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PREPARATION OF UNTACDA II

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ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR AFRICA

First Meeting of Subregional Working  
Groups for UNTACDA II Programme

Addis Ababa, 19-24 March 1990

Report of the first meeting of  
Subregional Working Groups for  
UNTACDA II Programme

## A. ORGANIZATION

1. The first meeting of African subregional inter-governmental organizations for economic integration which constitute the Subregional Working Groups for the second United Nations Transport and Communications Decade for Africa (UNTACDA II) programme was held at the headquarters of the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia from 19 to 24 March 1990.

## B. PARTICIPATION

2. The meeting was attended by representatives from the following 12 African subregional economic organizations: Economic Community of the Great Lakes Countries (CEPGL), Inter-Governmental Authority on Draught and Development (IGADD), Transit Co-ordination Authority for the Northern Corridor (TTCA), Mano River Union (MRU), Ministerial Conference on Maritime Transport for West and Central African States (MINCONMAR), Kagera Basin Organization (KBO), Preferential Trade Area for Eastern and Southern Africa States (PTA), Union Douaniere et économique de l'Afrique centrale (UDEAC), Communauté économique pour l'Afrique de l'Ouest (CEAO), Commission du Bassin du Lac Tchad (CBLT), Autorité Liptako-Gourma and the Maghreb Arab Union (UMA) represented by the Embassy of Tunisia at Addis Ababa.

3. The following North African countries also participated in the meeting: Egypt and Sudan.

4. The following organizations and institutions also participated in the meeting as members of the Resource Mobilization Committee (RMC) for UNTACDA II: Organization of African Unity (OAU), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the African Development Bank (ADB) and the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA).

## C. OPENING OF THE MEETING

5. The meeting was officially opened by Mr. Mpekasa Bongoy, Chief of the Transport, Communications and Tourism Division of the Economic Commission for Africa in the name of Professor Adebayo Adedeji, United Nations Under-Secretary General and Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa.

6. In his opening statement Mr. Bongoy welcomed the participants and emphasized the important role which the transport and communications sectors play as an engine for growth and development both at national and international levels. He then briefly recalled the activities already undertaken during the preparatory stage of the Second United Nations Transport and Communications Decade in Africa and the salient points of the preparation for UNTACDA II.

7. Stressing the important role which every institution participating in the meeting is expected to play in UNTACDA II, Mr. Bongoy noted that the "bottom-up" approach philosophy adopted for the preparation of the Second Decade implies that, while the National Co-ordinating Committees form the basis on which the programme of UNTACDA II will be built, the Subregional Working Groups would be a very important link through which the objectives of the UNTACDA II will be translated into actions.

8. He further explained that the task of the Subregional Working Groups will be therefore to properly design a realistically structured and implementable subregional programme which would take into account both the views of National Co-ordinating Committees and those of the specialized sub-sectoral Working Groups. When brought to the regional level, the subregional programmes should form a solid programme of UNTACDA II which will be submitted for approval to the Conference of African Ministers of Transport, Communications and Planning at its eighth meeting in December 1990.

9. The Chief of TCTD then briefly outlined the objectives and programme of the meeting, which would mainly concentrate on organizing the groups within each subregion in order to follow up and monitor the activities needed to be undertaken before December 1990. The groups will also have to designate a lead organization as well as to spell out a work plan for the preparation of the subregional programmes.

10. Finally he assured all the delegates that ECA, as a lead agency for the second Decade, will spare no efforts in assisting the Subregional Working Groups throughout all their activities in relation to UNTACDA II. He concluded by wishing every success to the meeting.

#### D. ACCOUNT OF PROCEEDINGS

##### Election of Officers (agenda item 2)

11. The meeting elected the following bureau:

Chairman	-	Communauté économique de l'Afrique de l'Ouest (CEAO)
Rapporteur	-	Mano River Union (MRU)

##### Adoption of the agenda and programme of work (agenda item 3)

12. The meeting considered the draft agenda proposed by the ECA secretariat and adopted it as follows:

1. Opening
2. Election of Officers
3. Adoption of agenda and programme of work
4. Background to UNTACDA II Programme
5. Guidelines for preparation of programme
6. Organizational meetings of individual Working Groups (4)

- (a) Election of Chairman
- (b) Allocation of tasks among members
- (c) Review of baseline assessment reports by each member
- (d) Determination of priority issues and key Decade objectives for the subregion
- (e) Adoption of report

7. Reports to plenary by each Working Group

8. Discussions of common issues

9. Any other business

10. Adoption of report and closing.

13. The following programme of work was also adopted for the meeting:

Monday 19 March, 1990

09.00 - 10.00 Registration of participants

10.00 - 10.30 Opening (agenda item 1)

10.30 - 13.00 Election of officers (agenda item 2)  
Adoption of the agenda and programme of work (agenda item 3)

Background to UNTACDA II programme

(agenda item 4)

13.00 - 15.00

Lunch break

15.00 - 18.00

Guidelines for preparation of UNTACDA II programme (agenda item 5)

Tuesday 20 March:

Meeting of individual Working Groups in Committee (agenda item 6)

09.00 - 13.00

West Africa

13.00 - 15.00

Lunch break

15.00 - 18.00

Central Africa

Wednesday 21 March:

Meeting of individual Working Groups in Committee (agenda item 6 cont.)

09.00 - 13.00

North Africa

13.00 - 15.00

Lunch break

15.00 - 18.00

Eastern and Southern Africa

Thursday 22 March:

Reports of subregional Working groups to plenary (agenda item 7)

09:00 - 13:00

West Africa  
Central Africa

13:00 - 15:00

Lunch break

15:00 - 18:00

North Africa  
Eastern and Southern Africa

Friday 23 March:

09:00 - 13:00

Discussion of common issues (agenda item 8)  
Any other business (agenda item 9)

13:00 - 18:00

Free, secretariat prepares report

Saturday 24 March

16:00 - 18:00

Adoption of report and closing of meeting (agenda item 10).

Background to UNTACDA II (agenda item 4)

14. A representative of the ECA Secretariat presented a brief background to the programme of the United Nations Transport and Communications Decade in Africa. He said that upon the attainment of political independence, Africa needed a regional programme in order to transform the outward oriented system which was inherited from the colonial era into an integrated one for the promotion of intra-Africa trade. UNTACDA was conceived as a programme of co-operation among African Member States, and between Africa and the international agencies and financing institutions.

15. He then recalled that the idea of the Decade originated at the 1976 Paris Conference on International Economic Co-operation, the so-called "North-South" negotiations for a new international economic order, and was formalized in 1977 at the Kinshasa Conference of ECA Ministers, and later that year when the United Nations General Assembly declared 1978-1988 as the Decade for African transport and communications.

16. The programme was implemented in two phases: Phase I covering 1980-1983 and Phase II in the period 1984-1988. The outcome of that huge programme, which consisted of over 2,000 projects costing an estimated US\$30 billions, was encouraging enough to prompt the African member States to call for a Second Decade programme. Up to US\$13 billions were mobilized to implement about 50 per cent of the projects in that first Decade.

17. The evaluation of the first Decade confirmed that the objectives still remained valid for the Second Decade, that is, the development of efficient integrated transport and communications system in Africa. However, from that experience, it was recommended that a new strategy be followed for the Second Decade. That strategy calls for a "bottom-up" approach, with the programme based on the needs identified at the national level, but solutions developed at subregional level. Thus, the subregional organizations which were created by the Member States for the purpose of promoting integration, have a central role in this programme. The programme is designed in such a manner that the subregional working groups will co-ordinate the technical inputs of the specialized sectoral organizations/agencies into the programme.

18. He then reviewed the preparatory activities that have been carried out since the Conference of African Ministers of Transport, Communications and Planning formally called for the Second Decade at its sixth meeting in March 1988 at Kinshasa. Among these were the three meetings of the Inter-Agency Co-ordinating Committee (IACC), a special Workshop of High Level Experts on Transport and Communications and the creation of the Resource Mobilization Committee (RMC) and the ad-hoc Committee on Criteria. These activities culminated in the approval by the same Ministers meeting in Tangiers in November 1989, of the objectives, strategies and guidelines for the programme.

19. Following the Tangiers meeting, the ECA organized a workshop in February for the Chairmen of the National Co-ordinating Committees which have been set up to co-ordinate the preparation of the programme at the national level. The NCC's have since been set up in many countries and there is need to support their set-up in those countries which have not yet done so.

20. This meeting of the subregional organizations was organized in order to formally institute the four sub-regional working groups for the programme and to agree on their programme of work. It will be followed by a similar meeting for the sub-sectoral organizations in April 1990.

21. Finally, he reminded the meeting of the very tight schedule that must be followed in the preparation of the programme, a draft of which will be presented to the next meeting of Ministers in November/December 1990.

22. In the ensuing debate, questions were raised concerning how overlaps between NCCs and Subregional Organizations will be avoided and whether there would be financial resources available to subregional organizations for carrying out the tasks that will be entrusted to them.

23. A representative of the secretariat, in addressing the two questions, informed the meeting that there should be no overlaps because subregional organizations will serve as the focal points where the needs of their member States will be considered from a subregional point of view. With regards to funding, he informed the meeting that, in Tangiers it was already agreed that, since UNTACDA II is a programme of cooperation, member States are to finance activities of their NCCs. Concerning funding the activities of subregional organizations, he said that UNDP had agreed to provide technical assistance to those subregional organizations that would require such support.

24. The UNDP representative clarified the point that funding would be provided through ECA as lead agency for the management of UNTACDA II project and not directly from any UNDP offices.

Guidelines for preparation of the programme (agenda item 5)

25. In introducing this item, the representative of the ECA secretariat stressed its importance since it formed the basis of the subsequent activities of the Subregional Working Groups. He then recalled once again that the strategy of the new programme laid emphasis on the full participation of the member States and their subregional economic organizations. Thus, the programme would begin with needs identification at the national and subregional levels and progress to the programming at sub-sectoral and regional levels.

26. He then summarized the document on guidelines section by section. Following the introduction, the next section defined the composition of the four Subregional Working Groups for West, Central, North and Eastern and Southern Africa as well as the organization of their activities. This was followed by an outline of the tasks which each Subregional Working Group will undertake to prepare the subregional programme. This consisted of an analysis of the major subregional transport and communications systems, identification of key problems and constraints, description of major on-going projects in the subregion, proposed strategy and definition of an initial programme.

27. Under subregional action programmes were outlined the four project categories as well as the criteria for selection of projects, which were approved by the Ministers. A timetable and work plan for the Working Groups were also outlined in the presentation.

28. Leading the subsequent discussions was the question of financing the activities/meetings which are envisaged over the next few months in the preparation of the programme. It was pointed out that most subregional organizations had already programmed their work for the rest of the year and that the Decade activities would be additional, but with no allocated budgets. To this concern, the ECA representative stated that financial and technical assistance would be provided to assist those organizations which might experience difficulties in carrying out their assigned tasks. Such assistance would be made available within the framework of the assistance project which the UNDP has provided through ECA as the lead agency for the Decade programme.

29. Another concern was raised on the participation of some specialized African regional and subregional organizations in the work of the Subregional Working Groups which are composed of African IGO's for economic integration. The representative of the ECA replied that, in general specialized African IGO's would participate in the respective sub-sectoral Working Groups which have been set up to prepare the sub-sector programmes to address the problems being identified at the national level by the NCC's and at the subregional level by the Subregional Working Groups.

30. The document, Guidelines for the Subregional Working Groups (DEC/TRANSCOM/SRWG/4) was examined chapter by chapter after being introduced by ECA as follows:

Chapter I: Introduction - No comments

Chapter II: Composition and organization of Subregional Working Groups

- Several questions were raised on this section and were resolved as follows:

(i) The delegation of the Sudan wanted to know if Sudan could be classified with Eastern and Southern Africa. It was explained that, according to ECA regional classifications, the Sudan is presently in the North Africa region. However, upon formal notification of Sudan's entry into the PTA, the ECA would act accordingly. In any case, the programme of the Sudan would also be under IGADD to which the Sudan belongs;

(ii) A question was also raised on the participation of UAPT and MINCONMAR in the Subregional Working Groups. Concerning MINCONMAR, the representative of ECA explained that, at the Tangiers meeting, MINCONMAR had expressed the wish to participate at both the level of the subregion and subsector. In the case of UAPT, the ECA representative explained that that organization had been classified, since Tangiers meeting, with its subregional organizations. The meeting agreed that these two organizations may participate at both levels as had been decided at Tangiers;

(iii) Some organizations belong to more than one Subregional Working Group. Must they choose one or the other? It was resolved that they can participate in more than one Subregional Working Group as such organizations formed a natural link between adjacent subregions;

(iv) Regarding the selection of a lead organization for each subregion, it was agreed that each Working Group would choose its own leader to co-ordinate its work.

Chapter III: Tasks of the Subregional Working groups - This section was examined in detail with major concerns centering around the relationship between the Subregional Working Groups and the NCCs. It was pointed out that the Subregional Working Groups are expected to work together with the NCCs in developing the strategy for their subregion. In this work, the ECA and the RMC would provide technical support, especially in view of the fact that the Decade work was an addition to the work of the subregional organizations which had already been budgeted for by their respective legislative organs. As concerns the tight time frame left for carrying out the various tasks, it was pointed out that a draft programme must be produced by November 1990 for presentation to the Ministers.

Chapter IV: Subregional action plans - It was pointed out that the development and integration of transport and communications systems should not only aim at promotion of trade since the objective of regional economic integration is not limited to the trade aspect only. This point was noted.



Chapter V: Timetable for the preparation of the programme - It was agreed that since the timetable had already been approved by the Ministers, it remained for each Working Group to derive its own time-table from the general one.

Chapter VI: Work plan for the Working Groups - Attention was drawn to the need to reach a consensus on quantifiable targets for the Decade and parameters for monitoring in order to facilitate evaluation of the programme.

Organizational meetings of individual Working Groups (agenda item 6)

31. A representative of the secretariat outlined the tasks which each of the four Subregional Working Groups is expected to perform during the meeting. These tasks included the designation of a lead organization to co-ordinate the preparation of the programme in the subregion; synthesis of reports on the current status of transport and communications which were prepared by individual member organizations of the Working Group; allocation of preparatory responsibilities among members of the Working Group and presentation of a report in plenary.

Report to plenary by each Working Group (agenda item 7)

32. Each Working Group presented its report in plenary. These reports are included as annexes to this report. However, in the case of the North African Subregional Working Group due to the non-participation of the Arab Maghreb Union the following recommendations were made:

- (i) that ECA should act as Coordinator and in that capacity liaise with the Maghreb Arab Union with a view to soliciting their opinion on the implementation of Agenda item 6(a), (b), and (d) above;
- (ii) that ECA convene a meeting for the subregion as soon as possible;
- (iii) that, in the mean time, each member State prepare its baseline assessment report for submission to the ECA, the coordinator.

33. The common issues that arose from these reports are reported under item 8 as follows:

Discussion of common issues (agenda item 8)

34. Several issues were raised by the various Working Groups during the presentation of their reports in plenary (agenda item 7 above). There were four key ones which were common to all groups and were discussed in detail.

35. The first issue concerned the difficulties in co-ordination among IGO's and between the IGO's and member States. Questions arose as to the order of preparation and co-ordination at the various levels. In this regard, a representative of the ECA explained that, since the programme is designed to originate from the national level, it was the responsibility of each IGO to assist all its member States in setting up the NCCs and preparing the national strategy and programme. After all, he added, the Decade programme is intended to assist these IGO's to carry out the responsibilities for which they were created, and that is, to serve the needs of the member States.
36. As concerns co-ordination among the IGO's in each major subregion, it was agreed that each of the existing larger economic market groupings, namely PTA, ECOWAS, ECCAS and Arab Magrheb Union, would co-ordinate the work in their respective subregions.
37. The second area of concern related to lack of resources to carry out the tasks. It was apparent that most IGO's did not have sufficient manpower and financial resources to undertake the Decade assignments which were, in all cases, additional to their approved programme of activities. On this point, it was agreed that each organization assess its technical assistance requirements and submit them to the ECA and RMC for consideration. Even though the UNDP has made some provision for such assistance, it was stressed that these are limited and as such, each Working Group must first look carefully at its available resources before seeking external assistance.
38. In relation to this second issue, it was stressed once again that the Decade programme was primarily the responsibility of African countries and their IGO's. External assistance was meant as a means to achieve the goals of the programme.
39. On the third area of concern, that is, the short time available for the preparation of this programme, it was generally agreed that every effort be made to obey the established timetable. The participants again expressed concern about the problems of co-ordination with the NCC's in view of the short time between now and the June/July meeting and the difficulties in setting up and functioning of the NCC's before them. The meeting was reminded that there were many partners involved in the preparation of this programme and each should follow the schedule in order not to disrupt the work of others.
40. The final general issue concerned data. It was pointed out that the lack of established data base and information systems led to unnecessary repetitive work. For example, it was pointed out that the baseline assessment should be easy if the necessary data were available.

41. A representative of ECA informed the meeting that the need to establish reliable information system on transport and communications in Africa was one of the global objectives of the Decade programme. He further stated that efforts have already been deployed in this direction under a joint ECA/World Bank/UNDP project. It was also stated that, in the case of telecommunications and broadcasting, extensive work had already been carried out under the feasibility study project on a Regional African Satellite Communications System (RASCOM). The need for an information system to disseminate the existing data was also stressed.

Any other business (agenda item 9)

42. No issues were raised under this agenda item.

Adoption of report and closing of meeting (agenda item 10)

43. The draft report was adopted after several amendments.

44. At closing, a vote of thanks was passed in appreciation to ECA for bringing the organizations together, most for the first time, to discuss the programme of development for the transport and communications sectors.

45. In his response on behalf of the Executive Secretary and the secretariat of ECA, the Chief of Transport, Communications and Tourism Division thanked all the participants for taking the time to attend the meeting. He reminded them that the UNTACDA programme is neither an ECA nor a UN programme, but a programme of collaboration among all the partners. In particular, he re-emphasized that the base of the programme is the NCC which should be supported by their respective IGO's.

46. Finally, Professor Bongoy expressed the hope that the useful contacts established by the various organizations at the meeting would not be lost.

47. On his part, the Chairman recalled the hope that had been generated by the first Decade programme, which had led to the declaration of UNTACDA II. He said that the lessons learnt from that first programme had been used by ECA in drawing up the new programme. In particular, he referred to the establishment of the Resource Mobilization Committee and other mechanisms for the second Decade programme. Finally, the Chairman thanked the ECA for the excellent preparations and clear presentations of the guidelines which helped the participants to understand the importance of the national level programming as well as the magnitude of the tasks which the IGO's are expected to undertake in order that the Decade programme be a success. He then declared the meeting closed.

1. The first meeting of the West African Sub-regional Working Group for the Second United Nations Transport and Communications Decade for Africa (UNTACDA II) was held at the headquarters of the ECA, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, from 20 to 21 March 1990.

#### Participants

2. Five representatives out of the nine intergovernmental organisations in the subregion together with OAU and ECA took part in the meeting as follows: Lake Chad Basin Commission, Communauté économique de l'Afrique de l'Ouest (CEAO), Liptako Gourma Authority, MINCONMAR and Mano River Union (MRU).

3. The following members of the Resource Mobilization Committee also participated: The African Development Bank (ADB), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the Organization of African Unity (OAU) and the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA).

#### Opening of the meeting

4. As a procedural matter, representatives of the various organisations were introduced by the ECA representative. The meeting followed the agenda which had been approved in plenary under item 6.

#### Election of officers

5. CEAO was elected Chairman for the meeting. The Working Group was however of the view that since ECOWAS was the largest grouping in West Africa, it should assume the leadership of the West African Subregional Working Group and CEAO becomes Vice-Chairman. The Mano River Union was nominated as Rapporteur.

#### Review of baseline assessment reports by each member

6. In his presentation, the Liptako Gourma Authority representative informed the Working Group that his organisation was unable to fulfill the ECA assignment due to the short notice. He, however, noted that the Authority was engaged in transport and telecommunications programmes and was prepared to submit the programmes to the ECA.

7. The Mano River Union representative presented a document entitled: Union Transport Projects. He then outlined the activities undertaken in the area of transport in the Mano River Union.

8. The Lake Chad Basin Commission representative stated that the Commission had not been informed in time about the extent of work required. He however, presented a partial report which excluded costs. He highlighted the current situation including studies on road networks which had been undertaken with the support of UNDP but which were disrupted due to force majeure.

9. The CEAO representative stated that after the Tangiers Meeting in November 1989, the ECA forwarded the reports to CEAO. He noted that the objectives of UNTACDA II were in line with those of CEAO. He further informed the Working Group that CEAO was collaborating with the World Bank and that the latter had made available funding for the baseline assessment as requested in the Second Decade programme. The evaluation, which commenced in January 1990 and will end in June 1990 is being undertaken by three consultants recruited by CEAO and the World Bank.
10. The Secretary General of MINCONMAR said that it had been agreed to give a new orientation to the Second Decade taking into account the economic situation prevailing in the subregions. It was therefore his understanding that an assessment had to be made of the transport situation in the subregions so that only a limited number of projects of the highest priority could be retained. Consequently, it was his opinion that the IGOs could only submit valuable lists of projects after this general assessment.
11. Commenting on the various IGO presentations, the ECA representative expressed his appreciation for the response shown so far and cited in particular, the World Bank's involvement with CEAO.
12. Referring to the Sub-committees formed in the areas of transport and communications under the aegis of ECOWAS, the ECA representative wanted to know the coordinating role of these sub-committees in relation to the transport and communications Decade programme.
13. Commenting on the same issue, the OAU representative noted that the problems with the IGOs were not identical even though the overall objectives were the same. He therefore, proposed that a baseline assessment of each subregion covered by these IGO's be conducted.
14. The ECA representative referred to the various presentations made by the IGOs and observed that the major area of concentration was in the transport sector even though not much emphasis was placed on the problems of movement of peoples and goods along the corridors. He stressed the need for the inclusion of the human element, social problems and legislations governing each corridor.
15. The UNDP representative referred to the meeting which he said, was an indication of ECA's objective of decentralization of roles. The involvement of the member States through their IGOs he said, was in support of the "bottom-up" approach philosophy adopted for the Decade.

### Allocation of tasks

16. On the issue of allocation of tasks among members, the view was that it would be difficult to assign responsibilities to organisations that were not present. The case of ECOWAS was highlighted which, even with its acceptance to be the co-ordinator for the subregion, cannot easily be assigned operational responsibilities. Other difficulties highlighted in the implementation of the tasks include, problems of competence and capability, time constraints and funding. Having reviewed the issue, it was recommended that a group meeting of the West African Subregion should be convened in mid-April 1990 under the auspices of ECOWAS and that ECA should provide the necessary support. Other suggestions were offered by the Resource Mobilization Committee (RMC). Finally, it was agreed that ECA should communicate with ECOWAS on the matter and that during the CEAO meeting in Ouagadougou, the latter should brief ECOWAS on the decisions reached at the first meeting of the West African Sub-regional Working Group.

### Identification of major constraints

17. Regarding the identification of the major problems encountered by the West African Subregional groupings, it was suggested that since there was going to be an in-depth assessment of the baseline, discussion of the problems was considered premature. The issue was therefore deferred. However, it was recommended that another meeting be convened at the end of May/early June 1990 to analyse the data that would have been collected between April and May by the IGOs. In this regard, ECA should provide the necessary assistance and to liaise with ECOWAS recalling the issues highlighted by the West African Subregional Working Group.

18. Relating to the transit corridors, the representative of Liptako Gourma Authority informed the meeting that despite the numerous transit problems faced by its landlocked member States, the Authority had not seriously addressed the issue of transit legislation, but had rather concentrated on the development of transport infrastructure. This was because they believed that CEAO, which also covers the member States of the Authority was already considering the issue since it had initiated a study in that respect.

19. The MRU and CEAO representatives briefly outlined some of the problems encountered by their organizations specifically the problems of customs regulations, the status of inter-State transport systems and the artificial human barriers. The MRU has programmes of facilitation in road and air transport. In the CEAO area, facilitation programmes covered practically all aspects of transport in the transit corridors as well as maritime transport. Each of these two organizations then submitted, under separate cover, summary reports of their activities.

1. The Working Group of the Central African subregion met on 21 March 1990. The following participated in this meeting: ECA, OAU, UNDP, ADB, UDEAC, CEPGL and the Lake Chad Basin Commission. The meeting was chaired by UDEAC and LCBC was the Rapporteur.
2. The Working Group designated ECCAS as the lead agency of the subregion and UDEAC as its assistant.
3. The allocation of duties posed fewer problems than in other subregions since ECCAS merges UDEAC and CEPGL, plus Sao-Tome and Principe. The coordinating role of ECCAS is therefore a lot easier. Thus, UDEAC and the CEPGL will be responsible for their respective geographical areas. In addition to its coordinating role, ECCAS will be responsible for transport and communications problems of Sao-Tome and Principe and Angola.
4. Special emphasis was laid on the need to secure foreign financing for the mission of members of the Working Group to their respective geographical areas, data collection, incentives to the establishment and functioning of National Coordinating Committees (NCCs). It is important that members of the Working Group undertake contacts with NCCs and cooperate with them in the preparation of documents for the meeting of June/July 1990.
5. The Group wants to benefit from ECA technical assistance. Considering the many tasks to be accomplished as contained in the directives, and in order to successfully perform these tasks, each member of the subregional working group must evaluate its own capacities and express its technical assistance needs. ECA is ready to give them such assistance.
6. Considering its experience, LCBC was requested to pay more attention to environmental problems which are not included in the work programme of other Intergovernmental Organizations (IGOs) of the subregion. LCBC is ready to accomplish this task provided it receives the necessary resources.
7. With regard to the identification of major problems affecting the transport system in the geographical space of each subregional IGO, the LCBC representative gave an oral report on activities carried out by his organization in the area of transport and telecommunications. The CEPGL representative reported on the many activities undertaken in the area of transport, telecommunications and postal services in order to open up the subregion at both the intra-community and foreign trade levels.
8. The UDEAC representative informed the meeting that there exist data on his subregion and that he would forward them to ECA on his return. In his capacity as chairman of the meeting, he requested all IGOs of the subregion to send documents requested by ECA upon their return to their headquarters. He then asked ECA if documents requested for this meeting would not be a duplication of those to be produced for the June/July 1990 meeting. In reply, ECA stated that the purpose of these documents is to have information on each subregion.

9. The date and venue of the June/July 1990 meeting shall be fixed after consultations amongst the IGOs of the subregion, and shall be communicated to the ECA at the appropriate moment.

10. It is advisable that this meeting be held in two phases in the same venue :

Phase one shall be devoted to a meeting of the subregional working group to adopt a plan of action and a subregional strategy emanating from documents which will be produced by the four IGOs (ECCAS, UDEAC, CEPGL and the LCBC). This will give ECCAS the opportunity to play its coordinating role in the subregion;

Phase two shall be concerned with an enlarged meeting of the subregional NCCs to coordinate national and subregional objectives and projects pursued by both the NCCs and the IGOs.

11. Having come to the end of the agenda, the Chairman closed the meeting.



1. The first meeting of the Subregional Working Groups for Eastern and Southern Africa was held on 21 March 1990.

#### Participants

2. Representatives of the following organizations participated in the meeting :CEPGL, IGADD, the Transit Transport Coordination Authority for the Northern Corridor, KBO, PTA, OAU and ECA.

3. Representatives of ADB and UNDP also participated in the meeting.

4. The following did not attend : SADCC/SATCC and the Indian Ocean Commission.

#### Opening of the meeting

5. In opening the meeting, the representative of ECA reminded participants that the purpose of the meeting was to consider the tasks under agenda item

6. Following this statement, participants started discussions in order to perform the tasks indicated.

#### Allocation of duties

6. The following were elected:

- The Chairman of the meeting : ECA
- The Coordinator of activities carried out by various committees on the subregion relating to the preparation of the second Decade: PTA
- Assistant Coordinator: North Corridor Authority
- Rapporteur : KBO, assisted by the IGADD.

#### Division of labour

7. The Chairman of the meeting told participants that the tasks that each working group must carry out within the period from March to June 1990 are contained under paragraph 19, sub-paragraphs (a) to (d) of document 4. He added that a meeting of the sub-region shall be organized towards June/July 1990 to consider and adopt plans of action of the subregion.

8. It is therefore important, he went on, to examine together how these tasks can be shared out so as to accomplish them pursuant to guidelines stated in the document, within the allotted time.

9. After various discussions, a consensus was reached. Organizations from the same jurisdiction or geographical area must consult each other in order to undertake common action. However, each organization must first draw up its programme of action in consultation with national committees. Their reports shall be transmitted to the PTA for coordination.

10. Furthermore, the meeting noted that certain activities will need financing that as a result, the organizations must consult each other in order to and designate an official per action area to identify these activities and inform the ECA thereof for funding. This same official shall follow up the work in his own area of action.

#### Papers

11. CEPGL, KBO, the North Corridor Authority and IGADD presented papers to the meeting on :

- their programmes of action;
- difficulties encountered;
- possible solutions to these difficulties. Furthermore, CEPGL, KBO, IGADD and the North Corridor Authority presented to the ECA documents on their current projects.

#### Other business

12. The PTA informed the meeting of these areas of action and the specific activities it is carrying out in each domain.

#### Allocation of duties between East and Southern African Organizations

13. After consultations amongst representatives of the organizations concerned, the following allocation of duties was done :

- CEPGL will carry out activities in Zaire ;
- KBO will carry out activities in Rwanda, Burundi and Uganda;
- the North Corridor Authority shall deal with Kenya and Uganda;
- IGADD shall deal with Djibouti, Somalia, Ethiopia and Sudan;
- SADCC and IOC will cover their member countries and shall report to the PTA. But since these organizations were not represented, the ECA and PTA were asked to communicate to them the tasks assigned to them.

14. If they refuse to execute these tasks, then PTA shall perform them. The Northern Corridor Authority has been chosen to follow up the activities. However, in order to facilitate correspondence, the following was decided : CEPGL and KBO will send their reports to the North Corridor Authority, which shall in turn, forward them to the PTA for coordination, while IGADD, SADCC and IOC will send theirs directly to the PTA. However, there are activities which need travel and other expenses. This issue shall be submitted to the ECA for financing.

The working group adopted the method of work to be used during the preparatory phase of the Decade's programme and agreed that the group's report will be transmitted as planned, provided that consultants needed for this work are made available to the IGOs at the appropriate time.

## ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR AFRICA

Meeting of the Subregional Working  
Groups on UNTACDA II

19-27 March 1990, Addis Ababa  
Ethiopia

## COMMISSION ECONOMIQUE POUR L'AFRIQUE

Première réunion des groupes de  
travail sous-régionaux sur  
UNTACDA II

Addis-Abéba (Ethiopie),  
19-27 mars 1990

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