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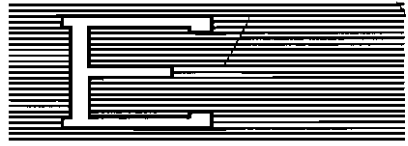
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**Progress Report on the Establishment
of the PADIS Network
of National, Subregional and
Institutional Participating Centres**

The PADIS network

1. The PADIS network consists of national participating centres, subregional centres and subregional and regional institutional participating centres, all of which receive advisory services, training and information from PADIS data bases and themselves input data into the system for exchange with other countries in the region.
2. To date 28 countries have identified national participating centres to be focal points in the PADIS network. During the two year period, the number of national participating centres increased from 11 to 28, an increase of nearly 150 per cent. Much of the increase can be attributed to a February 1988 letter from the ECA Executive Secretary to Ministers of Planning in African countries which had not yet designated their national centres urging them to do so. Many of these newly-designated national centres have already since received advisory services from PADIS and started to contribute inputs to PADIS data bases.
3. Four subregional centres have been or are in the process of being established. Institutional participating centres which include subregional and regional institutions specialized in particular areas of information increased to more than 40.

National participating centres

4. National participating centres are government-designated institutions which perform the function of assisting national development planning by providing ready access to information required by policy makers, planners and others engaged in national socioeconomic development efforts. They also co-ordinate information activities of sectoral documentation and information centres at the national level.
5. Governments decide on the designation of the national participating centre in line with their unique national information situations. PADIS, however, distributes guidelines to assist them in the nomination. The 28 national participating centres named to date are listed below. As can be observed, common profiles for the centres include documentation and information centres in ministries of planning, national statistical offices, scientific and technological information centres and networks and research centres or libraries at national universities.

List of National Participating Centres

<i>Country</i>	<i>Name of centre</i>
ALGERIA	CENTRE NATIONAL D'INFORMATION ET DE DOCUMENTATION ECONOMIQUE, MINISTERE DU COMMERCE
BENIN	CENTRE NATIONAL AUTOMATISE DE DOCUMENTATION ET D'INFORMATION (CENADI), MINISTERE DU PLAN DE LA STATISTIQUE ET DE LA COOPERATION TECHNIQUE
BOTSWANA	NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF DEVELOPMENT RESEARCH AND DOCUMENTATION (NIR) UNIVERSITY OF BOTSWANA
BURKINA FASO	MINISTERE DU PLAN ET DE LA COOPERATION
CAPE VERDE	CENTRO DE DOCUMENTACAO E INFORMACAO PARA O DESINVOLVIMENTO (CDID)

List of National Participating Centres (continued)

<i>Country</i>	<i>Name of centre</i>
CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC	CENTRE DE DOCUMENTATION ET DES ARCHIVES MINISTERE DU PLAN, DES STATISTIQUES ET DE LA COOPERATION INTERNATIONALE
CONGO	CENTRE NATIONAL DE LA STATISTIQUE ET DES ETUDES ECONO- MIQUES (NCSEE) S/C MINISTERE DU PLAN ET DE L'ECONOMIE
EGYPT	EGYPTIAN NATIONAL SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL INFORMATION NETWORK (ENSTINET)
EQUATORIAL GUINEA	MINISTERIO DE PLANIFICACION Y DESARROLLO ECONOMICO
ETHIOPIA	SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY COMMISSION
GAMBIA	MINISTRY OF ECONOMIC PLANNING AND INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT
GHANA	GHANA NATIONAL SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL NETWORK (GHASTINET)
GUINEA	CENTRE NATIONAL DE DOCUMENTATION ET D'INFORMATION POUR LE DEVELOPPEMENT/SECRETARIAT D'ETAT DE LA CULTURE ET DE LA RECHERCHE SCIENTIFIQUE
MALAWI	UNIVERSITY OF MALAWI
MAURITIUS	DOCUMENTATION UNIT MINISTRY OF ECONOMIC PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT
MOROCCO	CENTRE NATIONAL DE DOCUMENTATION MINISTERE DE PLAN, DE LA FORMATION DES CADRES ET DE LA FORMATION PROFES- SIONNELLE
NIGER	CENTRE D'INFORMATION ET DE DOCUMENTATION BUREAU DE LA STATISTIQUE ET DE L'INFORMATIQUE MINISTERE DU PLAN
NIGERIA	THE FEDERAL OFFICE OF STATISTICS (FOS) MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
RWANDA	CENTRE DE DOCUMENTATION MINISTERE DU PLAN
SENEGAL	CENTRE NATIONAL DE DOCUMENTATION SCIENTIFIQUE ET TECHNIQUE (CNDST), MINISTERE DU PLAN ET DE LA COOPE- RATION
SEYCHELLES	DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND EXTERNAL RELATIONS
SIERRA LEONE	DEVELOPMENT DOCUMENTATION CENTRE, MINISTRY OF DEVELOPMENT AND ECONOMIC PLANNING

List of National Participating Centres (continued)

<i>Country</i>	<i>Name of centre</i>
SUDAN	NATIONAL DOCUMENTATION CENTRE NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR RESEARCH
SWAZILAND	NATIONAL LIBRARY SERVICE (SNLS)
TOGO	CENTRE DE DOCUMENTATION TECHNIQUE MINISTERE DU PLAN ET DE L'INDUSTRIE
UGANDA	MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
ZAIRE	SERVICE PRESIDENTIEL D'ETUDES (SPE), BUREAU DU PRESIDENT FONDATEUR, PRESIDENT DE LA REPUBLIQUE
ZAMBIA	UNIVERSITY OF ZAMBIA

6. Among the activities from which national centres benefited in the last biennium were: internships at PADIS for their staff members, training for staff in PADIS methodologies, in bibliographic data base management software, including MINISIS and CDS-ISIS, advisory services on the establishment and strengthening of their centres and on specific joint projects such as the publication of national DEVINDEXes, and training in management of documentation and information centres. A special feature of this last activity was the holding for national participating centres in the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics from 15-27 October 1989 of a seminar and study tour on the management of scientific and technological and socio-economic information systems and networks; a meeting of heads of national participating centres was also held in conjunction with the seminar and study tour, which visited the cities of Moscow and Leningrad. National participating centres also received information in printed form as well as data downloaded on diskettes and tapes from the PADIS information system.

PADIS' subregional centres

7. Once operational, the subregional centres will provide on-site training for member countries, enable the sharing of expensive resources (equipment and personnel), deliver advisory services to member states and institutional participating centres, serve as subregional information clearing-houses and as links for the transfer of information between national participating centres and the Central Co-ordinating Office.

8. Towards the establishment of subregional centres, during the period since the last session of the Conference, activities were undertaken to establish centres for North, West, Central and East and Southern Africa. A mission was undertaken to install computer equipment for the East and Southern Africa Development Information System (ESADIS), based in Lusaka, from 28 June - 7 July 1988. PADIS participated in the ARIS-NET Consultative Committee meeting held in Rabat 13-15 July 1988, with relevance to the on-going North African Documentation and Information Centre (NADIS), housed at the Arab League Documentation Centre (ALDOC) under a co-operative arrangement with the Arab League Secretariat in Tunis. PADIS received a grant from UNDP for the extension of its information activities to North Africa countries. For the Central African Development Information System (CADIS), PADIS undertook a consultative mission to Zaire from 19-23 July 1988. At the 1989 meeting of the Regional Technical Committee for PADIS, Zaire signaled its readiness to sign the host agreement for CADIS. Equipment was installed at the offices of the Niamey Multinational Programming and Operational Centre (MULPOC), which is to house the WADIS; heads of documentation systems from the subregion were trained in computerized documentation techniques; and

the documentalist who was engaged to operate WADIS was given training in computerized documentation techniques at PADIS.

9. PADIS subregional centres are designated as follows:

- ESADIS** Subregional centre for Eastern and Southern Africa, located in Lusaka, Zambia.
- CADIS** Subregional centre for Great Lakes and Central Africa. To be located in Kinshasa, Zaire.
- NADIS** Centre for North Africa, functioning under cooperative arrangements with Arab League Documentation Centre in Tunis, Tunisia.
- WADIS** Subregional Centre for West Africa located in Niamey Niger.

Institutional participating centres (ipc's)

10. Institutional participating centres are the subject-oriented African subregional nodes in the PADIS network. They comprise regional institutions responsible for co-ordination of information collection, classification and dissemination and development of tools and methodology in their special subjects of focus. These include ECA-sponsored subregional and regional institutions as well as other institutions in the region which have concluded agreements with PADIS to promote the harmonization and standardization of documentation and information systems in the Region.

11. Major strides were made over the last two years in the strengthening of institutional participation in the PADIS network, primarily through the Standing Committee on the Harmonization and Standardization of Documentation and Information Systems at ECA-Sponsored Institutions (SCOHSDIS), which was established by the 1986 Meeting of Chief Executives of ECA-sponsored institutions. Two meetings of the Committee were held in Addis Ababa, from 9-10 February 1988 and again from 15-17 March 1989. At the second meeting, in view of strong response from other than ECA-sponsored institutions with active documentation sections, membership in the Committee was extended to all interested institutions in the Africa region. An draft agreement was developed for institutional participating centres; some 40 institutions have now indicated their desire to participate in the PADIS network.

12. Under the terms of the agreement between PADIS and its institutional participating centres, the responsibilities of PADIS include the maintenance of a regional data base of development information containing information supplied by the ipc's, making available to ipc's various information products and services, provision of training in information processing, provision of comprehensive bibliographies, promotion of applications of information norms and standards, assistance in the development of microform capabilities; establishment of a central clearinghouse for documents in the regional data bases, and maintenance of a listing of ipc's. PADIS also ensures ipc's free of charge access to all its outputs. In return ipc's agree to collect and transmit to PADIS information which falls within PADIS' scope, adherence to PADIS' norms and standards for harmonization and standardization of information, ensuring effective use of PADIS outputs, ensuring delivery of hard copy of documents contributed to the system.

13. Among the recommendations made at the last meeting of SCOHSDIS (15-17 March 1989) were for PADIS to explore the possibility of compiling a directory of databases and information systems at ECA-sponsored institutions and other United Nations office in Africa and for PADIS to prepare an inventory of African institutions with online links to external information sources.

14. Following the extension of membership in SCOHSDIS to institutions other than those sponsored by the ECA, among those to sign the participating agreement and to attend the Second Meeting were: African Development Bank(ADB), Association of African Universities (AAU), Council on Development of Social Research in Africa (CODESRIA), East and Southern Africa Universities Research Project (ESAURP), International Livestock Centre for Africa, Institut Sous-régional multisectoriel de technologie appliqué de planification et d'évaluation de projets (ISTA) and Regional Centre for Training In Aerospace Surveys (RECTAS).