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**ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR AFRICA**

First Meeting of the Committee on  
Development Information (CODI)

28 June - 2 July 1999  
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

Report of the Eighth meeting of the Coordinating Committee  
on African Statistical Development



**UNITED NATIONS**  
**ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL**

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**August 1998**

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**ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR AFRICA**

**Eighth meeting of the Coordinating Committee**  
**on African Statistical Development (CASD)**

**18 - 20 May 1998**  
**Addis Ababa, Ethiopia**

**REPORT**

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Annex I CASD membership 1998-2000

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## A. ATTENDANCE AND ORGANISATION OF WORK

1. The eighth meeting of the Coordinating Committee on African Statistical Development (CASD) took place at the Headquarters of the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) from 18 to 20 May 1998. The meeting was organised to include two short workshops and two presentations, in addition to the formal agenda of the Committee.
2. The meeting was attended by the following members of CASD:
  - African members States: Burkina Faso, Ethiopia, Nigeria, South Africa and Uganda;
  - Regional statistical training centres participating in the Statistical Training Programme for Africa (STPA): Ecole nationale supérieure de statistique et d'économie appliquée (ENSEA); and Institute of Statistics and Applied Economics (ISAE), Makerere University;
  - African and non-African bilateral and multilateral agencies and donors: Observatoire économiques et statistiques d'Afrique subsaharienne (AFRISTAT); United States Bureau of the Census, International Programs Center (IPC); United Kingdom Department for International Development (DFID); Statistical Office of the European Communities (EUROSTAT); United Nations Statistics Division (UNSD); and The World Bank.
3. The following ECA member State attended as Associate task force member: Djibouti
4. The following agencies participated as associate members: African Development Bank (ADB); Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations (FAO); International Monetary Fund (IMF); Organisation of African Unity (OAU); and United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) including the UNFPA/Country Support Team (CST) in Addis Ababa.
5. The ECA, including the CASD Secretariat, also participated in the meeting.

## B. AGENDA

6. The Committee adopted the following agenda:
  1. Opening statement
  2. Election of Chairperson
  3. Adoption of the agenda and other organisational matters
  4. Report to the CASD by the Secretariat
  5. Reports from coordinators on actions/activities of their task forces:
    - (a) Connectivity for statistics;
    - (b) Monitoring the implementation of the Addis Ababa Plan of Action;
    - (c) Strengthening of the Statistical Training Programme for Africa (STPA) centres;

- (d) Country and regional micro data service units and library, *inter alia* for poverty and gender monitoring - pilot project
  - (e) Country live database - pilot project
6. The future of CASD and its workprogramme
  7. Preparations for the first meeting of the Committee on Development Information
  8. Any other business
  9. Date and venue of the next meeting
  10. Adoption of the report of the meeting
  11. Closure of the meeting
7. The Committee also adopted the following agenda for workshops and presentations:
- (a) Workshop on Data Bases and Data Banks;
  - (b) Presentation on "Best practices in the formulation of Statistical Development Plans";
  - (c) Presentation on "Measuring progress towards the International Development Goals"; and
  - (d) Workshop on the use of the Internet to bridge the information gap.

### C. ACCOUNT OF PROCEEDINGS

#### 1. Opening statement (agenda item 1)

8. Ms. P. Makinwa-Adebusoye, Chief of ECA Food Security and Sustainable Development Division (FSSD) and Officer-in-Charge of the Commission, welcomed the participants and read the opening speech on behalf of the Executive Secretary of ECA, Mr. K.Y. Amoako.

9. In his opening statement Mr. Amoako stated that ECA and its member States have just celebrated the founding of the organization some 40 years ago. This celebration was surrounded by the organization of an international conference entitled "African Women and Economic Development: Investing in our future" and the inauguration of the United Nations Conference Centre (UNCC), Addis Ababa by Mr. Kofi Annan, Secretary General of the United Nations.

10. Mr. Amoako reminded the Committee that in the ECA's renewal programme, gender issues were identified as cross cutting and have been given priority in the work of ECA. He informed the meeting that the Conference on African Women and Development called upon CASD to undertake a study on how gender perspectives can be incorporated in all statistical data produced by African countries as well as regional organisations and to establish a task force on gender in national accounts and other data.

11. The Executive Secretary observed that in addition to discussing process issues and progress reports, in particular those of task forces, the Committee will for the first time devote more time to substantive discussion of some strategic issues to promote knowledge acquisition through workshops and presentations on topical issues which were included in the agenda of the meeting. In this connection he thanked the following partners

for their support in organizing the workshops: the United Kingdom Department for International Development (DFID) and the World Bank.

12. On mobilization of financial resources for statistical activities, Mr. Amoako thanked the Korean Government for its timely financial assistance to implement some of the CASD task force activities and other statistical development activities under the responsibility of ECA. He added that efforts to mobilise extra-budgetary resources are continuing through discussions with bilateral and multilateral partners. As part of ECA's efforts to forge partnerships for Africa's future in the context of ECA reforms, a project document has been developed for donors to examine and see how ECA could form a partnership with them for the development of African statistics.

13. Finally, the Executive Secretary, assured the Committee that he is personally committed to facilitate the work of CASD and that of partners in statistical development in Africa. He expressed the hope that the challenges will continue to be shouldered together and that the collaboration will be intensified in many areas of statistics. Mr. Amoako expressed his deep appreciation to the World Bank for its support in funding the participation of CASD members and Associates of some task forces.

## **2. Observance of one minute silence**

14. The Chairperson Mr. Lamine Diop called for a one minute silence in remembrance of those who had recently passed away after many years of contribution to statistical development in Africa: Mr. William Booker, former Chief of Statistics Division at ECA, Mr. Chris Scott, consultant who worked in many African countries, and Mr. Kevelray Pandit former staff of the Statistics Division at ECA. May their souls rest in peace.

## **3. Election of new Chairperson**

15. Dr. E. S. K. Muwanga-Zake, Commissioner for Statistics, Statistics Department, Uganda, was elected Chairperson of the meeting.

## **4. Report to the CASD by the Secretariat (agenda item 4)**

16. For the discussion of this agenda item, the Committee had at its disposal the following documents: ECA/DISD/CASD.8/98/2 "Report to the CASD by the Secretariat"; ECA/DISD/CASD.8/98/2/Add.1 "Developments in national accounts, Report by DFID"; ECA/DISD/CASD.8/98/2/Add.2 "Some guiding principles for good practices in technical cooperation for statistics, Report by DFID"; and a report on the Prague meeting on Official Principles of Statistics: Code of good practices, by UNSD.

17. In introducing document ECA/DISD/CASD.8/98/2, the representative of the CASD Secretariat reviewed CASD activities which included the dissemination of information on task forces, preparation of work plans/workprogrammes for task forces; a brief description of the study on CASD Observer membership status; preparation of the first CASD newsletter; and attendance at AFRISTAT Scientific Council meetings. Progress reports of selected activities not covered under task forces were also reviewed.

18. In complementing the report, the representative of DFID mentioned the challenges facing African countries in the informal sector studies particularly in the context of the changing structure of African economies. He reported on assistance his organisation has provided to Ghana, Zambia and Zimbabwe in particular in promoting the use of the ERETES software package and providing support on rebasing of national accounts statistics.

19. Also in complementing the report, the representative of UNSD mentioned efforts being made through meetings to arrive at a method of improving coordination of technical cooperation. Reports from these meetings are being distributed widely to countries and agencies including CASD members, requesting comments for consideration during the revision of the document.

20. In the ensuing discussion, the Committee made several contributions and comments.

21. The representative of EUROSTAT gave additional information on the ERETES software package which he said is compatible with the 1993 SNA. This software package will be installed at the Union économique et monétaire ouest-africaine (UEMOA). He informed the meeting that AFRISTAT is involved in the installation of the software package at the country level. Due to positive experience, EUROSTAT has decided to translate the software package from French to English. An evaluation meeting of software packages including ERETES had been planned and the evaluation report will be submitted to a national accounts task force.

22. Regarding the Observer membership status in CASD, the representative of ADB stated that his organisation has responded positively to the invitation from the ECA. On the request that ADB be more involved in statistical development in Africa, he stated that ADB has been involved in some African countries in providing grants to build capacity for statistics. Countries were encouraged to make their requests for these grants through their Ministries of Finance. Some participants stated that they were not aware of this approach, hence they requested ADB to disseminate this information to all national statistical offices of African countries.

23. The representative of Nigeria appreciated the efforts of the DISD in preparing the project document for statistical development in Africa. He requested that the project document should be made available to all CASD members. However, he noted that the list of statistical areas requiring support did not include the African Household Survey Capability Programme. He underscored the programme's importance for statistical development in Africa and stressed that the project needed further engineering and development. He further emphasized the need to ensure coverage of regional projects, and that a coordination strategy should be developed even at the national level.

24. On task forces, several members felt that there was need to develop a strategy on the communication links to enable Associate members participate in task force activities. The following communication links: telephone, facsimile, e-mail and formal meetings should be more fully exploited.

25. The Committee requested DISD to work closely with countries to produce the Minimum National Social Data Set (MNSDS) indicators. Data is available in many African countries and as such there should be less problems in obtaining the indicators. The representative of the US Bureau of the Census cautioned that the calculation of maternal mortality was tricky hence it may not be easy to obtain this specific indicator from many African countries.



26. Participants welcomed the CASD newsletter, however, some regretted that they had not received it earlier. The CASD Secretariat was requested to play a role in motivating members to contribute articles to the newsletter. The Secretariat was also requested to establish the frequency, timing and deadlines for receipt of articles. The representative of the US Bureau of the Census stated that his organisation will contribute a methodological article on maternal mortality, in the next CASD newsletter.

27. On the lack of participation of all African countries at seminars and workshops, it was recognised that lack of sufficient funding could be one of the problems. It was also recognised that while efforts are being made to assist all countries in Africa, there was a tendency for selecting in the provision of assistance. The Committee recognised the necessity for pilot projects for testing new methodologies and techniques. However it was agreed that when an issue is common, all member States should be involved. Development partners were therefore called upon to do their best to balance their assistance to countries.

28. The UNSD was commended for its efforts in establishing an information system on technical assistance to be available on the Internet. This information will assist in the coordination of technical assistance activities. In this connection, it was stated that, when the system is finally established, each agency would be responsible for posting its own information on the Internet. It was the hope of UNSD that this system would be in operation by the end of 1998.

29. The representative of AFRISTAT provided a brief history on the establishment of his organisation. The main mission of AFRISTAT is to develop and harmonize statistics in its member States. Mention was made of the contribution by AFRISTAT to the CASD newsletter which inadvertently was not received by ECA, hence it was not included in the newsletter. The contribution contained information on AFRISTAT which would have been very useful for the participants at this meeting. On the circulation of AFRISTAT meeting reports, it was stated that this was to be done by AFRISTAT and not by ECA.

30. It was proposed that one way for ECA to obtain information for the CASD newsletter is to be invited and participate in various statistical meetings in Africa.

31. A point was made on the need to revisit the Strategy for the Implementation of the Addis Ababa Plan of Action for Statistical Development in Africa in the 1990s for meaningful participation in CASD activities. In order to enhance the participation of countries in CASD activities, a proposal was made to link task force activities to sub-regional statistical activities. Also participation of CASD Secretariat at meetings of the subregional economic groupings including involvement in agreed programmes such as year 2000 Population and Housing Census, integrated household surveys, etc. would enhance the coordination of statistical activities within the framework of the Addis Ababa Plan of Action.

32. It was stated that household data archive is only one component in the area of household surveys. DISD was called upon to design a minimum regional statistical programme for implementation at the country level. Such a programme would cover specific indicators such as the Consumer Price Indexes, etc. ECA was called upon to take the leadership role in this area in Africa.

33. The representative of Uganda proposed that the East African Cooperation Secretariat should be invited to become an Observer member of CASD.

34. On mobilisation of resources, some agencies were of the view that DISD should inform them what elements require to be financed to enable them consider which ones they could support.

5. Reports from coordinators on actions/activities of their task forces

5.1 Report on task force 1: Connectivity for statistics (agenda item 5(a))

35. The leader of task force 1, ECA, introduced document ECA/DISD/CASD.8/98/3 "Report on task force 1: Connectivity for statistics" and recalled the task force objective which is to improve the coordination and communication among CASD members and ultimately national statistical services.

36. The work programme of task force 1 was briefly summarised.

37. With regard to the first phase, responses to the survey questionnaire sent out by the ECA in order to identify existing e-mail and/or Internet connections as well as constraints to the development of such links had been processed. Eighteen out of the nineteen members surveyed had replied to the questionnaire. Only four out of the eighteen stated that they had no e-mail address and/or Internet access. The analysis of the survey results as well as the directory of available e-mail addresses is included in document ECA/DISD/CASD.8/98/3/Add.1 "Survey of electronic connectivity of CASD members" which had been submitted to the present meeting.

38. The first issue of the framework document to be used as a practical guide for establishing electronic connectivity was also submitted to the meeting for consideration. The document, ECA/DISD/CASD.8/98/2/Add.2 "A framework for building connectivity for statistical institutions in African countries" contains background information on the establishment of the Internet and the breakthrough in the number of countries connected which has risen from 4 to 43 by late 1997 and is expected to reach 49 by the end of 1998.

39. The document also gave a listing of the main considerations to be taken into account when establishing Internet branchings.

40. The Committee noted the creation of the CASD Web page on which were posted the CASD terms of reference, report of its seventh meeting and the CASD newsletter.

41. The Committee noted the workshop organized by the ECA, on 21 and 22 April 1998, within the framework of the task force mandate, for staff members of the Ethiopian Central Statistical Authority. The purpose of the workshop was to introduce to staff of the Authority Internet browsing including the use of multimedia tools and applications.

42. During the ensuing discussion, the Committee requested that the directory should be updated to include changes that had occurred in some countries since the questionnaire was administered. The Committee noted the point made by DFID that it was important that statistical offices developed the skills to enable them to make the most of the new information technologies in support of statistical development in Africa and that DFID was prepared to consider participating in a programme of assistance to support manpower training in this area. After recalling the importance the Commission attaches to statistics in its training programme, the Chief of DISD

called upon both bilateral and multilateral agencies and donors to support African statistical programmes in general, and the training planned to be offered within the framework of task force 1, in particular.

43. On the Internet workshop organised by DISD for the Ethiopian Statistical Authority, the representative of Ethiopia, after thanking ECA for the support it provided, promised to send to the Secretariat a summary evaluation of the workshop, to enhance future activities of this kind.

44. In conclusion, the Committee recommended that the task force should continue with its activities and focus on: (a) extending the survey of connectivity of CASD members to all ECA member States; (b) assisting national statistical services to promote the use of Internet tools and applications; (c) reviewing the framework document; and (d) implementing phase three of the task force.

#### 5.2 Report on task force 2: Monitoring the implementation of the Addis Ababa Plan of Action (agenda item 5(b))

45. For the discussion of this agenda item, the meeting had at its disposal the following documents: ECA/DISD/CASD.8/98/4 "Report on Task force 2: Monitoring the implementation of the Addis Ababa Plan of Action"; ECA/DISD/CASD.8/98/4/Add.1 "Compendium of Statistical Activities in African countries, 1997"; ECA/DISD/CASD.8/98/4/Add.2 "Survey on the Statistical Development of African Countries, 1997: Analysis of responses"; and ECA/DISD/CASD.8/98/4/Add.3 "The Korean Assistance Project on Enhancing African Statistical Capacity".

46. In introducing the agenda item, the leader of the task force, ECA, explained that the task force activities included the conduct of two mail surveys, one on statistical activities and the other on statistical development of African countries. Twenty eight African countries responded to the statistical activities survey while twenty three countries responded to the statistical development survey. In order to increase the response rates, missions were mounted to selected countries which did not respond on time, with the support of the Korean Assistance Project. The analysis of the survey responses are preliminary and were presented to the meeting for comments to enable improvement before preparation of the final reports. The task force leader thanked all countries which responded to the survey and all the agencies and countries which assisted in the preparation of the questionnaires for the surveys.

47. On the Korean Assistance Project, the Committee was informed that this project which started in October 1997 is scheduled to end in December 1998. The Project had three immediate objectives, namely: (i) to assist African countries in the implementation of the 1993 System of National Accounts (1993 SNA); (ii) to address issues on improvement of the quality of African statistics; and (iii) to monitor the overall progress in implementing the Addis Ababa Plan of Action for Statistical Development in Africa. So far three outputs had been delivered within the framework of the Project. These included a regional workshop on public sector accounts and two regional surveys on statistical activities and statistical development which will lead to the compilation of a Compendium of African Statistical Activities on the one hand and, on the other, to a report of the Survey on the Statistical Development of African Countries.

48. Finally, with respect to the remaining outputs of the Project, he indicated that, in addition to providing advisory services to selected countries on the implementation of the 1993 SNA, ECA will during 1998 conduct a monolingual training workshop on improving of the quality of African statistics and also prepare and disseminate a training manual dealing with this topic.

49. In the discussion that ensued:

- the Committee acknowledged the enormous amount of work which ECA had undertaken in conducting the two regional surveys and preparation of the two draft reports;
- some participants wondered whether the one time survey gave CASD a better understanding of the changes which had, over time, taken place in the countries in the field of statistical development. In that regard a proposal was made to conduct a pilot study in one or two countries to discover how the country has moved forward in the various areas of statistical development. This approach would enable attention to be focused on a few countries. The lessons learnt could then be used to decide on how to proceed with other countries. However other participants observed that such an approach was unlikely to lead to significant results. The consensus was that there was need to reflect on the results and give the task force a greater degree of freedom to determine the best way of monitoring the implementation of the Addis Ababa Plan of Action.
- the response rate to the surveys was stated to be satisfactory;
- AFRISTAT offered to provide data from its members States which did not respond to the survey. This information will also assist in filling gaps which exist in the completed questionnaires;
- it was stated that the ideal situation for collecting data of this nature is to use national consultants. However, it was observed that this is an expensive way of collecting the information;
- since the Addis Ababa Plan of Action is expected to be implemented at regional and subregional levels, another survey covering regional and subregional levels was proposed to be conducted by the ECA;
- the ECA representative stated that the survey reports were intended for comments by the Committee and that further analysis will be undertaken by ECA. The final reports will contain detailed analysis and recommendations for further action;
- finally, the Committee decided to give the task force up to six months to examine and comment on the data and include the comments in the final reports of the surveys.

50. A participant wondered whether activities included in the Korean Project were in support of the ECA regular programme of work or as support to CASD and whether they were regarded as high priority activities.

In response, it was stated that the ECA attaches paramount importance to the issues addressed by the project as they relate not only to the quality of African Statistics, but also the implementation of the 1993 System of National Accounts and the Addis Ababa Plan of Action for Statistical Development in Africa.

51. The representative of ADB stated that his organisation would participate in the work of task force 2.

5.3 Report on Task Force 3: Strengthening of the Statistical Training Programme for Africa (STPA) centres (agenda item 5(c))

52. For the discussion of this agenda item, the meeting had at its disposal document ECA/DISD/CASD.8/98/5 "Report on task force 3: Strengthening of the Statistical Training Programme for Africa (STPA) centres".

53. In introducing the agenda item, the leader of the task force, Institute of Statistics and Applied Economics, Makerere University, stated that since their inception, the contribution of STPA centres has been in increasing the supply of trained statistical personnel and collaborated with ECA on various activities including the development of guide syllabuses. Despite the recorded achievements, the centres continue to be plagued with a number of problems, the root cause of which is inadequate funding. In particular, scholarships are inadequate to fund students admitted to the centres, inadequate physical facilities and equipment and limited capacity to produce relevant teaching materials. Furthermore, unattractive salaries make the retention of staff difficult. Research outputs in applied statistics are glaringly few because of lack of resources to conduct research. He added that political instability was another problem STPA centres had experienced.

54. In complementing the report, the Director of ENSEA added that in the English-speaking African countries, statisticians are trained in the Statistics Departments of Universities while in the French-speaking African countries, the training is carried out at national or regional statistical training institutes. Over the past 10 years, substantial resources had been spent by training institutions and their main development partners to improve the quality of training through periodic reviews of the training programmes to increase the number of statisticians in order to meet requests for data and statistics of many users.

55. In the discussion that followed the presentation, it was noted that the task force had not functioned as expected. It had failed to secure current information on programmes and activities of statistical training centres, some of which had become national in scope. In addition, the review of the evaluations conducted by the task force did not cover all STPA centres nor did the task force address all the issues it was expected to tackle.

56. In his response, the leader of the task force explained that according to the terms of reference, the task force was expected only to study available evaluations and not current developments occurring in the STPA centres. He also informed the meeting that contrary to a common belief, the Kigali centre has not vanished, but rather was, with the help of the European Union, operating under the ENSEA centre in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire.

57. Some participants wondered if the on-going structural reforms were not preventing the recruitment of staff for the civil services of African countries, if so whether statistical training was still relevant. In response, it was stated that in spite of significant reduction of recruitment in the public services, the needs of Governments, the private sector and those of bilateral and multilateral partners for reliable statistical data had increased to the extent of opening up new recruitment opportunities.

58. The representative of the United States Bureau of the Census expressed his organization's strong support for the regional statistical training centres and added that his organization had over the past 40 years developed course materials which were available to STPA centres to use. Further, his organization was ready to accept, without tuition, staff of STPA centres, as long as they could meet their own fares and cost of accommodation.

59. The representative of EUROSTAT stated that there had been some successes: the training programme had shifted from Europe to Africa and that some of the training centres had become self-sufficient. He underscored the need to strengthen the linkage between training and the production of statistics and informed the Committee of his organization's plans to introduce a bold statistical training programme for countries of the Southern African Development Community (SADC) region.

60. The Committee noted severe communication difficulties which the task force had experienced and urged the task force members to continue their work and address all relevant issues. The Committee further welcomed the offer of the US Bureau of the Census and urged the STPA centres to take advantage of the offer.

61. In conclusion the task leader emphasised that training institutions must be supported in their efforts and at the same time they should be encouraged to adjust their various teaching programmes to take into account changes in the job market.

5.4 Report on task forces 4 and 5: Country and regional micro data service units and library, *inter alia* for poverty and gender monitoring - pilot project; and Country live database - pilot project (agenda items 5(d) and 5(e))

62. For the discussion of this agenda item, the meeting had at its disposal document ECA/DISD/CASD.8/98/6&7 "Report on task force 4 and 5: Country and regional micro data service units and library, *inter alia* for poverty and gender monitoring - pilot project; and Country live database - pilot project".

63. In introducing the agenda item, the task leader, The World Bank, informed the meeting of the merger of these two task forces into a single one called the task force on Data bases and data banks. While no formal meeting of members of the two task forces had been held during the period under review, there had been frequent electronic correspondence among members. The role and results of such correspondence were presented at a workshop organized during the current meeting on the use of interactive data bases for the improvement of statistical services and on national and regional statistical data banks, respectively. It is proposed to promote database and data bank development within the framework of an "African Statistical Best Practice program" which would facilitate the testing and adaptation of new statistical tools in a number of pilot countries. A presentation of Best Practice program was made in September 1997 by the World Bank to the meeting in Stockholm of the Special Program of Assistance (SPA) Working Group on Poverty and Social Policy, and several donors expressed interest in supporting the program.

64. Currently, there are three products being developed and tested under this program a) Country Live database (CLDB) - a national socio-economic statistical database system for storing and disseminating time series data on key indicators (currently being piloted in Mozambique); b) a Survey Data and analysis Package (SDAP) which stores all information related to a specific survey (data, questionnaire, sample details, official reports etc.) on CD-ROM (currently produced for Djibouti); and c) the Core Welfare Indicators Questionnaire (CWIQ), a quick and simple household survey tool for generating rapid information on key social indicators (tested in Ghana).

65. The meeting was invited to initiate the sharing of information between members of the task forces through the Internet rather than in formal meetings. The task force leader also mentioned difficulties in extending the use of the new products beyond the pilot countries because of a shortage of designers and the

desire to limit the use of such products until they had been fully tested. Evaluation workshops on the new products must be organised before they are put into widespread use.

66. In the discussion, some participants held the view that the products were already on the market and that the main constraint seemed to be the lack of resources. Partners were urged to provide African statistical services with the necessary resources for promoting these new products.

67. The Committee concluded that the pilot-country approach did not represent a universal solution. It was recommended that the problem should be treated on a case-by-case basis, taking particular account of technical constraints that often stemmed from the shortage of qualified personnel.

#### 5.5 Conclusion of task force reports

68. The Committee noted that task forces 4 and 5 has been merged into a single task force number 4 on Databases and data banks and that task forces 1, 2 and 3 remained as originally formulated.

69. The Committee concluded that none of the task forces had achieved its full objectives. The Committee urged that the work of the four task forces should continue taking into account observations and recommendations made during the meeting. Task force achievements will be reviewed again at the next meeting of the Committee.

#### 6. The Future of CASD and its Work Programme (agenda item 6)

70. For the discussion of this agenda item, the meeting had at its disposal the following documents: ECA/DISD/CASD.8/98/8 "The future of CASD and its workprogramme", ECA/DISD/CASD.8/98/8/Add.1 "Proposal by CASD Secretariat on membership of the CASD", and ECA/DISD/CASD.8/98/8/CRP "Draft proposal for a task force on gender in the national accounts and other data".

71. In introducing the agenda item, The Chief of DISD observed that there had been persistent questions regarding the future of CASD. She reminded the Committee that CASD was established as a result of the expressed desire of member States to ensure coordination of the efforts of all the principal actors engaged in Africa's statistical development. This includes member States, bilateral and multilateral agencies and donors and statistical training centres. She emphasized that CASD was a shared responsibility and invited all members to work together with ECA in the efforts of reinforcing the role and position of the Committee.

72. A representative of the Secretariat then introduced document ECA/DISD/CASD.8/98/8. He reviewed the origins of CASD, its mandate, institutional framework, coordination modalities, achievements since establishment, and the challenges of statistical development.

73. In the ensuing discussion the Committee considered the role of CASD and its relationship with CODI, the potential for CASD's contribution to African statistical development and the factors such as communication and funding which were hampering CASD's success. It was observed that CASD was not well articulated and had suffered because it did not have a regional programme. Greater vision was necessary, and that should be backed up by a specific programme and with specific resources. The Committee then noted the following:

- CASD had made significant contributions to statistical development in Africa;
- the role of CASD was distinct from that of the Committee for Development Information (CODI). CASD's main role was to coordinate implementation of the Addis Ababa Plan of Action for Statistical Development in Africa but that role needed to be clearly articulated with a specific programme and resources. CODI, open to all members States of the region was a subsidiary organ of the Commission. CODI would be the main policy organ in the area of statistics. CASD was a smaller Committee with a specific mandate and will report to the Conference of Ministers through CODI. CASD was made up of bilateral and multilateral agencies and donors, African statistical training institutes and ECA member States;
- the request of UNFPA to be included in the list of agencies which had contributed to statistical training in Africa.

74. The Committee then recommended that:

- DISD should extend its networking to the statistical units of sub-regional economic groupings and where possible attend some of the meetings of these economic groupings;
- CASD should contribute to the 2000 round of Population and Housing Census activities and relate more closely with statistical operations already in progress at subregional level;
- CASD members who are also members of sub-regional economic groupings should brief the groupings on the activities of CASD and similarly brief CASD on the activities of these groupings;
- the Addis Ababa Plan of Action for Statistical Development in Africa in the 1990s and the Strategy for its implementation were still relevant and should be adopted for the coming years taking into account new needs. The Plan and the Strategy should therefore continue to guide statistical development in Africa;
- research in methods and standards were still important and should be given attention even though they were not specifically addressed in the transition from the CASD subcommittee approach to the task force approach;
- DISD should continue its resource mobilization activities;

75. On resources for implementation of CASD activities and the strengthening of partnership, the Secretariat stated that it would prepare a document on the activities being undertaken by DISD in the statistical area. Resources required by DISD include those required for participation in meetings, participation in task forces and development of projects to support CASD activities. It was the hope of all participants that donors will consider providing resources to DISD for the implementation of CASD activities.

76. In conclusion the Committee emphasized that the task forces were an effective operational instrument of the reconstituted CASD, and the existing tasks forces should continue as already noted by the Committee. However, the operational effectiveness of CASD and its visibility should be strengthened.



77. A representative of the Secretariat introduced document ECA/DISD/CASD.8/98/8/ CRP "Draft proposal for a task force on gender in national accounts and other data". He explained that the task force proposal had originated from the Conference on "African Women and Economic Development: Investing in our future" which was organised by ECA from 28 April - 1 May 1998, as part of ECA's 40th anniversary celebrations. The Consultant of African Centre for Women (ACW), who was mandated to represent the Centre at the meeting, and had contributed to the organization of the Conference, supplemented the report of the Secretariat.

78. In the ensuing discussion, the Committee accepted the introduction of an additional task force on gender in the national accounts and other data but decided that the task force should concentrate on national accounts, and the task force title should be revised accordingly. Further, the objective of the task force should be reduced in scope to a study on how the gender perspective could be included in the national accounts. ADB, UNSD, DFID, UNFPA and South Africa declared their interest in the membership of the task force and ECA as the task leader. The International Research and Training Institute for Advancement of Women (INSTRAW) and the Commonwealth Secretariat would be invited as associate task force members. The ECA was requested to revise the terms of reference, quantify the resource requirements and inform the task force members including the World Bank.

79. Finally, the Committee welcomed the US Bureau of the Census offer of gender research materials for use by the task force.

#### 6.1 Proposal by CASD Secretariat on membership of the CASD

80. A representative of the Secretariat introduced this agenda item on the basis of document ECA/DISD/CASD.8/98/8/Add.1. The Secretariat also circulated two documents, the first one was CASD Secretariat proposal on rotation of members and the second one was a note on CASD Observer membership.

##### 6.1.1 CASD Secretariat proposal on rotation of members

81. In introducing this agenda item, the representative of the Secretariat mentioned that according to the terms of reference, the membership of the Committee is to be rotated every two years from a proposal to be submitted by the CASD Secretariat. Information was provided on countries which had been contacted and had in principle accepted to become members of CASD, these include Kenya, Morocco, Senegal and Zimbabwe. The Committee was reminded that the ECA subregions were changed since 1997 and that there are now five subregions: North Africa, Central Africa, West Africa, East Africa and Southern Africa. Therefore the proposed new membership reflects the new structure of ECA subregions. In addition to proposing the membership, the Secretariat proposed that the membership of African member States be increased to 10 from the previous 9 members.

82. In the discussion that followed:

• a proposal was made to increase the membership of African countries to fifteen (15). This proposal was supported by a number of Committee members. Some participants felt that increasing the number of members would not increase participation at meetings. The Committee was reminded that the reduced membership was to ensure efficiency and effective contribution. Another proposal

was made to proceed on a pilot basis by inviting African member States to CASD, during the next two years, and observe the frequency of attendance;

- the representative of Djibouti submitted the intention of his country to become a member of CASD;
- the representative of ADB was grateful that his organisation had been proposed to be a core member of CASD. He stated that ADB would also participate in the work of task force 2: Implementation of the Addis Ababa Plan of Action; and the new task force on gender in national accounts;
- a proposal was made that in order to have a stronger participation, a budgeted proposal to support the participation of African member States was necessary;
- some members thought that there is an imbalance in the membership, others thought that this was not particularly important and that what was important was the quality of the contribution of members.

83. Finally the Committee accepted the rotation of membership which was proposed by the CASD Secretariat. The Secretariat was requested to exercise some flexibility in the CASD membership and to encourage ECA member States to take part in CASD meetings by inviting them to participate as Associates especially when they contribute to CASD task forces.

#### 6.1.2 ECA proposal on CASD Observer membership

84. In introducing this item of the agenda, the representative of the Secretariat reminded the Committee that this is a new category of membership which is being proposed for its consideration. The proposal was being made following the mandate from the Seventh meeting of CASD, that the Secretariat should study this issue and make concrete proposals to the eighth meeting. The Secretariat provided details of African and non-African agencies and donors which it had contacted and invited to become Observer members of CASD. On the criteria for selection of agencies to become Observer members, the Secretariat explained that this was based on the long-term involvement of the agencies in statistical development of African countries. The Secretariat informed the Committee that following positive responses which it had received from some agencies and donors, it was proposing to have up to 10 members in this category of membership.

85. In the discussion that followed:

- some members felt that the distinction between Core members and Observers was not clear;
- it was felt that there was an imbalance between membership categories in particular ECA member States and statistical training institutes versus the other categories of membership;
- the East African Cooperation Secretariat was proposed to become an Observer member of CASD.

86. Finally the Committee accepted the proposal of the CASD Secretariat and created the Observer membership category in the membership of CASD. The Committee also accepted the Secretariat proposal to have up to 10 Observer members, including the initial list of six members which had already been proposed by the Secretariat. The Secretariat was asked to identify additional members for this category. See Annex I for the initial list of agencies and donors proposed by the CASD Secretariat and endorsed by the Committee.

**7. Preparations for the first meeting of the Committee on Development Information (agenda item 7)**

87. A representative of the Secretariat presented document ECA/DISD/CASD.8/98/9 "Preparations for the first meeting of the Committee on Development Information (CODI)". The origin, composition and its place within the new structure of the Commission was presented. Also a draft proposal of some topics of interest to CASD, planned to be discussed at the first meeting of CODI, was described as well as the provisional agenda of the Statistics Sub-Committee of the CODI.

88. In the course of the discussion, the Committee noted:

- CODI is the subsidiary organ of the Commission and is expected to address policy aspects of the subprogramme: Harnessing Information for Development. CASD is a technical body for coordination of statistical activities in the African region and its main objectives are coordination and monitoring the implementation of the Addis Ababa Plan of Action;
- the first meeting of CODI was initially planned for 16-20 November 1998. The exact dates will be communicated to all CASD members as soon as possible;
- CODI members include ECA member States and in that context the Directors of national statistical services will be invited. However, it was up to the countries to decide on the number and level of their representation;
- divergent points of view were expressed with regard to the next meeting of CASD and whether it should be held during the period of CODI. The Committee decided to defer decision on this point.

**8. Any other business (agenda item 8)**

89. The representative of the IMF informed the Committee on the establishment by his organisation of the General Data Dissemination System (GDDS). The GDDS primary focus is on the improvement of data quality, provision of a framework for evaluating needs for data improvement and setting priorities and as a guide to member countries in the dissemination to the public of comprehensive, timely, accessible and reliable economic, financial, and socio-demographic statistics.

90. The representative of IMF also informed the Committee that the implementation of the GDDS will initially focus on education and training and subsequently on direct work with countries. He mentioned that a schedule of eight regional seminars/workshops to start in July 1998 was prepared and that the seminar/workshop in Africa has been scheduled to take place in March 1999. Twenty countries would be invited to each seminar. The IMF representative requested the CASD Secretariat to disseminate information on the GDDS to all CASD members as well as interested ECA member States.

91. The US Bureau of the Census informed the meeting on the activities it is undertaking in the field of statistical development in Africa. Mention was made of plans for a unified software package comprising IMPS and ISSA. The unification will take place during the next 18 months.

92. Some bilateral and multilateral donors indicated that they would wish to be informed of what resources are internally available to DISD and what extra resources are needed to ensure the implementation of CASD activities.

93. The Committee requested that the list of participants be sent to those who attended the meeting as soon as possible and in advance of the report of the meeting.

94. The Committee decided that at its future meetings, the adoption of the report should be restricted to conclusions and recommendations only.

95. In response to a request to append task force details to the report of the meeting, a representative of the Secretariat stated that although this should have been the ideal situation, it would delay the circulation of the final report, since there is need to consult all task force members and CASD members to ensure the dissemination of complete task forces terms of reference and revisions thereto. However every effort will be made to speed up the communication.

#### **9. Date and venue of the next meeting (agenda item 9)**

96. Divergent points of view were expressed with regard to the next meeting of CASD and whether it should be held during the first meeting of CODI. After further discussion the Committee agreed:

- that task forces should plan to meet informally during the meeting of CODI in November 1998;
- that the next meeting of CASD should be planned for May 1999 in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

97. The Committee recommended that task forces should plan to meet during the first meeting of CODI in November 1998.

#### **10. Adoption of the report of the meeting (agenda item 10)**

98. The conclusions of the meeting on various agenda items were examined by the Committee and agreed upon. It was agreed that the report will be sent to participants for their final comments before finalisation by the Secretariat.

#### **11. Workshops and presentations**

##### **11.1 Workshops on Data Bases and Data Banks (agenda item 9(a))**

99. The workshop was organised and chaired by the World Bank. In introducing the workshop, the Chairperson indicated that while there had been significant improvements in the areas of data collection and processing, statistical data in Africa were still difficult to access. The issues of data storage and dissemination needed to be more systematically addressed. The purpose of the workshop was to look at new and potentially interesting tools that could be used by national statistical offices. However, he cautioned that tools on their own, without being adequately managed and funded, would not resolve the problem.

100. The workshop was divided into two parts. The first part focused on databases for storing economic and sectoral time-series indicators while the second part focused on storage and disseminating primary survey data.

101. The first part began with a presentation by the World Bank on the Country Live database (CLDB) and how the tool could address many of the problems afflicting national statistical offices in Africa. The ultimate goal of any statistical office is to provide timely and reliable information to improve the quality of decision making by policy makers. At most NSOs however, data are often scattered and inaccessible, reports are generated after long delays, staff are often poorly trained and paid and unable to respond to new data requests.

102. The CLDB, which is a by-product of the World Bank Africa Live Database, is customised to meet the needs of statistical offices. It is being piloted in one country with the possibility of adding two additional countries. It is based on the idea of consolidating all macro and sector economic time series data into one central database. These tools or interfaces were developed to access the database based on the needs of the user: an analytical tool (Briefing book), a research tool (Query), and a data processing and report generating tool (the local database). All tools are programmed in Microsoft Excel, which allows for easy manipulation and report generation and was considered to be the most common software application worldwide. The database can be stored on an MS SQL server in a networked environment or in an Access database on a stand alone PC.

103. The experience of the World Bank with the Africa Live database was considered relevant to that of national statistical offices. The wide accessibility of data through the various tools facilitated analysis and generated interest in data as a foundation for analysis. More significantly, because of the logical organisation of the data and concepts, it more easily highlighted data gaps and weaknesses, which increased pressure to improve quality and accountability. The most immediate benefit was the ability to generate reports at a "push of the button".

104. The meeting noted the following issues:

- the adequacy of the criteria and strategy for selecting pilot countries, especially if more countries wished to be involved; the World Bank lacks capacity to implement the project for all African countries and therefore has the intention to ask regional and subregional organisations in Africa to take over the implementation and use of the CLDB once the pilots were deemed successful;
- difficulties in converting different database systems to this particular system and the use of data or its limitation during dissemination; the consolidation of data into one database was considered an upfront, one-time investment. The technical issues are considered minor relative to the time to develop new data administration procedures;
- problems of data inconsistencies and low capacity in data analysis; the CLDB was considered a good tool to highlight such problems but not a means to solve them. Training and technical assistance were considered more appropriate means of addressing data inconsistencies and low capacity.

105. The CLDB presentation was followed by a presentation by the United Nations Statistics Division (UNSD) on development of its Common Data Base (CDB) for the UN statistical series. This is being developed under the United Nations Economic and Social Information System (UNESIS) project. National accounts series have already been converted to the CDB and demographic series are currently being converted.

106. The second part of the workshop focused on the issue of storing and disseminating primary data (typically coming from household surveys). This was co-presented by the World Bank and the Director of Statistics of Djibouti.

107. This part of the workshop was devoted to specific issues pertaining to national statistical data banks. After recalling the needs on one hand to strengthen the capacity of national statistical offices on archiving and on the other hand to have an inventory of meta data available in Africa, a representative of the World Bank and the Director, National Statistical Office of Djibouti presented the project "Survey Data Analysis Package". This presentation described the transfer of data to a CD-ROM and documentation of censuses and surveys in a user friendly format in order to ensure that they are properly stored and available for use. A prototype developed by the National Statistical Office of Djibouti, following a survey it had undertaken in 1996, was presented by the Djibouti Director of Statistics.

108. The World Bank also presented a project titled "Survey Navigator". This project is a database in which the censuses and surveys are described in detail. This database is expected to be disseminated on the Internet and has the objective of informing potential users of the existence and characteristics of the available data. This tool contains, *inter alia*, functions which enable viewing of questionnaires and other technical documents relating to surveys. The project is aimed therefore, at developing an information instrument designed not only for survey data users, but also for individuals and organisations entrusted with the responsibility of collecting data. This instrument is expected to promote exchange of experiences among national statistical offices.

109. In the ensuing discussion, participants pointed out the importance of ensuring confidentiality of disseminated data, also they underscored the inadequacy of the demand for statistical data from decision makers and wondered whether it would be advantageous for the statistical office to do without the monopoly of its data.

110. Issues raised on the Navigator tool were as follows:

- the tool requires to have the capacity to anticipate questions and to be able to respond to specific questions;
- problem of periodic updating of published data.

111. Participants at the workshop were assured that there would be no problem with periodic updating of published data as the CD-ROM is published with a date and reiterated that the tools can be customised to meet specific needs.

112. Participants agreed in principle that the tools, which have been presented by the World Bank with both experiences of UNSD and Djibouti, were required at the national level to enhance data organisation and processing. Both the LDB and the CDB were felt to be instruments that could, with some modification, be useful to countries for their own statistical series. The need to also build capacity to use the data was underscored.

## 11.2 Presentation on "Best Practices in the Formulation of Statistical Development Plans" (agenda item 9(b))

113. The presentation was organised and chaired by ECA. It was based on the technical document ECA/DISD/4.2d:(a)ii/97 "Best practices in the formulation of statistical development plans". The Chairperson explained that the document was based on the practices of only those countries, which had responded to ECA's request for information.

114. A representative of ECA then introduced the document. He outlined the reasons for preparing a statistical development plan, the process of plan formulation and then highlighted the elements of a good statistical development plan. A good statistical development plan, he noted, should include a review of the problems addressed, goals and objectives of the plan, an assessment of the present situation of the statistical office, a strategy for the implementation of the plan, its monitoring and evaluation and finally it should discuss the budgeting and the financing of the plan.

115. In the discussion that followed participants welcomed the document and urged ECA to revise it with a view to increasing its coverage to include many good experiences from countries such as Côte d'Ivoire which were not included in the study.

116. Participants also noted:

- that whereas a statistical development plan was useful, it was not a prerequisite for development. However, it was observed that most developed statistical offices had started off with statistical development plans;
- that there were binding provisions, for some countries, to provide data to subregional entities. Therefore the discussion of needs assessments should take subregional data needs into account;
- that the plan should incorporate measures for the training and retraining of statisticians;
- that the plan should, where possible, be prepared within the context of a national development plan. The meeting also noted the experience of some countries which had benefited from the preparation of a statistical development plan: for example being accorded leadership in the establishment and co-ordination of other programmes with obvious financial benefits to the national statistical service;
- the problems of funding a statistical development plan. Ideas considered included establishing user-pay schemes covering government departments and the private sector. The private sector was a large user and could contribute substantially to the funding of statistical services. Doubts were expressed however, as to the potential of the private sector in raising funds for a national statistical service in developing Africa. It was noted also that budgets of other government departments did not include a provision for statistical services. It was argued that although the private sector was not fully developed, there was need, nevertheless, for a change in culture to facilitate introduction of a user-pay scheme. As a prelude, emphasis should be placed on strengthening relationships between the national statistical service and users be they public or private sector. The participants noted the importance of ensuring quality and responsiveness in the services provided and underscored the

need to review user-pay schemes within that context and also with a view to sustaining the growth of the national statistical services;

- that Nigeria had been drawing up 5 year development plans over several years and had positive experiences on its funding. Rolling plans were used and regular funds were obtained to fund plan activities with complimentary resources coming from other government agencies. The plan was useful in enhancing collaboration between the Federal Office of Statistics and the other agencies;
- that the experiences of the countries included in the Best practices document were especially illuminating for those countries which were in the process of preparing their statistical development plans.

117. In conclusion, ECA expressed its appreciation to the participants for their contributions and assured them that the document would be revised to include more countries and the ideas developed during the presentation. The Secretariat also appealed to countries present in the presentation to make their plans available for inclusion in the study, and to others to assist in obtaining copies of the country plans.

#### 11.3 Presentation on "Measuring progress towards the International Development Goals" (agenda item 9(c))

118. The presentation was organised and chaired by the Department for International Development (DFID). It was based on document ECA/DISD/CASD.8/98/WP/2 "Measuring progress towards the International Development Goals". The objective of the presentation was to illustrate efforts in connection with the International Development Goals (IDGs) and associated indicators (with the exception of the poverty reduction goals) which emerged from a series of UN conferences in early to mid 1990s. The presentation elaborated on the set of indicators, how they can be used and also provided an opportunity to discuss how they can be improved, how broad international acceptance can be obtained, and the implications for national systems of data collection, analysis and dissemination.

119. The participants generally agreed that the exercise required a broader participation of African countries in order to account for the relevance of the indicators like literacy rate without reference to quality of education or environmental indicator of carbon dioxide emissions per capita and total where there are other more pressing issues.

120. The complexity of the exercise was however noted and it was resolved to co-ordinate efforts and procedures employed by international organisations and agencies for obtaining and definition of these minimum indicators and to share information.

#### 11.4 Workshop on the use of the Internet to bridge the information gap (agenda item 9(d))

121. This workshop was organised and chaired by ECA. It was stated that the workshop had a link to the work undertaken in task force 1: connectivity for statistics. The workshop covered highlights of the African Information Society Initiative (AISII) and its implications for statistical development in Africa and included a demonstration on how to navigate information resources through the Internet.



122. Participants were informed that the African Information Society Initiative had its origins in the African Regional Symposium on Telematics for Development organised in Addis Ababa in April 1995 by the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA), along with its partners - the International Telecommunication Union (ITU), the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) and the International Development Research Center (IDRC), which were working together through the African Networking Initiative (ANI). The Regional Symposium urged the ECA Conference of Ministers to consider the importance for Africa of the global information revolution.

123. It was noted that in May 1995, the twenty-first meeting of ECA Conference of Ministers responsible for economic and social development and planning passed resolution 795 (XXX) entitled "Building Africa's Information Highway". The resolution called for work on national information and communication networks for planning and decision-making as part of Africa's information highway for the exchange of experiences and for the establishment of a High-level Working Group of African experts on Information and Communication Technologies. The High Level Working Group was to develop a plan of action to enable Africa to leapfrog in the information age. In May 1996 through its resolution 812 (XXXI) the twenty-second meeting of ECA Conference approved in principle the plan of action prepared by the High Level Working Group entitled: "The African Information Society Initiative (AISI): an action framework to build Africa's information and communication infrastructure". The action framework calls *inter alia* for the elaboration and implementation of national information and communication infrastructure plans involving development of institutional frameworks, human, information and technological resources in all African countries and the pursuit of priority strategies, programmes and projects which can assist in the sustainable development of an information society in African countries. The AISI is complementary to the United Nations System-Wide Special Initiative on Africa priority area on "Harnessing Information Technology for Development" (HITD) which was created to help build the necessary infrastructure for the construction of the African Information Society.

124. The AISI aims at supporting and accelerating socio-economic development across the region. Driven by critical development imperatives, it focuses on priority strategies, programmes and projects which can assist in the sustainable build up of an information society in African countries in accordance with the regional integration goals of the Treaty establishing the African Economic Community which foresaw the necessity of information networks and of regional databases, information sources and skills capacities. The Action framework is planned for implementation over a period ranging from 2 to 10 years depending on availability of resources and priorities of member States. It is expected that the Action framework will be used by Africa and its development partners in working towards the development of information infrastructures in member States. The response in AISI use as a guiding framework is promising, as witnessed by its endorsement by various African organs.

125. A demonstration on how to navigate information resources through the Internet was then made and included examples of statistical Web sites.

126. Following the presentation, issues were raised concerning some constraints that national statistical offices in Africa could face in setting up Web sites, such as the lack of high speed lines. In discussing the issue, it was indicated that the computers (servers) hosting the Web sites do not necessarily need to be installed in the statistical office, but can be located anywhere, even in other countries, particularly those that offer better communication means. Also, the installation of Web sites can be done through the Internet service providers,

which generally have higher speed lines than the statistical offices. It was further explained that technologies are becoming more flexible and that sophisticated means are not a *sine qua non* to start communicating and to initiate the process of establishing Web servers.

127. At the request of the participants, the Secretariat explained some of the mechanisms whereby ECA can provide support to the statistical offices in connectivity and development of Web sites.

**12. Closure of the meeting (agenda item 11)**

128. In her closing remarks, the Chief of DISD, Ms. Karima Bounemra Ben Soltane thanked all participants for their demonstrated contribution on the future development of CASD. She stated that the DISD remains committed to ensure that CASD plays its role in African statistical development. She thanked the outgoing Chairperson of CASD, Mr. Lamine Diop for the excellent contribution in guiding CASD and welcomed the new Chairperson of the Committee Dr. Muwanga-Zake. Finally she thanked all those who made the meeting a success.

129. The Chairperson then declared the meeting closed.

**CASD Membership 1998-2000****1. Members representing African region (10)****ECA member States**

North Africa	Mauritania
Central Africa	Central African Republic
West Africa	Nigeria, Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire
East Africa	Uganda, Ethiopia, Democratic Republic of Congo
Southern Africa	South Africa, Angola

**Regional statistical training centres participating in the STPA (2)**

Ecole nationale supérieure de statistique et d'économie appliquée (ENSEA), Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire

Institute of Statistics and Applied Economics (ISAE), Makerere University, Kampala, Uganda

**2. Members representing African and non-African Bilateral and Multilateral Agencies and Donors (8)**

African Development Bank (ADB)

Observatoire économiques et statistiques d'Afrique subsaharienne (AFRISTAT)

Statistical Office of the European Communities (EUROSTAT)

United Kingdom Department for International Development (DFID)

United States Bureau of the Census, International Programs Centre (IPC)

Institut national de la statistique et des études économiques (INSEE)

United Nations Statistics Division (UNSD)

World Bank

3. Observer Members representing African and non-African agencies and donors (10)

Common Market for Eastern and Southern African States (COMESA)

Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS)

Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations (FAO)

International Monetary Fund (IMF)

Organisation of African Unity (OAU)

United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)

(Four others to be identified)

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