for development

Programme element 5.6 - Grant and fellowship administration.

Output: Output (ii) and (iii) remain unchanged.

Output (i): is both overprogrammed and unrealistic since it is not possible for the Commission to deliver 300 scholarships in two years even if the donors provide the funds and in any case the funds are not likely to be forthcoming. Therefore, it is proposed that the output should be cited as "Award of 100 fellowships during the biennium to nationals of member States for long- or short-term studies and training in critical areas of manpower needs (50 in 1986; 50 in 1987) (extrabudgetary).

Programme 4: Environment in Africa

It has been noticed that under Programme Element 1.3 - Environmental assessment and management relating to the impact of development on natural resources utilization, including pollution control and waste disposal, the third output was omitted in the programme narrative although resources have been provided for it under paragraph 13.65 of section 13 of the 1986-1987 programme budget. This third output should read:

(a) Substantive servicing of expert group meeting to evaluate the impacts of measures recommended to solve environmental health and sanitation problems in Africa (Fourth quarter, 1986).

Programme 8: Natural Resources in Africa

Subprogramme 2: Water Resources

The proposals for the amendment of this subprogramme are based (i) on the fact that the new professional post requested was not approved by the General Assembly and (ii) on a decision by ECOSOC.

Programme Element 2.1: Support in the development and management of water resources at the national and subregional levels.

Output:

Outputs (i) and (ii) remain unchanged. Output (iii) is to be terminated due to non-availability of the required resources.

Programme Element 2.2: Follow-up to the Mar del Plata Action Plan of the United Nations Water Conference, including the International Drinking Water Supply and Sanitation Decade in Africa (1981-1990).

Output:

To be reformulated to:

- (i) Report to the regional meeting on socio-economic and policy aspects of water resources management in Africa on the future regional co-operative activities (second quarter, 1986);
- (ii) Report to a regional meeting of experts on socio-economic and policy aspects of water resources management in Africa (second quarter, 1986); and
- (iii) Substantive servicing of a regional meeting on socio-economic and policy aspects of water resources management in Africa (second quarter 1986).

Reasons for the reformulation

Following meetings with UNESCO and in preparation for the tenth anniversary of the United Nations Water Conference, it was considered appropriate to expand the programmed output into a regional meeting.

Programme Element 2.3: Integrated river basin development and management.

Output:

Outputs (i) and (ii) remain unchanged. Output (iii) is to be terminated due to non-availability of the required resources.

Output:

To be reformulated to:

- (i) Report to the Committee on Natural Resources at its tenth session on the review of the situation with regard to the development of water resources in the drought-stricken countries of the region as basis for formulating short-term, medium-term and long-term frameworks for action at the national and international levels (second quarter, 1987); and
- (ii) Substantive servicing of a training workshop and study tour in the USSR on problems of water resources development in arid zones, for African experts (third quarter, 1986).

Reasons for the reformulation

- (i) Resolution 1985/49 of the Economic and Social Council of 25 July 1985 on water resources development, in operative paragraph 6, requests the Economic Commission for Africa to undertake a thorough review of the situation with regard to the development of water resources in the drought-stricken countries of the region, with a view to formulating short-term, medium-term and long-term frameworks for action at the national and international levels, and to report thereon to the Committee on Natural Resources at its tenth session; and
- (ii) The Government of the USSR has agreed to the holding of a training workshop in Tashkent and a study tour in Uzbekistan in the third quarter of 1986 under the United Nations Regular Programme of Technical Co-operation.

Programme Element 2.5: Planning, policy-making and legislation**

Output:

Output remains unchanged.

** Lowest priority.

Programme 10: Population in Africa

Due to the non-availability of the three new posts requested for the biennium and the fact that UNFPA has reduced its support for activities undertaken with extrabudgetary resources, it has been found necessary to propose the following amendments to the programme:

Subprogramme 1: Population policies and development planning

Programme Element 1.1: Technical assistance to countries and territories.

Output: Output remains unchanged.

Programme Element 1.2: Assessment of population policies in socio-economic development planning in Africa.

Output: All programmed output to be terminated due to non-availability of the required resources.

Programme Element 1.3: Evaluation of the demographic impact of population programmes in Africa.

Output: Output (i) and (ii) remain.

Output (iii) - to be designated "extrabudgetary".

Programme Element 1.4: Integration of population variables and policies in development plans.

Output: Output (ii) and (iii) remain.

Output (i) to be reformulated to read "Technical publication: The relation between population growth and food production in selected African countries (fourth quarter, 1987) and designated" (extra-budgetary).

Subprogramme 2: Demographic analysis in the context of economic and social development.

Programme Element 2.1: Advisory services to countries on census and survey data analysis.

Output: All programmed outputs remain unchanged.

Programme Element 2.2: Fertility levels, patterns, differentials and trends in African countries.

Output: All programmed outputs remain unchanged.

Programme Element 2.3: Family formation, structure and fertility in selected African countries.

Programme Element 2.4: Mortality levels, patterns, differentials and trends in selected African countries.

Output: To read "Technical publication: Comparative analysis of mortality levels, patterns, differentials and trends in selected African countries (fourth quarter, 1986)".

Programme Element 2.5: Interrelationship among infant and childhood mortality, socio-economic factors and fertility in selected African countries.

Output: Output remains unchanged.

Programme Element 2.6: Population projections, including evaluation, adjustment and analysis of demographic data for the African region.

Output: Outputs remain unchanged.

Programme Element 2.7: Trends in subregional variations in population distribution and urbanization in Africa and their effects on agricultural and industrial development.

Output: The programmed intermediate activities are to be terminated because the resources requested are not available.

Programme element 2.8: Population information and clearing-house services.

Output: Output 1(a) to (d) and output 1(f) to remain as programmed. Output 1(e) - to be terminated as advised by the POPIN - Africa Review meeting.

Output:(ii) remains

Output:(iii) - to be postponed to 1987 as decided by POPIN - Africa Advisory meeting.

Programme element 2.9: International migration and its effect on the economies of African countries.

Output: Output:(i) to remain

Output:(ii) - to be terminated due to non-availability of the resources requested.

Subprogramme 3: Regional training and research

Programme Element 3.1: Technical support to the substantive and administrative activities of the regional institutes for population studies.

Output: Outputs (i) to (v) remain unchanged.

Output:(vi) - to be amended to read "Lecture missions to national and regional population studies institutions (one in 1986 and one in 1987).

Programme 15: Transport, Communications and Tourism in Africa

The proposals being made for updating the programme have arisen from the need to incorporate in the budget document activities which are being supported by extra-budgetary resources in accordance with rule 104.5 of the regulations and rules governing programme planning, the programme aspects of the budget, the monitoring of implementation and the methods of evaluation (ST/SGB/204), namely:

Subprogramme 1: General and multimodal transport

Programme Element 1.1: Technical assistance to countries and intergovernmental organizations in the field of general and multimodal transport.

Output: Output remains unchanged.

Programme Element 1.2: Overall management and co-ordination of activities related to the implementation of the second phase of the United Nations Transport and Communications Decade in Africa**

Output:

Delete and instead insert the following:

- (i) Annual report to the Conference of Ministers responsible for economic development and planning on the progress made in the implementation of the Decade Programme (first quarter 1986; and first quarter 1987) (XB);
- (ii) Substantive servicing of the ninth and tenth meetings of the Inter-agency Co-ordination Committee on the Decade (first quarter 1986; and first quarter 1987) (XB);
- (iii) Technical publication: Standard format and guidelines for the presentation of projects, as means for harmonizing the needs of various financial institutions, facilitating negotiations between African States and financial institutions and thus accelerating the process of mobilizing funds (first quarter 1987) (XB);
- (iv) Reports to co-financing meetings on the major priority transport and communications projects selected for negotiation between States and financial institutions (one, fourth quarter 1986, and one, fourth quarter 1987) (XB);

* Highest priority

- (v) Substantive servicing of co-financing meetings for certain specific regional projects and transport corridor projects (one, fourth quarter 1986; and one, fourth quarter 1987) (XB);
- (vi) Substantive servicing of two training courses on techno-economic road design and maintenance in Africa (second quarter 1986; and third quarter 1987) (XB);
- (vii) Reports to the second and third meetings of the regional Air Transport Committee on the studies already available on the development of air transport in Africa (one, second quarter 1986); one, second quarter 1987) (XB);
- (viii) Substantive servicing of the second and third meetings of the regional Air Transport Committee (second quarter 1986; second quarter 1987) (XB);
- (ix) Reports to the meetings of the two axes on problems hindering the development of the axes necessary for regional integration and economic development of Africa (one, third quarter 1986; one, third quarter 1987) (XB);
- (x) Substantive servicing of meetings on the two axes necessary for the integration and development of Africa (one, third quarter 1986; one, third quarter 1987) (XB);
- (xi) Technical publication: Guidelines for maintenance of cargo-handling port equipment (fourth quarter 1986) (XB);
- (xii) Technical publication: Shore-to-ship, and vice-versa, communications for officials of coastal African States (fourth quarter 1986) (XB); and
- (xiii) Report to and substantive servicing of an intergovernmental meeting of experts on feasibility of establishing a Ministerial Conference on Maritime Transport for North and East African countries (third quarter 1989)(XB).

Programme Element 1.3: Fifth meeting of the Conference of African Ministers of Transport, Communications and Planning.

Output:

Output remains unchanged.

Programme element 1.4: Simplification of Documentation and the use of the TIR carnet in international surface transport in Africa.

Output:

Output remains unchanged.

Programme Element 1.5: Regional transport master plan for Africa.

Output:

Output remains unchanged.

Subprogramme 2: Maritime transport, inland water transport and ports.

Programme Element 2.1: Technical assistance to countries and intergovernmental organizations in the field of maritime transport.

Output:

Output remains unchanged.

Programme Element 2.2: Updating and harmonization of maritime legislation in the African region**

Output: Delete and instead insert "Report to meetings of Councils of the MULPOCs on the status of implementation of the United Nations Code of Conduct of Liner Conferences in the African region, taking into account the problems encountered and the recommended proposals for solving them (first quarter 1987)".

Programme Element 2.3: Technical assistance to countries and intergovernmental organizations in the field of ports.

Output:

Outputs remain unchanged.

Programme Element 2.4: Regional seminar on port operations.

Output:

Output remains unchanged.

Programme Element 2.5: Establishment of a subregional dredging organization for Eastern and Southern African ports**

Output:

Outputs remain unchanged.

Programme Element 2.6: Technical assistance to countries and intergovernmental organizations in the field of inland water transport.

Output:

Output remains unchanged.

** Lowest priority

Programme Element 2.7: Establishment of river basin commissions.

Output:

Outputs remain unchanged.

Programme Element 3.1: Technical assistance to countries and intergovernmental organizations in the field of roads and road transport.

Output:

Output remains unchanged.

Programme Element 3.2: Development of the Tripoli-Windhoek Trans-Central African Highway.

Outputs:

Outputs remain unchanged. However, insert (XB) after output (ii).

Programme Element 3.3: Development of the Beira-Lobito Trans-Southern African Highway.

Output:

Outputs remain unchanged. However, insert "extrabudgetary" after output (ii).

Programme Element 3.4: Development of the Cairo-Gaborone Trans-East African Highway.

Output:

Output remains unchanged. However, insert (XB) after the output.

Programme Element 3.5: African Highway Master Plan and Code.

Output:

Outputs remain unchanged. However, insert (XB) after each output.

Programme Element 3.6: Technical assistance to countries and intergovernmental organizations in the field of railway transport.

Output:

Output remains unchanged.

Programme Element 3.7: Maintenance, repair and renewal of railway tracks.

Output:

Output remains unchanged. However, insert (YB) after the output

Programme Element 3.8: Improvement of regularity of railway operations in Africa.

Output:

Output remains unchanged. However, insert (XB) after the output.

Programme Element 3.9: Harmonization of tariff structures and commercial rules and regulations.

Output:

Output remains unchanged. However, insert (XB) at the end.

Insert a new programme element 3.10 as a result of further resources provided by UNDP.

Programme Element 3.10: African Gas Pipeline.

Output:

Technical Publication: Feasibility study on establishing a gas pipeline network in Africa (fourth quarter, 1987) (XB).

Subprogramme 4: Air transport.

Programme Element 4.1: Technical assistance to countries and intergovernmental organizations in the field of air transport.

Output:

Output remains unchanged.

Programme Element 4.2: Air transport costs in Africa.

Output:

Output remains unchanged.

Subprogramme 5: Tourism

Programme Element 5.1: Technical assistance to countries and intergovernmental organizations in the field of tourism.

Output:

Output remains unchanged but delete "two missions in 1986; two in 1987": and insert "one mission in 1986; one in 1987".

Programme Element 5.2: Seminar on tourism statistics.

Output:

Output remains unchanged.

Programme Element 5.3: Implementation of the recommendations of the Regional Tourism Conference.

Output:

Outputs remain unchanged.

Programme Element 5.4: Inter-State tourism circuits in Africa.

Output:

Output remains unchanged.

Subprogramme 6: Communications

Programme Element 6.1: Technical assistance to countries and intergovernmental organizations in the field of communications.

Output:

Outputs remain unchanged. However insert (XB) after the output for fourth quarter, 1987.

Programme Element 6.2: Regional African Satellite Communications System.

Output:

Outputs remain unchanged. However, insert (XB) after the output for fourth quarter, 1987.

Programme Element 6.3: Development of postal services.

Output:

Outputs remain unchanged.

Programme Element 6.4: Development of mail routing plans in Africa.

Output:

Output remains unchanged.

Insert two new programme elements and the associated outputs as a result of technical assistance provided by the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany.

Programme Element 6.5: Impact of modern technologies on African telecommunications services.

Output:

Technical publication: The economic impact of transition from analogue to digital technology for policy-makers, planners and managers of telecommunication services (fourth quarter, 1987) (XB).

Programme Element 6.6: Joint ECA/WMO study on the African section of the Global Telecommunications Systems (GTS).

Output: Report to the ECA Conference of Ministers responsible for economic development and planning on the joint ECA/WMO study on the African Section of the Global Telecommunications System (second quarter, 1987) (XB).