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ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR AFRICA
African Meeting on Commodity Stabilization
Lagos, Nigeria, 30 July - 7 August, 1962
Item 3 of the Provisional agenda

PROVISIONAL AGENDA

1. Opening addresses
2. Election of officers
3. Adoption of the agenda
4. National stabilization measures. Review and appraisal of stabilization measures actually applied by African countries.
5. International stabilization measures. Review of international commodity agreements of interest to African countries and of recent international developments in commodity stabilization.
6. Sub-regional or regional measures. Possibilities of joint action by African countries in production and marketing.
7. Proposals for further action
8. Consideration and approval of the report of the Meeting
9. Any other business

ANNOTATIONS TO THE PROVISIONAL AGENDA

Note by the Executive Secretary

The provisional agenda of the Meeting is based upon resolution 25(III) adopted by the Third Session of the Commission^{1/} and upon the action taken by the Commission at its Fourth Session on the basis of certain proposals presented by the Executive Secretary.^{2/}

It may be noted that the Commission on International Commodity Trade (CICT) at its Fourth Session in May 1962 and the Joint Session of the Commission on International Commodity Trade and the FAO Committee on Commodity Problems (CCP) held from 7 to 14 May 1962 also considered, inter alia, certain questions related to the provisional agenda of the present Meeting. Reference to the relevant portions of the reports of these two bodies, copies of which are being circulated to governments participating in the present Meeting, is made under the appropriate headings below.

The Meeting may also wish to note that the General Assembly in its resolution 1707(XVI) on "International trade as the primary instrument for economic development" provided, inter alia, for consultations on the advisability of holding an international conference on international trade problems relating especially to primary commodity markets. This question is to be considered at the thirty-fourth session of the Economic and Social Council in July 1962.

^{1/} See Annual Report of the Commission, 7 February 1960 -- 18 February 1961, document E/3452/Rev.1, page 32.

^{2/} See Progress Report on the Implementation of Commission Resolution 25(III) document E/CN.14/141 and Annual Report of the Commission, February 1961 - February 1962, document E/CN.14/168.

Item 1 : Opening addresses

Item 2 : Election of Officers

Under the rules of procedure of the Economic Commission for Africa the Meeting shall elect its own officers.

Item 3 : Adoption of the agenda

Item 4 : National Stabilization Measures - review and appraisal of stabilization measures actually applied by African countries

The Meeting will have before it under this item National Marketing Boards and Price Stabilization Funds in Africa (E/CN.14/STC/CS/1) prepared by the Department of Economic and Social Affairs at United Nations Headquarters with the cooperation of the Secretariat of the Economic Commission for Africa. Two documents on the subject prepared by the Secretariat of FAO for the recent Joint Session of the CICT and the FAO-CCP are also being circulated, namely : The Role of Marketing Boards for Export Crops in Developing Countries (E/CN.13/50-CCP 62/21) and Commodity Stabilization Funds in the French Franc Area (E/CN.13/51-CCP 62/22).

The subject of national marketing boards and stabilization funds was on the agenda of the Joint Session of the CICT and CCP referred to above. The discussion of this subject in the Joint Session is described in Report of the Joint CICT/CCP Session, paragraphs 33 - 50, which is annexed to Report of the Tenth Session of the Commission on International Commodity Trade (document E/3644) which is being circulated as background information.

The Meeting will also have before it for information a note by the Secretariat of FAO on Preparation of an advisory handbook on the practical aspects of marketing boards

(E/CN.14/STC/CS/10), describing a handbook which it is intended to publish in the FAO Marketing Guide series.

Item 5 : International stabilization measures. Review of international commodity agreements of interest to African countries and of recent international developments in commodity stabilization

A series of papers has been prepared for this Meeting by the Secretariat of FAO covering the following commodities :

(E/CN.14/STC/CS/2 to 8)

Coffee

Cocoa

Groundnuts & Groundnut Oil

Cotton

Sisal

Palm Products

Rubber

As background information the following documents are also being circulated :

- Information Note on United Nations action concerning compensatory financial measures to offset fluctuations in the export income of primary producing countries - prepared by the Executive Secretary (E/CN.14/STC/CS/9).
- Commission on International Commodity Trade, Report of the Tenth Session (E/3644).
The report of the Joint CICT/CCP Session held in May 1962 is annexed to this document.
- Interim Co-ordinating Committee for International Commodity Arrangements, 1962 Review of International Commodity Problems (E/3614).

This document contains a review of the principal developments during 1961/62 in inter-governmental

- consultation and action on individual commodities.
- FAO Commodity Review, 1962 (E/CN.13/47 - CCP 62/4).
 - Agricultural Commodities - Projections for 1970, Special Supplement to FAO Commodity Review, 1962 (E/CN.13/48 - CCP 62/5).
 - Agricultural Commodities and the European Common Market, FAO Commodity Policy Studies No. 13, Rome 1962 (CCP 62/8).
 - Functions of a World Food Reserve, FAO Commodity Policy Studies No. 10, Rome 1956.

Item 6 : Sub-regional or regional measures. Possibilities of joint action by African countries in production and marketing.

The Meeting may wish to take note of Commission resolution E/CN.14/RES/57(IV) in which the Commission referred to "the importance for the export income of the African countries of an organized market for the principal commodities guaranteeing them an outlet at sufficiently stable and remunerative prices", drew attention to the results already obtained in this regard by regional organizations and requested the Executive Secretary "to undertake a study defining the conditions under which all the exporting and importing countries concerned could organize by international action markets for the principal commodities of interest to Africa, so as to improve the results already obtained regionally and to extend them to all the African countries concerned;"

Item 7 : Proposals for further action.

Item 8 : Consideration and approval of the report of the Meeting.

Item 9 : Any other business.