



UNITED NATIONS
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ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR AFRICA

Eighteenth meeting of the Technical
Preparatory Committee of the
Whole

Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
28 April - 2 May 1997

ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR AFRICA

Thirty-second session of the Commission/
twenty-third meeting of the Conference
of Ministers

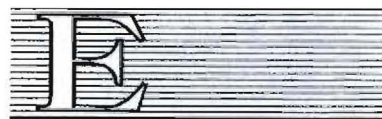
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INTERGOVERNMENTAL MACHINERY OF THE
ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR AFRICA**

Note by the secretariat



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I. INTRODUCTION

1. The reforms initiated since mid-1995 to renew the Economic Commission for Africa are well advanced and have been wide ranging. They have encompassed three levels of institutional reforms, namely: programmes and priority setting; organizational restructuring; and managerial reforms. The new programme orientation for and the priorities of the Commission were articulated in the document "*Serving Africa better: Strategic directions for the Economic Commission for Africa*". Extensive consultations were held on that document with high-level African experts, the Commission's principal partners (representatives of United Nations agencies, bilateral donors and private international foundations) and African Governments, culminating in its review and endorsement by the Conference of Ministers responsible for economic and social development and planning at its annual meeting in May 1996.

2. The new programme orientation is built around five subprogrammes. These are: facilitating economic and social policy analysis; enhancing food security and sustainable development; strengthening development management; harnessing information for development; and promoting regional cooperation and integration. Two cross-cutting issues - promoting women in development and capacity building - will underpin these subprogrammes. For programming purposes, the activities of the African Centre for Women - ECA's organizational unit responsible for advancement of women - are reflected in the subprogramme on facilitating economic and social policy analysis.

3. The subprogramme facilitating economic and social policy analysis will gather and synthesize available information on Africa, analyze policies in critical sectors and disseminate information throughout Africa on successful development policies and practices. There will be particular emphasis on social development issues, and analysis of strategies to alleviate poverty. A particular focus will be on poverty reduction through labour growth strategies, development of human capital among the poor and provision of safety nets for the vulnerable.

4. Ensuring food security and sustainable development will integrate policy concerns of the interrelated issues of food security, protection of the environment, human settlements and population growth - referred to as the nexus. The goals will be to raise awareness of African policy makers on the urgency of food, population and environment issues as key to poverty reduction; to build national and local capacity to manage the nexus; to foster interaction among sector experts and specialists at ECA and in the member States to undertake an integrated analysis of the interrelated issues of food security, population dynamics and environmental sustainability.

5. Strengthening development management will focus on strengthening member States capacity in three areas, namely: increasing the competence, efficiency, and accountability of the public sectors; promoting policies and practices of the public sector in fostering an enabling environment for all sectors of business particularly macro- and small-scale enterprise; and increasing popular participation in development by fostering an enabling environment for organization of civil society to function and their capacities to grow.

6. The main objectives of the subprogramme on harnessing information for development is to assist African member States in developing information and communication infrastructure plans as key to expediting and enhancing data sharing and electronic connectivity in Africa; and to support member States' efforts in improving the quality of statistics through technical assistance in areas of collection, processing, analysis and standardization of methods and concepts.

7. The focus of work in the subprogramme on promoting regional cooperation and integration will include supporting the strengthening of regional economic communities in each of the five African sub-regions; and assisting in the rationalization, harmonization and coordination of programmes of the African regional economic communities. Special emphasis will be placed on conditions necessary for integration; infrastructural development and harmonization of macroeconomic policies as well as collaboration in mineral and energy resources development.

8. The activities of the Multinational Operational and Programming Centres (MULPOCs) now to be re-designated Subregional Development Centres (SRDCs) are formulated in conjunction with, and reflected in, the subprogramme on regional cooperation and integration. This is because the primary function of the SRDCs is to promote regional cooperation and integration by providing effective technical support to collective approaches in tackling common development problems at the subregional level, in collaboration with the intergovernmental organizations (IGOs) and their economic communities established to spearhead economic integration.

9. The endorsement of the strategic directions by the Conference of Ministers - ECA's highest legislative organ, in turn, provided the impetus for the restructuring of the secretariat of the Commission which has now been completed. Complementing the programme and organizational reforms were a series of managerial reforms, focusing on improvement of the programme planning and budgeting systems, human resources management and communications strategy as well as information technology systems and enhancing the staff technical capacity, through a comprehensive training programme that will be implemented incrementally.

10. There is another level of reform required to complete this phase of renewal of the Commission: the intergovernmental machinery. This includes the principal legislative organ and subsidiary bodies that define the policy priorities and provide guidance on the work of the Commission.

11. This note explains the considerations for proposing the reform of the ECA intergovernmental machinery, provides a brief review of past effort in reform of ECA's intergovernmental machinery and compares ECA's intergovernmental machinery with the Economic and Social Commission of the African Economic Community (AEC). It concludes by making recommendations to the Conference of Ministers to consider in reforming the intergovernmental machinery. The reform of the intergovernmental machinery is the prerogative of member States and this note has been prepared to assist member States to facilitate discussion and decisions regarding the reform of the intergovernmental machinery of the Commission.

II. THE NEED FOR REFORM OF THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL MACHINERY

12. The impetus for reform of the intergovernmental machinery comes from several sources. First, the reform of the intergovernmental machinery of the Commission has traditionally followed the reform of the programme orientation of ECA. The intergovernmental machinery is the vehicle through which member States provide guidance and advice to the work of the Commission. The new programme orientation for the Commission was approved by the Conference at its 1996 meeting. The intergovernmental machinery should now be revised and adapted in response to changes in the composition and orientation of the Commission's work programme.

13. The second impulse for reform of the intergovernmental machinery is the demand by Member States of the United Nations embodied in resolutions of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council for various organs of the United Nations, including the regional commissions, to undertake reviews to enhance the effectiveness of their programme and intergovernmental structures. In response, the other regional commissions have, besides restructuring their programmes, already reformed or are in the process of reforming their intergovernmental structures. Rationalization of the intergovernmental bodies offers member States several advantages. A streamlined intergovernmental machinery reduces the periodicity and hence the cost of frequent meetings, increases the prospects of better preparation for the few meetings, avoids problems of duplication and overlap of related sectoral issues, and promotes coherence in national decision-making process for interrelated sectoral policy matters.

14. The third consideration in reforming ECA's intergovernmental machinery relates to the need to increase coordination and promote coherence with the intergovernmental machinery of other regional organizations in Africa, particularly with the intergovernmental machinery of the African Economic

Community. This approach has been encouraged by the Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity (OAU), which in operative paragraph 7 of resolution AHG/231(XXX) adopted at its Tunis Summit in June 1994, "requested the African Economic Community's Economic and Social Commission (ECOSOC) at its first session to rationalize African sectoral Ministerial Meetings by regrouping them as specialized technical committees of ECOSOC, pursuant to the provision of Article 25 of the Treaty and to submit its recommendations to the Assembly of Heads of State and Government through the Council of Ministers in conformity with the provision of Article 15 and 16 of the Treaty".

III. REFORM OF ECA'S INTERGOVERNMENTAL MACHINERY: A REVIEW OF PAST EFFORTS

15. The intergovernmental machinery of the Commission has undergone several revisions in the past. The last major revision was in 1993, when the present structure of the intergovernmental machinery was adopted by the Conference of Ministers at the twenty-eighth session of the Commission. That effort was in response to the Commission's resolution 726 (XXVII) of 22 April 1992 on strengthening the Economic Commission for Africa to face Africa's development challenges in the 1990s which recommended the grouping of conferences along specific themes. The 1993 revision to the intergovernmental machinery was based on three main considerations, namely: avoiding duplication and overlap in the functions of legislative organs, reducing periodicity of meetings, and promoting greater efficiency and effectiveness in meetings of the intergovernmental machinery. The 1993 revision of the intergovernmental machinery led to the reduction of the legislative and subsidiary organs from 32 to 13 (see annex III for the 1993 intergovernmental structure).

16. A major feature of the 1993 revision was the abolition of the Conference of Ministers of African Least Developed Countries (LDCs) and the subsuming of issues relating to LDCs as an item under the Conference of African Ministers responsible for Economic and Social Development and Planning (the Commission). This change was effected for two reasons: First, was the recurring tendency of inadequate representation at both the intergovernmental Committee of Experts and Conference of Ministers of African LDCs. Second, and most important was that since a majority of member States had been classified as least developed, issues pertaining to the LDCs merited discussion by the whole Conference. Today, 33 of the 53 member States are categorized as LDCs.

17. Prior to 1993, there had been a major restructuring of the ECA intergovernmental machinery in 1979. The intergovernmental machinery adopted in 1979 had 32 legislative and subsidiary organs and related bodies which were divided into three categories, namely: organs dealing with overall development issues; organs dealing with sectoral issues; and technical subsidiary organs (see annex IV for the 1979 intergovernmental machinery). This structure was reviewed and retained by the Conference of Ministers in 1987. In that year, the Councils of Ministers of the MULPOCs were abolished and replaced by the intergovernmental Committees of Experts of the MULPOCs which meet every two years and report directly to the ECA Conference of Ministers through its Technical Preparatory Committee of the Whole (TEPCOW). The 1979 review of the intergovernmental machinery was based on the following considerations:

- (a) Avoiding the proliferation of the subsidiary bodies of the Commission;
- (b) The need to reduce the costs in terms of money and time of organizing and participating in the work of the different organs of the Commission; and
- (c) The tasks of giving technical advice to the Commission should be entrusted to a small number of sectoral conferences at the ministerial level, each of which, supported by a technical advisory committee, would be responsible for a given development sector.

18. This brief review of past efforts reveals the persistence of certain common considerations that have driven the reform of ECA's intergovernmental machinery. These include the need to adjust the intergovernmental machinery to conform to reforms in the programme orientation of the Commission; reduce overlap; eliminate duplication and promote coherence in the intergovernmental structure. The coming into force of the Abuja Treaty establishing the African Economic Community imparts a new momentum to bringing coherence not only within ECA's intergovernmental structure but also in relation to the Community. A brief comparison of the African Economic Community and ECA intergovernmental machinery is undertaken in the next section.

IV. INTERGOVERNMENTAL MACHINERY OF THE ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR AFRICA AND THE AFRICAN ECONOMIC COMMUNITY: A BRIEF COMPARISON

19. The present structure of the intergovernmental machinery of ECA has three tiers, consisting of legislative organs dealing with overall development issues; Conferences of Ministers; and technical subsidiary bodies (see annex III).

20. By contrast, the organs of the African Economic Community stipulated in article 7 of the Treaty consist of: the Assembly of Heads of State and Government; the Council of Ministers (of Foreign Affairs); the Pan-African Parliament; the Economic and Social Commission; the Court of Justice; the General Secretariat; and the specialized technical committees.

21. To the extent that there are some similarities between the present intergovernmental machinery of ECA and the organs of the Community, it is only as it relates to the Economic and Social Commission of the Community and the specialized technical committees. There are some congruences in the composition of the specialized technical committees of the Community created under article 25 of the Treaty and some of ECA's sectoral ministerial conferences and technical subsidiary bodies under the present structure of ECA's intergovernmental machinery (see table 1).

22. Article 25 of the Treaty indicates that the Assembly of Heads of State and Government shall, whenever it deems appropriate, restructure the existing committees or establish other committees. Still, the committees established under that article provide a useful starting point of comparison with ECA's present intergovernmental machinery and a benchmark for its reform.

23. The composition and periodicity of the Economic and Social Commission (ECOSOC) of the Community as indicated in articles 15 and 17 of the Treaty broadly resemble those of the ECA Conference of Ministers. However, there the similarities between the Community's ECOSOC and the ECA Conference of Ministers end. The ECA Conference of Ministers performs three key functions in relation to the work of the Commission. First, it provides legislative mandate and policy guidance for the work of ECA. Second, it considers and endorses the work programme of the Commission before the work programme is transmitted to other organs of the United Nations, namely the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly of the United Nations for approval. And third, it serves as a vehicle for articulating Africa's position on the economic and social issues on the agenda of the United Nations.

Table 1. Comparison between ECA's sectoral ministerial conferences and subsidiary bodies and the African Economic Community's technical specialized committees

	Technical specialized committees of the African Economic Community as stipulated in article 25 of the Treaty	ECA's sectoral ministerial conferences and technical subsidiary bodies	Remarks
1.	Committee on Rural Economy and Agricultural Matters	-	No equivalent exists in ECA's intergovernmental structure
2.	Committee on Monetary and Financial Affairs	-	No equivalent exists in ECA's intergovernmental structure
3.	Committee on Trade, Customs and Immigration	Conference of African Ministers of Trade, and Regional Cooperation and Integration	
4.	Committee on Industry, Science and Technology, Energy, National Resources and Environment	Conference of African Ministers responsible for Sustainable Development and the Environment* Conference of African Ministers of Industry Conference of African Ministers responsible for the Development and Utilization of Mineral Resources and Energy African Regional Conference and Science and Technology	Equivalent body exists in ECA's intergovernmental structure at the ministerial level " " "
5.	Committee on Transport, Communications and Tourism	Conference of African Ministers of Transport and Communications	Equivalent body exists
6.	Committee on Health, Labour and Social Affairs	Conference of African Ministers responsible for Human Development	AEC Committees 6 and 7 overlap with ECA's Conference of Ministers for Human Development
7.	Committee on Education, Culture and Human Resources		

* This also overlaps with African Ministers Conference on Environment and was the subject of consultations which were reported to the Conference of Ministers in May 1996 (document E/ECA/CM.22/11/Add.2).

V. CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

24. The proposed revisions to the ECA intergovernmental machinery are guided by four principles, namely: consolidating and simplifying ECA's intergovernmental machinery; retaining the principal legislative organ of the Commission through which member States can continue to exercise policy guidance over the work of the Commission; establishing or retaining subsidiary bodies to enable the Commission to draw on the advice of experts from Governments of member States but also the private sector and civil society groups in Africa; and avoiding overlap with the organs of the African Economic Community at the level of sectoral meetings.

25. Although several sectoral ministerial meetings are recommended for abolition, the Commission would convene special ministerial conferences on any issue as and when circumstances demand.

26. The following key recommendations for revising the intergovernmental machinery are, therefore, proposed for the consideration of the Conference of Ministers:

A. Legislative bodies to be retained

1. Conference of African Ministers responsible for Economic and Social Development and Planning (the Commission) and its Technical Preparatory Committee of the Whole (TEPCOW)

27. The Conference of African Ministers responsible for Economic and Social Development and Planning (the Commission) will provide legislative mandate and policy guidance for the work of the Commission, consider and endorse the work programmes of the Commission; serve as a forum for articulating Africa's position on development issues on the agenda of the United Nations; and decide upon the recommendations of its subsidiary bodies and of the Executive Secretary.

28. Since the mandate of the Conference encompasses the gamut of development issues - economic as well as social - it will subsume the legislative responsibilities previously assigned to the Conference of African Ministers responsible for Human Development which is proposed for abolition.

29. The Conference will meet on biennial basis. The next meeting will be in 1999. The Bureau of the Commission will be expanded, so that it will have a representative from each of the five subregions of the continent, namely: North, East, Southern, West and Central Africa. It will consist of a chairman, three vice-chairmen and one rapporteur. The expanded Bureau will convene in intersessional years as circumstances warrant.

30. The Technical Preparatory Committee of the Whole (TEPCOW) shall continue to provide technical support to the Conference and meet biennially before the Conference.

2. Intergovernmental Committees of Experts of the MULPOCs (to be re-named Subregional Development Centres (SRDCs))

31. The five intergovernmental Committees of Experts of the MULPOCs shall continue to meet every two years and report to the Commission through TEPCOW. These Committees oversee the overall formulation and implementation of the programme of work and priorities of the respective SRDCs, and make recommendations on important issues concerning economic and social development in their respective subregions, as well as on the promotion and strengthening of subregional economic cooperation and integration. These meetings shall be convened biennially and coincide with the year during which the ECA Conference of Ministers meets to approve the programme of work and priorities of the Commission.

3. Conference of Ministers of Finance

32. It is proposed that the Conference of Ministers be retained. In African countries, short-term economic and financial management now preoccupies governments. The Conference provides a forum for African Governments to share experiences and articulate common perspectives on international financial issues. The Conference will be convened biennially in alternate years to the biennial meetings of the Conference of African Ministers for Economic and Social Development and Planning (the Commission). The Conference will have a committee of experts to prepare its meetings which will convene before each session.

4. Conferences of Ministers of Transport and Communications and Industry

33. These will be retained until the expiry of the second United Nations Transport and Communications Decade in Africa (UNTACDA-II) and the United Nations second Industrial Development Decade for Africa (IDDA-II) in 1999 and 2001 respectively.

B. Subsidiary bodies to be created or retained

34. The new programme orientation is developed around a thematic approach in which closely inter-related activities are clustered around a subprogramme. Just as the Conference of African Ministers responsible for Economic and Social Development and Planning provides overall policy guidance for the work of the Commission, so the subsidiary bodies should provide advice to the subprogrammes. A perfect congruence between the subsidiary bodies and subprogramme structure is not possible, however. The subsidiary bodies are a good mechanism to benefit from the advice of experts in government, the private sector and civil society on a range of issues pertinent to the work of the Commission.

35. The following subsidiary bodies are proposed to be created or retained:

1. Committee on Women and Development

36. The Africa Regional Coordinating Committee for the Integration of Women in Development (ARCC), which will be renamed Committee on Women and Development, will be retained and continue to play its role as an advisory forum of experts and policy makers, providing guidance to the Commission's work on the advancement of women. It will also provide a platform for advocacy and assessing follow-up and implementation by African Governments of the Global and Regional Platforms for Action for the advancement of women. In particular, it will address issues relating to economic empowerment of women, their legal and human protection, and improved access to education. It will meet on a biennial basis.

2. Committee on Development Information

37. As ECA strengthens its role in assisting member States in developing their national information and communication infrastructure, it needs a body that brings together experts and policy makers to advise it in this area. The beginnings of such a body exist in the High-level Working Group that helped to articulate the African Information Society Initiative (AISII): An action framework to build Africa's information and communication infrastructure and in the African Technical Advisory Committee of experts on information infrastructure which has been established to provide advice on the implementation of AISII. The Committee on Development Information will build on the work of these bodies as well as the Joint Conference of African Planners, Statisticians, Population and Information Specialists.

38. The Committee on Development Information will include experts from such fields as statistics and geo-information systems as well as information specialists. The Committee will meet on a biennial basis.

3. Committee on Sustainable Development

39. This Committee would serve as a forum of experts that will provide advice to ECA in the interlinked areas of food security, population, environment and human settlements. In this regard, it will provide a platform for advocacy and assessing follow-up by African Governments in the implementation of Agenda 21, the Habitat Agenda, the Cairo Programme of Action on Population and Development, and the Programme of Action of the World Food Summit.

40. It would address specific measures to promote the protection and regeneration of environment, enhance food security in African, sustainable human settlements and issues arising from increased population growth. This Committee will meet once every two years.

4. Committee on Human Development and Civil Society

41. This Committee would serve as a forum for promoting measures to strengthen civil society and human development. It will enable ECA to draw on the advice of experts from the public and private sectors as well as civil society in its work in this area. The Committee will provide a platform for advocacy monitoring follow-up on such global and regionally agreed programmes of action as Copenhagen Programme of Action of the World Summit on Social Development and the African Charter for Popular Participation in Development and Transformation. It will examine major regional issues and trends in the area of social development and civil society. This Committee will subsume the functions of the Ministerial Committee of Fifteen on Human Development. It will meet on a biennial basis.

5. Committee on Industry and Private Sector Development

42. Increasingly, African Governments are reducing their involvement in the productive sectors of the economy, thus paving the way for an active role for the private sector in the economy. This trend will not only continue but should be fostered. The Committee would serve as a forum for addressing measures to strengthen the private sector as the engine of growth. The Committee would focus on such issues as improving public-private partnerships, stimulating private investment, creating a sound legal and regulatory framework for business. The Committee would monitor and review progress in the industrialization of Africa as well as identify and recommend measures for accelerating the process of industrialization in the region.

43. This Committee will subsume some of the functions of Conference of African Ministers of Industry. It will be composed of experts representing each private sector group, such as chambers of commerce, manufacturers' associations, capital market forums, and labour as well as policy makers from relevant government departments. The Committee will meet biennially.

6. Committee on Natural Resources and Science and Technology

44. This Committee will subsume the functions performed by the African Regional Conference on Science and Technology and the Conference of African Ministers responsible for the Development and Utilization of Mineral Resources and Energy. It will, however, be composed of experts in these fields.

45. The Committee will serve as a forum for the promotion of cooperation among African countries in the areas of science and technology and development of natural resources and for providing advice on science and technology issues relevant to the development of member States. It will meet on a biennial basis.

7. Committee on Regional Cooperation and Integration

46. This Committee will subsume the functions of the Conference of Ministers of Trade, Regional Cooperation and Integration. Because trade is the main engine of regional cooperation and integration, the main focus of this work will be trade - intra-African and international trade. It will be composed of experts in the field of international trade and integration drawn from government as well as the private sector.

47. In addition, the Committee would: promote the implementation of measures designed to strengthen economic cooperation and integration among African countries; assist African countries and their inter-governmental organizations in making more effective the policy instruments for economic cooperation and integration of the African region; and identify measures to coordinate and harmonize micro- and macro-economic policy among African countries as a prerequisite for accelerating regional economic integration.

48. It will meet on a biennial basis.

C. CONFERENCES PROPOSED FOR ABOLITION

1. Conference of African Ministers responsible for Human Development

49. It is proposed that this Conference be abolished. Its legislative functions will be subsumed by the Conference of African Ministers responsible for Economic and Social Development and Planning. The functions of its Ministerial Follow-up Committee of Fifteen will be subsumed by the Committee on Human Development and Civil Society.

2. Conference of African Ministers responsible for Sustainable Development and Environment (CAMSDE)

50. This Conference was created in the 1993 restructuring of the intergovernmental machinery of ECA with a view to providing legislative guidance for ECA's work in the area of sustainable development and environment. Subsequently, it was found that its mandate duplicated the African Ministerial Conference on the Environment (AMCEN), which has a joint secretariat composed of ECA, OAU and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP). Consequently, the Executive Secretary of ECA was requested to undertake consultations on how to resolve the problem of duplication between AMCEN and CAMSDE.

51. The results of those consultations were presented to the ECA Conference of Ministers in May 1996 in document E/ECA/CM.22/11/Add.2. The consultations indicated four options for resolving the problem: merge CAMSDE and AMCEN; strengthen the modalities of collaboration between CAMSDE and AMCEN; broaden the mandate of AMCEN to include issues of sustainable development; and drop "Environment" from the title of CAMSDE. The abolition of CAMSDE resolves the problem of duplication with AMCEN.

3. Conference of African Ministers of Trade and Regional Cooperation and Integration

52. The functions of this Conference overlap both with the Economic and Social Commission of the African Economic Community and its Committee on Trade, Customs and Immigration. Some of the functions of this Committee will be subsumed by the newly established Committee on Regional Cooperation and Integration in Africa.

4. Conference of African Ministers of Transport and Communications

53. This Conference would be abolished at the end of the second United Nations Transport and Communications Decade in Africa (UNTACDA-II) in 1999. Thereafter, the African Economic Community's

Committee on Transport, Communications and Tourism will become the regional forum for discussions on the relevant issues.

5. Conference of African Ministers of Industry

54. This Conference would be abolished at the end of the United Nations second Industrial Development Decade for Africa (IDDA-II) in 2001. Thereafter, the African Economic Community's Committee on Industry, Science and Technology, Energy, Natural Resources and Environment will become the regional forum for discussions. As indicated earlier, the newly established ECA's Committee on Industry and Private Sector Development will also focus on industry in the broader context of private sector development.

6. Conference of African Ministers responsible for the Development and Utilization of Mineral Resources and Energy

55. The legislative functions of this Conference would be subsumed by the African Economic Community's Committee with the same title.

D. SUBSIDIARY BODIES PROPOSED FOR ABOLITION

1. United Nations Regional Cartographic Conference for Africa

56. The functions of this Conference will be subsumed by the Committee on Development Information.

2. African Regional Conference on Science and Technology

57. The functions of this Conference will be subsumed by the Committee on Natural Resources and Science and Technology.

3. Joint Conference of African Planners, Statisticians, Population and Information Specialists

58. The functions of this Conference will be subsumed both by the Committees on Sustainable Development and Development Information.

59. The organs that comprise the new structure of the intergovernmental machinery are listed in annex I, presented schematically in annex II and their terms of reference are in annex V. These are submitted for the consideration and adoption by the present meeting of the ECA Conference of Ministers.

Annex I

**PROPOSED NEW STRUCTURE OF THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL MACHINERY
OF THE ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR AFRICA**

I. ECA LEGISLATIVE ORGANS DEALING WITH OVERALL DEVELOPMENT ISSUES

1. Conference of African Ministers Responsible for Economic and Social Development (the Commission) and its Technical Preparatory Committee of the Whole (TEPCOW)
2. Intergovernmental Committees of Experts of the five Subregional Development Centres (SRDCs).

II. CONFERENCE OF MINISTERS

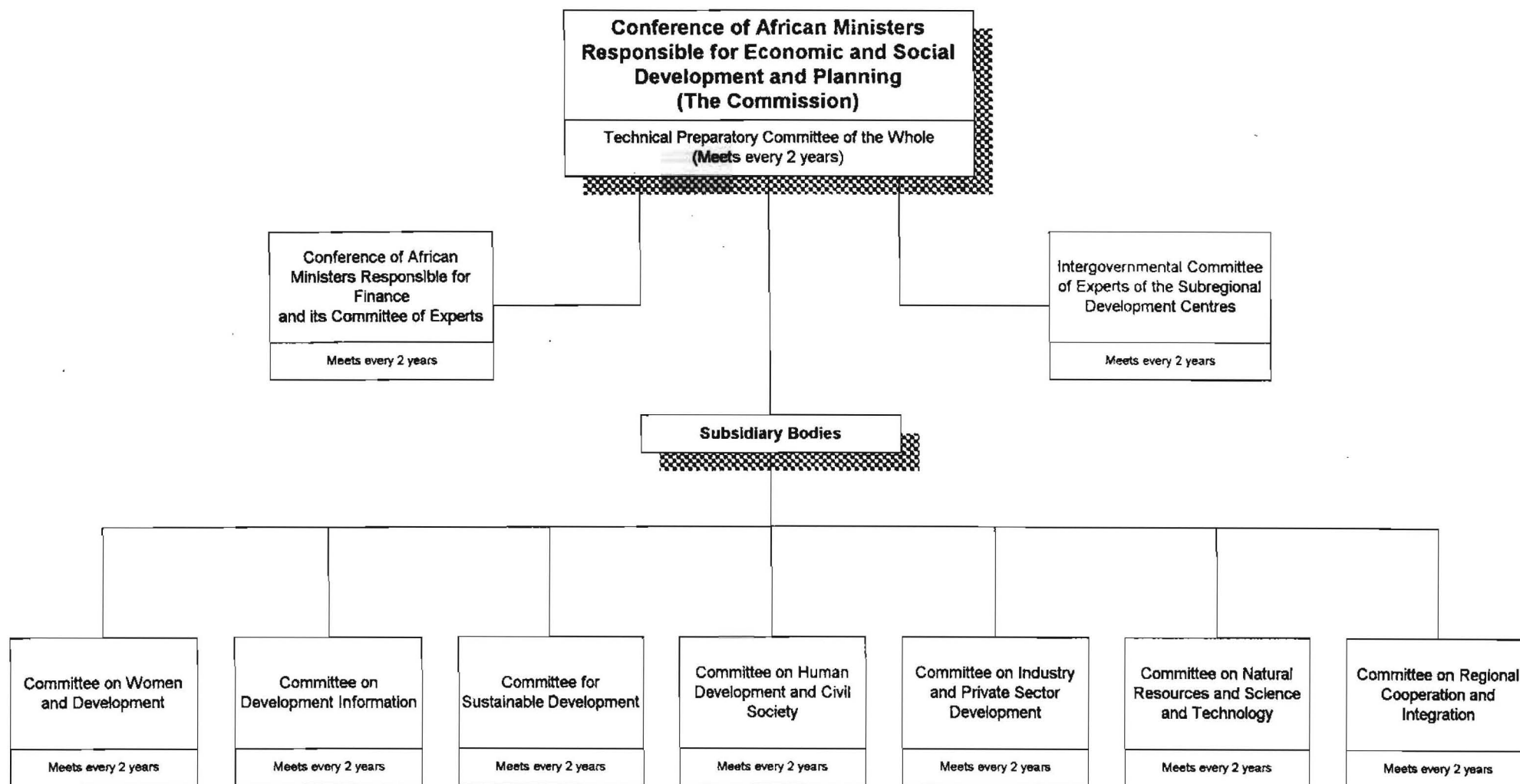
Conference of African Ministers responsible for Finance, and its Committee of Experts.

III. SUBSIDIARY BODIES

1. Committee on Women and Development.
2. Committee on Development Information
3. Committee for Sustainable Development
4. Committee on Human Development and Civil Society
5. Committee on Industry and Private Sector Development
6. Committee on Natural Resources and Science and Technology
7. Committee on Regional Cooperation and Integration.

Annex II

**SCHEMATIC PRESENTATION OF THE PROPOSED NEW STRUCTURE OF THE
INTERGOVERNMENTAL MACHINERY OF THE ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR AFRICA**



Annex III

**STRUCTURE OF THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL MACHINERY OF
THE ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR AFRICA (1993 TO PRESENT)**

I. ECA LEGISLATIVE ORGANS DEALING WITH OVERALL DEVELOPMENT ISSUES

1. Conference of African Ministers responsible for Economic and Social Development and Planning (the Commission), and its Technical Preparatory Committee of the Whole (TEPCOW).
2. Intergovernmental Committees of Experts of the five Multinational Programming and Operational Centres (MULPOCs): Tangier, Morocco; Niamey, Niger; Yaounde, Cameroon; Gisenyi, Rwanda; and Lusaka, Zambia.

II. CONFERENCES OF MINISTERS

1. Conference of African Ministers responsible for Human Development, with its Committee of Experts and Ministerial Follow-up Committee of Fifteen.
2. Conference of African Ministers responsible for Sustainable Development and the Environment, with its Committee of Experts and Ministerial Follow-up Committee of Fifteen.
3. Conference of African Ministers responsible for Finance, and its Committee of Experts.
4. Conference of African Ministers of Trade and Regional Cooperation and Integration, and its Committee of Experts.
5. Conference of African Ministers of Transport and Communications, and its Committee of Experts (UNTACDA-II).
6. Conference of African Ministers of Industry, and its Committee of Experts (IDDA II).
7. Conference of African Ministers responsible for the Development and Utilization of Mineral Resources and Energy, and its Committee of Experts.

III. TECHNICAL SUBSIDIARY BODIES

1. United Nations Regional Cartographic Conference for Africa.
2. African Regional Conference for Science and Technology.
3. Joint Conference of African Planners, Statisticians, Population and Information Specialists.
4. Africa Regional Coordinating Committee for the Integration of Women in Development.

Annex IV

**STRUCTURE OF THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL MACHINERY OF THE
ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR AFRICA (1979-1993)**

I. ECA LEGISLATIVE ORGANS DEALING WITH OVERALL DEVELOPMENT ISSUES

1. Conference of African Ministers responsible for Economic Development and Planning.
2. Technical Preparatory Committee of the Whole (TEPCOW).
3. Conference of Ministers of African Least Developed Countries.
4. Committee of Experts of the Conference of Ministers of African Least Developed Countries.

II. ECA LEGISLATIVE ORGANS DEALING WITH SECTORAL ISSUES

1. Intergovernmental Committees of Experts of the five Multinational Programming and Operational Centres (MULPOCs): Tangier, Morocco; Niamey, Niger; Yaounde, Cameroon; Gisenyi, Rwanda; and Lusaka, Zambia.
2. Conference of African Ministers of Finance.
3. Committee of Experts of the Conference of African Ministers of Finance.
4. Africa Regional Coordinating Committee for the Integration of Women in Development.
5. Conference of African Ministers of Transport, Communications and Planning.
6. Committee of Experts of the Conference of African Ministers of Transport, Communications and Planning.
7. Technical Committee for the Pan-African Development Information System.
8. Conference of African Ministers responsible for Human Resources Planning, Development and Utilization.
9. Committee of Experts of the Conference of African Ministers responsible for Human Resources Planning, Development and Utilization.
10. Joint Conference of African Planners, Statisticians and Demographers.
11. Intergovernmental Regional Committee on Human Settlements and Environment.
12. Intergovernmental Committee of Experts on Nuclear Science and Technology for Development in Africa.
13. Regional Conference for the Development and Utilization of Mineral Resources in Africa.
14. Committee of Experts of the Regional Conference for the Development and Utilization of Mineral Resources in Africa.

15. Intergovernmental Committee for Science and Technology Development.
16. Conference of African Ministers of Science and Technology.

III. SECTORAL ORGANS SERVICED BY ECA IN COOPERATION WITH OTHER ORGANIZATIONS

1. Conference of African Ministers of Social Affairs.
2. Committee of Experts of the Conference of African Ministers of Social Affairs.
3. Conference of African Ministers of Trade.
4. Committee of Experts of the Conference of African Ministers of Trade.
5. Conference of African Ministers of Industry.
6. Committee of Experts of the Conference of African Ministers of Industry.
7. Conference of African Ministers of Tourism.
8. Committee of Experts of the Conference of African Ministers of Tourism.
9. Conference of African Ministers of Environment.
10. Committee of Experts of the Conference of African Ministers of Environment.
11. Conference of Vice-Chancellors, Presidents and Rectors of Institutions of Higher Learning in Africa.
12. Committee of the Nile Basin Countries.

Annex V**TERMS OF REFERENCE OF THE ORGANS OF THE PROPOSED NEW STRUCTURE OF THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL MACHINERY OF THE ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR AFRICA****I. PROPOSED TERMS OF REFERENCE OF THE CONFERENCE OF AFRICAN MINISTERS RESPONSIBLE FOR ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING**

- (a) Provide legislative mandate and policy guidance for the work of the Commission;
- (b) Consider the programme of work and priorities of the Commission;
- (c) Review and analyze the economic and social situation in the region;
- (d) Identify and highlight the major economic and social development issues and concerns with a view to promoting policies and strategies for Africa's accelerated development;
- (e) Suggest policy measures and actions for implementing various strategies and initiatives, including eliciting the support of the international community in support of that effort;
- (f) Undertake periodic reviews of the follow up to the global conferences preparatory to review and appraisal of the implementation of the relevant programmes of action of these conferences by the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) and the General Assembly of the United Nations;
- (g) Conduct periodic reviews of the situation of the least developed countries and submit to ECOSOC and the General Assembly or any special conference, a report on the situation of the least developed countries in Africa;
- (h) Encourage the establishment of appropriate mechanisms at the national, subregional and regional levels to promote the advancement of women;
- (i) In close collaboration with the Organization of African Unity and the African Development Bank, assist member States in promoting regional cooperation and integration, in particular in the implementation of the Abuja Treaty establishing the African Economic Community;
- (j) Foster policy coordination with the OAU/African Economic Community on all international economic negotiations;
- (k) Undertake a review of the work and the functioning of the subsidiary organs of the Commission; and
- (l) Review and assess the programme orientation of the secretariat and any recommendations submitted by the Executive Secretary.

II. PROPOSED TERMS OF REFERENCE OF THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL COMMITTEES OF EXPERTS OF THE SUBREGIONAL DEVELOPMENT CENTRES (SRDCs)

- (a) Recommend strategies, policies, programmes and projects aimed at enhancing economic cooperation and integration within their respective subregions and with other African subregions, in conformity with the objectives of the African Economic Community;

(b) Submit to the ECA Conference of Ministers the (biennial) draft work programmes of the SRDCs and suggest measures for the successful implementation of those work programmes. The latter will take into account the activities of the intergovernmental organizations (IGOs) with a view to supporting and not duplicating them;

(c) Monitor through a continuous process and an appropriate mechanism the implementation of the approved work programmes of the SRDCs and report thereon to the ECA Conference of Ministers. In this regard, the Committees will consider the reports of the Follow-up Committees of the SRDCs;

(d) Review and analyze the economic and social conditions prevailing in their respective subregions with a view to making appropriate recommendations of measures likely to foster economic cooperation and integration among the countries concerned;

(e) Review and make subsequent recommendations on reports of sectoral meetings organized by or with the assistance of the SRDCs;

(f) Suggest measures aimed at mobilizing resources for the effective implementation of the work programmes of the SRDCs;

(g) Carry out any duties assigned to them by the ECA Conference of Ministers in connection with their mandate;

(h) Establish liaison with other agencies, organizations and non-governmental organizations at the subregional, regional and global levels, and take into account their relevant recommendations; and

(i) Make recommendations to the ECA Conference of African Ministers responsible for Economic and Social Development and Planning.

III. PROPOSED TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR THE CONFERENCE OF AFRICAN MINISTERS OF FINANCE

(a) Monitor and evaluate the impact of the international monetary and financial situation on the African economies and propose appropriate remedial action;

(b) Regularly assess the structure and magnitude of Africa's external debts, including the debt-servicing obligations of African countries with a view to proposing effective measures to alleviate such debts;

(c) Review intra-African monetary and financial cooperation and suggest ways by which resource flows to Africa can be enhanced, including the proposed establishment of an African monetary fund;

(d) Promote the exchange of information and the sharing of national experiences in dealing with monetary and financial matters; and

(e) Devise strategies for strengthening Africa's position in international negotiations on money and financial issues.

IV. PROPOSED TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR THE SUBSIDIARY BODIES

A. Committee on Women and Development

- (a) Review periodically the progress in the implementation of the Global and Regional Platforms for Action;
- (b) Review and evaluate the activities carried out in the region in the framework of the relevant programmes for the advancement of women;
- (c) Harmonize and coordinate the subregional programmes on women in development approved within the subregions;
- (d) Report to the Conference of African Ministers responsible for Economic and Social Development and Planning (the Commission) on the activities and programmes on women in development covered at the subregional and regional levels;
- (e) Mobilize resources for the implementation of the programmes of action agreed at the subregional and regional levels;
- (f) Participate in the activities and meetings of the United Nations and other relevant bodies; and
- (g) Organize the exchange of information and experiences on policies regarding advancement of women in member States.

B. Committee on Development Information

- (a) Review and advise on the implementation of the African Information Society Initiative (AISI): An action framework for national information and communication infrastructure with a view to suggesting measures to accelerate its implementation;
- (b) Mobilize funding and technical assistance for the implementation of AISI;
- (c) Identify and suggest techniques for the application of geographic information for natural resource exploitation and management;
- (d) Examine and advise on progress by member States in all aspects of statistical development;
- (e) Advise on the establishment of arrangements for the improvement of all aspects of methodology and practice in the areas of statistics, information science and geographic information system (remote sensing and cartography); and
- (f) Coordinate the training for African personnel in the areas of statistics, information science and geographic information systems.

C. Committee on Sustainable Development

- (a) Undertake periodic review of the implementation of regional and global programmes of action such as Agenda 21, the Cairo Agenda on Population and Development, the Habitat Agenda and Food Security;

(b) Consider and make recommendations on a multidisciplinary approach to the implementation of the relevant programmes of action;

(c) Promote the formulation of policies and measures for environment protection, food security, improved human settlements and integration of population variables in development planning; and

(d) Provide advice to the Commission in the formulation of activities for supporting member States in the interrelated areas of food security, population, environment and human settlements.

D. Committee on Human Development and Civil Society

(a) Assist member States to promote measures to follow up the implementation of the regionally and globally agreed programmes of action in social and human development and popular participation;

(b) Provide advice to the Commission in formulating its work programmes in the area of human development and popular participation;

(c) Encourage the integration of social and human dimensions into development policies, plans and programmes at both macroeconomic and sectoral levels; and

(d) Identify and highlight the major economic and social development issues and concerns with a view to promoting policies and strategies for human development and popular participation in development.

E. Committee on Industry and Private Sector Development

(a) Assist the Commission in the articulation of strategies and programmes for private sector development;

(b) Undertake periodic reviews and assessment of the progress in implementing strategies for private sector development;

(c) Provide advice to the Commission on orienting its work programme to give support to member States in fostering private sector development;

(d) Provide a forum where representatives of government and the private sector can share experiences and exchange information on best practices relating to support policy measures for private sector development;

(e) Review and monitor progress in industrialization in Africa; and

(f) Identify and recommend measures for accelerating the process of industrialization in the region.

F. Committee on Natural Resources, Science and Technology

(a) Promote measures to facilitate cooperation among African countries in the area of natural resources, science and technology;

(b) Provide a forum for exchange of information and sharing experiences in these areas;

(c) Assist the Commission in the formulation of programmes for the development and application of science and technology; and

(d) Advise the Commission on ways to strengthen its support to member States in the area of natural resources management.

G. Committee on Regional Cooperation and Integration

(a) Undertake periodic review and assessment of Africa's trading position in the world economy;

(b) Identify and highlight major opportunities and constraints in trade and investment for African countries;

(c) Enhance the African trade sector through the adoption of appropriate measures, policies and strategies for the expansion of regional and external trade;

(d) In close collaboration with the OAU/African Economic Community, promote the implementation of measures designed to strengthen economic cooperation and integration among African countries;

(e) Assist African countries and their intergovernmental organizations in making more effective the policy instruments for economic cooperation and integration in Africa;

(f) In close collaboration with the Intergovernmental Committees of the SRDCs, assist the member States of the SRDCs and their IGOs in the strengthening of existing institutional machinery for subregional economic cooperation and integration as well as strengthening existing institutions for subregional trade cooperation, within the framework of the Abuja Treaty; and

(g) Identify measures to coordinate and harmonize micro- and macroeconomic policy among African countries as a prerequisite for accelerating regional economic integration.