

29108/

UNITED NATIONS
ECONOMIC
and SOCIAL
COUNCIL

Distr.
GENERAL

E/CN.14/502
10 December 1970.

Original : ENGLISH/FRENCH



ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR AFRICA

REPORT OF THE SECRETARIAT ON THE WORK OF THE COMMISSION
(15 February 1970 - 31 January 1971)

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	<u>Paragraphs</u>	<u>Page</u>
INTRODUCTION - - - - -	1	1
WORK OF THE COMMISSION SINCE 14 FEBRUARY 1970		
A. Activities of subsidiary bodies - - - - -	2	1
B. Other activities - - - - -	3	1
Associate membership for Angola, Mozambique, Guinea (Called Portuguese Guinea) and Namibia, (South-West-Africa) - - - - -	4	1 - 2
Economic research and planning	5 - 10	2 - 3
Economic co-operation - - - - -	11 - 25	3 - 9
Trade - - - - -	26 - 35	9 - 11
Industry - - - - -	36 - 51	11 - 16
Development of natural resources - - - - -	52 - 72	16 - 20
Transport and communications - - - - -	73 - 88	20 - 22
Fiscal and monetary issues - - - - -	89 - 101	23 - 25
Agriculture - - - - -	102 - 117	25 - 29
Human resources - - - - -	118 - 151	29 - 38
Population programmes - - - - -	152 - 160	38 - 41
Housing - - - - -	161 - 170	41 - 44
Statistical services - - - - -	171 - 185	44 - 47
Science and technology - - - - -	186 - 199	48 - 51
Information service - - - - -	200 - 205	52
C. African Institute for Economic Development and Planning - - - - -	206 - 210	53
D. Relations with specialized agencies and other organizations - - - - -	211 - 220	54 - 55
E. Meetings of subsidiary bodies during the period under review - - - - -		56
F. List of Meetings and Training Courses held during the period under review - - - - -		57 - 60

INTRODUCTION

1. This report of the secretariat covers the period from 15 February 1970 to 31 January 1971.^{1/} It is submitted to the Technical Committee of Experts at its second meeting for its comments and any alterations before being adopted by the Commission at its tenth session.

WORK OF THE COMMISSION SINCE 14 FEBRUARY 1970

A. ACTIVITIES OF SUBSIDIARY BODIES

2. During the period 15 February 1970 to 31 January 1971, the Executive Committee held its third and fourth meetings and the Conference of African Planners held its third session. Details on the dates and venue of these meetings and on their report are contained in Section E on meetings of subsidiary bodies.

B. OTHER ACTIVITIES

3. In accordance with the resolutions adopted by the Commission at its ninth session^{2/} and under the programme of work and the order of priorities established for the two-year period 1969-1971, the secretariat carried out, during the period under review, the work described in the following paragraphs.

Associate membership for Angola, Mozambique, Guinea called Portuguese Guinea and Namibia (South-West Africa)

4. In accordance with resolution 194 (IX) on associate membership for Angola, Mozambique, Guinea called Portuguese Guinea and Namibia (South-West Africa), the Organization of African Unity proposed names for the representation of the peoples of those countries on the Commission. In accordance with the report (E/CN.14/443) which he presented on this question

^{1/} For the Commission's previous report, covering the period from 15 February 1969 to 14 February 1970, see Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Forty-ninth Session, (E/4824).

^{2/} For the resolutions adopted by the Commission at its ninth session, see Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Forty-seventh Session, vol. I (E/4651), pp. 133-166.

to the Commission at its ninth session, the Executive Secretary submitted, for approval by the General Assembly at its twenty-sixth session, the proposals of OAU concerning the representation of Angola, Mozambique and Guinea called Portuguese Guinea, and to the United Nations Council for Namibia, the proposal of OAU concerning the latter country.

Economic Research and Planning

5. A new Division of Economic Research and Planning was established with effect from 14 September 1970. The object is to provide the secretariat with more effective machinery for studying and understanding the factors which account for the relative failure of the economic development multiplier in the region, to determine how these factors could be influenced or changed and to propose how planning techniques could more effectively be related to socio-economic realities in Africa. Work on socio-economic research and on planning was expected to lead to improvements in the annual economic survey of the region.

6. During the period under review the third session of the Conference of African Planners was held in Addis Ababa from 20 to 29 May. The discussions focussed on the activities of the United Nations relating to the Second Development Decade, on planning problems and methods in Africa and on the work carried out by the secretariat. The proposed outline of the work programme for economic research and planning was also discussed and approved. The Conference discussed the future of the African Institute for Economic Development and Planning (IDEP) and elected the members of its Governing Council for the two-year period 1970-72.

7. The secretariat continued its work on the drawing up of a draft strategy of development for Africa in the 1970s. In this connection special attention was given, inter alia, to the prospects of reliance on extra-African trade, aid and investment for the necessary resources for accelerated development and economic growth. The work also concerned a shift in policies and plans in favour of the development of national and multinational markets within the region, and some of the factors which have to be taken into account in the adoption of such a strategy.

8. A seminar on data required for projections, organized in co-operation with the United Nations Statistical Office and the New York Centre for Development Planning, Projects and Policies was held at Addis Ababa from 9 to 13 November (see E/CN.14/501). The main object was to enable planners and statisticians to meet to relate the data needs of planning services to the capacities of statistical agencies. In particular, the meeting examined the suitability of the United Nations revised System of National Accounts for meeting those needs. Other fundamental issues affecting data requirements examined by the seminar were regional planning, market expansion and the monetization of subsistence activities, consumption and income distribution patterns, industrial programming, labour productivity, social indicators, and the valuation of the public sector output.

9. Parts I and II of the 1969 Survey of Economic Conditions in Africa were completed and published (E/CN.14/480/Rev.1). In connexion with the preparation of Part II, a survey of a number of countries in the region was undertaken by a team of secretariat staff members. The Summaries of Economic Data, for which there is a heavy demand were revised, updated and published for all African countries. The seventh issue of the Planning Newsletter and the first and second numbers of Volume X of the Economic Bulletin for Africa are now being printed.

10. In the field of advisory services, the secretariat provided assistance to Zambia in cartographic aspects of regional planning.

Economic co-operation

11. As in previous years, the secretariat continued to devote most of its activities to strengthening the institutional framework and intergovernmental organizations at the sub-regional level. It was, however, realized that in order to give new impetus to the efforts towards economic co-operation, a method had to be found for the effective co-ordination of the activities of ECA and intergovernmental organizations in this field. Accordingly, at its second meeting, the Executive Committee specifically requested the ECA secretariat to undertake consultations with the Governments to determine

(a) the criteria for economic co-operation in the sub-regions, and (b) ways in which the existing intergovernmental organizations could be expanded and strengthened to foster economic development in the sub-regions.

12. Following this recommendation the secretariat sent two missions, one to the West African sub-region and another to the Central African sub-region. The objective of these missions was in general to discover new areas of economic co-operation in these sub-regions, and in particular to determine (a) the assistance that the secretariat could give to individual countries wishing to set up economic co-operation groupings designed to enable them to carry out a consistent programme of economic development as well as the aid it could give to the already existing groupings, (b) the reactions of the member States to the proposals adopted at the second meeting of the Executive Committee for the creation of new sub-regions, and (c) the reactions of the Governments to the proposal for the establishment of United Nations Development Advisory Teams (UNDATs) to assist in the realization of sub-regional development programmes.

13. The mission to the West African sub-region was undertaken from 4 April to 9 May with a view to studying the possibilities for strengthening the economic co-operation movement in the area (E/CN.14/478). The mission's report was considered at the third meeting of the Executive Committee, which took note that a flexible approach to economic co-operation was the best policy in the present circumstances in the sub-region where the political factor and the strength of pre-independence ties and alliances prevented the rapid emergence of large multipurpose intergovernmental organizations. The Committee also recognized that there was at the same time no desire on the part of the countries visited to see the sub-region split into two, although everyone agreed that a second ECA office was necessary.

14. The second mission which visited Central Africa from 16 June to 12 July reached almost the same conclusions. In particular it found that the multi-national interdisciplinary development advisory teams (UNDATs) were welcomed as an additional source of technical assistance, and that the countries in the sub-region viewed that innovation as a further challenge to ECA to strengthen the sub-regional offices and increase its aid to governments as it had in fact resolved to do.

15. One direct outcome of the two economic co-operation missions was the strengthening of the secretariat's contacts with the various intergovernmental groupings. In that way, it had been possible rapidly to comply with the Executive Committee's recommendation, calling for increased collaboration between the groupings and ECA. Arrangements were also finalized for convening a meeting of all the multinational groupings by mid-1971 to examine ways of harmonizing their work programmes, and generally to exchange views and experiences, and concert measures for accelerating the development of their partner States. It is intended to assist the groupings to formulate their programmes of work and priorities within the framework of Africa's strategy for development in the 1970s, and thus to ensure rapid harmonization of the various programmes of work and priorities with those of ECA.

16. The secretariat undertook extensive discussions with the Department of Economic and Social Affairs Headquarters on the composition, terms of reference and modus operandi of the UNDATs, and completed negotiations with the UDEAC countries, Chad and Equatorial Guinea on the establishment of the first UNDAT in Africa to serve them. Similar negotiations were also commenced for the location of UNDATs for the East African Community and the countries of the western half of West Africa (viz., Mauritania, Senegal, Mali, Gambia, Guinea, Sierra Leone, Liberia). Simultaneously, plans were put forward for strengthening the ECA sub-regional offices and effecting a rational distribution of functions between those offices and the UNDATs.

17. Besides the direct assistance rendered to governments and multinational co-operative groupings from the sub-regional offices, the secretariat mobilized a considerable volume of assistance from headquarters for many of those groupings. Assistance took various forms, including several advisory missions to the East African Community, examination of fresh opportunities for concerted action with ADB, OERS and OCAM, participation of ECA in conferences, meetings or seminars of CCAM, the standing consultative Committee of the Maghreb, UDEAC, Niger and Chad Basin Commissions and ADB. On account of its inadequate secretariat resources the Conference of East and Central African States made the heaviest demands on ECA resources not only as regards the preparation of documents for the meetings of the five sectoral committees and the subsidiary organs in which the secretariat participated, but also for arranging the meetings, including full administrative arrangements.

18. Two missions to the Eastern African sub-region were undertaken to appraise Swaziland's application to join the East African Community as an associate member. The two reports dealing with the legal and economic aspects of the subject had been prepared. Another mission visited West Africa to discuss the progress of co-operative schemes and collect materials for studying what types of institutional machinery were suitable for different forms of economic co-operation. Special emphasis was placed on finding ways for strengthening the already existing intergovernmental groupings in the sub-region, such as the Organization of Senegal River States (OERS), the Niger Basin Commission and the Conseil de l'Entente.

19. The secretariat was represented at the African Development Bank (ADB) meeting which was convened to study the prospects of increased co-operation between Ghana and the Entente countries (19-24 October). Outside Africa, the secretariat participated in the Dag Hammarskjöld Seminar on Legal Aspects of Regional Economic Integration held in Sweden from 6 June to 2 July, and the Intergovernmental Group on Trade Expansion, Economic Co-operation and Regional Integration convened by UNCTAD from 2-18 November. Other activities included studies and the preparation of papers on the problems of land-locked countries, African investment laws, African laws on copyright, patents and trade marks, and the drafting of constitutions for multinational organizations in tourism, and railway transport.

Sub-regional offices

20. The sub-regional offices have been active in establishing and maintaining contacts with the member States in their areas, especially in the collection and analysis of relevant data which constituted the basis for new policies for enhancing sub-regional economic co-operation. New contacts were also made between the sub-regional offices and the intergovernmental organizations in the respective areas. The resource constraints of the offices, however, prevented a significant expansion of activities beyond those of the preceding year. The Executive Committee addressed itself energetically to that question and plans for increasing office strength were repeatedly revised and discussed. Proposals for the decentralization of ECA operations to the sub-regions with corresponding resource requirements were then finalized for presentation to

the Conference of Ministers. With due regard to that objective a start was made by the sub-regional offices to collect detailed information on programmes of work and priorities of multinational groupings, which the sub-regional offices hope soon to provide with more substantial assistance from their staff resources.

21. The East African sub-regional office followed closely the activities of the member States in economic co-operation, especially in respect of the negotiations for the application of Burundi, Ethiopia, Somalia, Zambia and Swaziland to join the East African Community. Pursuant to the recommendations of the Executive Committee the Director of the sub-regional office visited Swaziland, Botswana, Madagascar and Mauritius to assess the reaction of those countries to the proposals for establishing a new sub-region for Southern Africa. The sub-regional office, together with the UNICEF, FAO and the ECA secretariat, participated in a study for assessing the possibilities of concerted action in the field of education, community development, water supply, agriculture, health and nutrition. It prepared two brief papers on some aspects of the economic situation in the area, with the following titles: "Downward dip in the price of copper - Implications for Zambia" and "Movement of labour and capital in the East African Community - Current issues".

22. In the Central African sub-region, after a period of apparent inactivity caused by the prolonged vacancy in the post of Director, the office tried hard to renew contacts with the countries and intergovernmental groupings in the sub-region by way of visits. The Director attended meetings of OCAM, UDEAC, the sub-regional Committee of the Association of African Central Banks, and several other intergovernmental organizations in the area. The office also participated in the activities of the two missions that were sent to the Central African sub-region, to explore ways of strengthening economic co-operation there and establishing an UNDAT. In view of the assignment of part of the sub-region to the proposed UNDAT for technical assistance purposes, the sub-regional office's technical assistance responsibilities were extended to Rwanda and Burundi, which happened also to be strengthening their links with the Democratic Republic of Congo. As agreed with the Department of Economic and Social Affairs the liaison responsibilities of the sub-regional office in the entire sub-region should remain unaffected by the presence of the UNDAT.

23. In the West African sub-region, the promotion of industrial development featured prominently in the work of the sub-regional office. The office participated in a UNDP project for setting up an industrial information centre for the Government of Senegal to which assistance was also given to set up small-scale and medium-scale industries. The Organization of Senegal River States was given assistance in drawing up a list of multinational industries as a basis for intergovernmental negotiations. The office also participated in the Meeting of Experts on The Development of Rural Life and Institutions held in Accra in July 1970. The Director of the sub-regional office was a member of the ECA Economic Co-operation Mission to West Africa. The office was kept busy with consultations arising from the efforts at rationalizing the existing intergovernmental groupings in the sub-region, in particular the Conseil de l'Entente and its relations with Ghana, and the conversion of the West African Customs Union (UDEAO) to an economic community (CEAO). It also followed closely the meeting between Ministers of Finance of OCAM and representatives of Air Afrique to examine the fiscal policies of the company.

24. In North Africa, the sub-regional office, in conjunction with the Maghreb standing Consultative Committee, UNDP, UNCTAD and the Centre for Industrial Research, participated in the preparation of the work programme of the Maghreb for 1970-1971. The office took an active part in the preparation of various studies in the sub-region such as (a) co-operation in the tourist industry in the Maghreb; (b) the co-ordination of the various national infrastructures within the Maghreb; (c) the plan for co-ordinating a transport network in the region; (d) comparison of the legal positions regarding labour mobility in the sub-region to establish the possibility of labour mobility in the countries of the region; and defining the prospects of inter-State mobility; (e) possibilities of devising a common policy for exporting certain products like citrus fruits, wines and palm oil which have to compete with other products in the world market; (f) the relationship between the European Economic Community and the Maghreb as regards associate membership; and (g) comparison of the development plans of the countries in the sub-region. The office also assisted the six countries in the sub-region in finalizing a detailed study on the harmonization of the industrial sector.

25. The office also took part in a meeting of experts on industrial co-operation in the Maghreb countries. The meeting analysed and summarized the studies of each sector to try to reach an accepted formula for the harmonization of industrial development. In addition, the office participated in drawing up a United Nations technical assistance programme for Algeria 1970-1973, and was represented at discussions on a macro-economic model for Morocco. Another meeting was convened for the Maghreb statisticians to harmonize the different statistical methods and coverage for the various countries. The office held various other meetings with the member States to explain the ECA work programme and also took part in the sixth Conference of the Maghreb Economic Ministers and the third session of the Council of the Industrial Development Centre for Arab States.

Trade

26. The secretariat's activities in the field of trade during the period under review fell into three broad categories; namely, development of intra-African trade, expansion of trade with other regions, and training, conferences, and advisory services. The main objectives of these activities was the exploration of ways and means of developing intra-African trade and evolving a system for a rational and fair share of African trade in the world system.

27. In co-operation with GATT, the secretariat organized and conducted courses in English and in French in commercial policy and trade promotion. The French course was held in Lomé (5 October - 6 November) and the English course in Monrovia (16 November - 18 December).

28. Fundamental changes in methodology, content, coverage and emphasis were introduced to suit the specific requirements of African countries. The participants held more seminars, and intra-African trade received more emphasis than had been the case in the previous courses.

29. The secretariat participated in the second Ghana International Trade Fair Symposium on Business Development in West Africa (1-14 February 1971) and prepared papers for discussion by the Symposium.

30. The fifth ECA/OAU Joint Meeting on Trade and Development took place in Geneva 13-24 August prior to the tenth session of the Trade and Development Board. As in the previous meetings, the main purpose of this meeting was to assist African Governments in harmonizing their views in order to adopt common positions on various trade and development issues including those for discussion at the Trade and Development Board. The secretariat prepared a number of studies for submission to the meeting, which at the end of its deliberations adopted a report (E/CN.14/490).

31. In the commodity field, a detailed study on consultations among producing countries in respect of commodities of export interest to African countries (E/CN.14/WP.1/27) was prepared with the help of a consultant from UNCTAD. The study examined a number of selected commodities of immediate interest to a large number of African countries. Another study on the proposed scheme of general preference and African countries (E/CN.14/WP.1/28) tried to assess the benefits that could accrue to African countries if the scheme of preferences as proposed by the OECD countries were implemented.

Africa Trade Centre

32. Africa Trade Centre became operational in March with a skeleton staff of three professionals. Plan of operations (E/CN.14/WP.1/25) and an introductory leaflet were sent to governments with the official announcement. Officers of the Centre have visited about twenty African countries on brief introductory, fact-finding and contact missions.

33. In order to be of practical service to the countries of the region a nucleus of travelling experts in trade promotion is being developed, partly on a bilateral basis. The experts will travel in African countries to advise on and support measures for the promotion of intra-African and other trade

opportunities, on trade promotion programming and organization, and on training matters to define the requirements and priorities of individual countries. They will also carry out field market research and analyse the demand for and the sources of and distribution of commercial information, especially on intra-African trade.

34. Work on establishing a documentation unit, essential to make Africa Trade Centre a clearing house on African trade, has started. Material has been coming in from African countries and other sources. Market intelligence requests are being treated, and special research items investigated for possible UNDP finance. A handbook with trade information on African countries is being processed.

35. The English-and French-speaking ECA/ITC courses on international marketing for 1970 were successfully organized in Addis Ababa and Geneva during the first half of the year. Nearly forty executives from seven countries participated. The programme was geared to the specific requirements of the countries of the region.

Industry

Industrial projects

36. In accordance with resolution 203 (IX) adopted by the Commission at its ninth session, the secretariat continued to intensify its activities for the implementation of projects, and in this connexion increased its activities on project description and evaluation.

37. The secretariat completed formulations and evaluated the commercial profitability for a number of projects including proposals for establishment of enamel factories and knitwear factories in Upper Volta, Dahomey, Niger, and Togo; a proposal for the setting up of three brickworks in Libya; a proposal for the organization of an enterprise for production of agricultural handtools in Ghana; proposals for the establishment of ceramics factories in the Ivory Coast and Cameroon, a scrap metal foundry and a rolling mill for the production of light bars and sections in Senegal. The Italian Government provided assistance for that project.

38. The secretariat elaborated several projects. These included for the Government of Kenya a fibreboard mill and a veneer and plywood industry; for the Somali Development Bank a project for the modernizing of a particle board plant using bagasse. Other activities included advice to the Government of Uganda for establishing a surface finishing line (particle board) and for establishing a new plywood mill; advice to the Government of Togo on the utilization of tropical woods in construction and housing; advice to the Government of the Democratic Republic of Congo on the establishment of a fibreboard mill and a veneer and plywood plant; advice to the Government of Nigeria on the establishment of a wood-wool board plant and on pencil manufacture.

39. At the request of the Government of Swaziland, the secretariat organized a mission to investigate forest resources and wood processing industries, and recommended industrial utilization of thinnings and sawmill waste for further processing. In addition, the Tropical Products Institute in London at the request of the secretariat completed research for a plant manufacturing particle board from groundnut shells in West Africa. This might lead to United Kingdom assistance in establishing a pilot plant.

40. The Nuffield College, Oxford University, provided assistance to the secretariat on the OECD method of social profitability analysis. An expert visited the secretariat in March for discussions on project evaluation from a national economy viewpoint and on methods by which the secretariat could coordinate its evaluation activities with those of government agencies. He also held discussions with government officials in Addis Ababa, Nairobi, and Dar es-Salaam. He further worked with the secretariat for nine weeks beginning in June. He prepared a cost benefit analysis of a proposal for an enterprise producing agricultural tools, a study of a preliminary project description of an ammonia plant to be situated in Mombasa (Kenya) to supply Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda. He undertook a study for the Ethiopian Government of a coffee processing project. In Kenya he held seminars to discuss ways and means of integrating the OECD methodology into the information system to be used in the planning process in Kenya; he also arranged to undertake a study of a sugar plantation scheme for the Government. In Tanzania he held seminars to discuss the OECD methodology in terms of a case study which had been prepared by the Government.

41. The secretariat collaborated with UNIDO in organizing the Second African Meeting to Promote Specific Industrial Projects, held in Nairobi, Kenya, 29 November to 4 December.

Industrial financing

42. Under the programme of bilateral assistance, the US Government provided support for a consultant on investment promotion. He undertook a mission to Europe to study successful investment promotion machinery established by non-African countries. He also held initial discussions with FAO and UNIDO officials on the preparation of industrial promotion programmes. He visited Eastern and Southern Africa for discussion and planning with government officials on the strengthening of national industrial promotion centres and the setting up of suitable multinational promotional machinery, using proven promotional techniques. The purpose of the centres will be to enable an increased proportion of domestic savings to be channelled to industrial development and to accelerate the flow of foreign investment and technical assistance. Following discussions between the consultant and officials of the East African Development Bank, the East Africa Community and other officials, at the request of the East African Development Bank the secretariat prepared a draft project description and initial operating plan for an East African Investment Promotion Centre. The draft would be revised and completed in co-operation with EADB and presented for review by officials of the Governments of Kenya, Tanzania, and Uganda, officials of international organizations such as UNIDO and IBRD; representatives of bilateral aid agencies; the staffs of the East African Community organs and the East African Common Market secretariat; and public and private investment organizations.

43. Several studies related to industrial financing were completed by the secretariat with the assistance of consultants, including studies on mobilization of domestic resources for industrial development, mobilization of external resources for industrial development, investment climate and incentives and multinational corporation in Africa.

Small-scale industries

44. In the field of small-scale industry development, the secretariat prepared four model schemes for small-scale manufacture of selected products. They were being implemented, e.g. Upper Volta approached UNIDO with a request for technical assistance in establishing an enamelware factory. Twenty-two requests for such schemes were received from several African Governments. The secretariat will be intensifying its efforts at mobilizing bilateral assistance in order to meet their requests.

45. The secretariat obtained assistance from UNIDO for support of projects undertaken by the Intermediate Technology Development Group, London, at the request of the secretariat. ITDG experts advised on the expansion of the voluntary service of advice and assistance to local businesses established by the Kumasi Technology Group at Kumasi University in Ghana. In Togo the experts collaborated with the Small Industries Adviser to UNIDO in drawing up feasibility studies and detailed project reports and identifying the most effective means of initiating the establishment of small industrial units in fields such as sheet metal fabrication, textiles and printing of fabrics, food processing, wire-making, car batteries, engine maintenance and repair. The aim was to arrive at the introduction of the lowest-cost, labour-intensive technologies consistent with viable units of production. In Nigeria the experts advised on the expansion of the production of locally-manufactured hospital equipment using local materials to meet the needs of the Northern States of Nigeria.

46. The secretariat collaborated with UNIDO in the preparation of the UNIDO-sponsored training workshop for managers of small-scale industries held in Dakar, Senegal in June. It also attended the symposium on Promotion of African Enterprises, sponsored by OCAM and held in Bangui, Central African Republic, and held preliminary conversations to prepare a joint ECA/OCAM project for small-scale industry.

47. The Government of the Netherlands agreed in principle to provide funds for the consultative services of experts from the Research Institute for Management Science (RVB), Delft, in support of an ECA project. That project included the identification of technical, economic, financial and administrative requirements for establishing low-cost and relatively labour-intensive small-scale industries in Swaziland, Botswana, Lesotho, Malawi and Zambia. The second phase of the project called for the establishment of a small-scale industry management institute to service Eastern and Southern Africa. In connexion with that project, officials from RVB visited Eastern and Southern Africa in November and December for discussions with government officials in the countries concerned.

Industrial development

48. Work on industrial harmonization studies for Central and North Africa proceeded up to the final stages. The secretariat was represented at the second meeting of the Maghreb Standing Consultative Committee (CPCM), held in Tangier in June, at which a preliminary report on industrial development harmonization in North Africa - Maghreb was presented. The Central and North African studies would be discussed at a meeting of experts when recommendations would be made regarding implementation.

49. In connexion with the completion of the North African harmonization study, a representative of the secretariat visited the Petrochemical Institute in Paris to advise on the studies being undertaken by the Institute. The secretariat organized missions for the evaluation of projects for the chemical industry in Senegal, Ghana, Nigeria, the Ivory Coast and the Cameroon. Advice was provided to Governments in the region on development of iron and steel industries, and especially on the use of the direct reduction process.

50. At the request of the Government of Ethiopia the secretariat provided assistance to the Planning Commission on the development of the chemicals and fertilizers industry. The secretariat also assisted the East African Development Bank in connexion with studies on the cost structure of industry in Kenya, Uganda, and the United Republic of Tanzania and the establishment of a macro-economic framework for industrial planning. FAO provided the secretariat with

the services of a forest industries adviser and an associate expert in forest industries who with the Regional Adviser in forest industries comprises the ECA/FAO Forest Industries Advisory Group. Through that Group the secretariat provided advice and assistance to Governments and to industries in the region on existing operations, and the feasibility of proposed new undertakings in forest industries and on national market prospects and possibilities for expanding forest industries; carried out studies to facilitate appropriate co-ordination between countries and expansion of forest industries, especially the manufacture of pulp and paper and wood-based panels; and advised on the securing of financing and additional assistance for industrial projects. In that connexion the secretariat investigated forest industries projects in Zambia, the United Republic of Tanzania and Kenya and reviewed forest industries possibilities in Algeria, Tunisia, Morocco and the People's Republic of the Congo.

51. The secretariat assisted UNIDO by providing documents for presentation at the Regional Workshop on Clay Building Materials held in Tunisia in December and the Interregional Seminar on Industrial Development for Information Officers from Asia and Africa held in Teheran in September. The secretariat participated in the UNIDO/ECA/AFRASEC Regional Workshop for Managerial Staff of Chambers of Industry in Africa held in Addis Ababa in December. Assistance was also given to a UNIDO project in Kenya for the utilization of timber for lowcost housing. A representative of the secretariat visited UNIDO headquarters to assist in the formulation of a development strategy for the textiles industry.

Development of natural resources

Energy

52. During the period under review, the secretariat provided advisory services to help develop the energy resources of some member States and strengthen the existing energy infrastructure in many countries of the region. The secretariat continued its activities to secure effective and fruitful multinational co-operation.

53. In accordance with the recommendations made by the Co-ordination Committee, which consists of representatives of IBRD, UNDP, the African Development Bank and ECA, the secretariat at its second meeting at Abidjan in collaboration with an expert from the African Development Bank, prepared questionnaires to be sent to the member countries of the Bank and ECA to help in the preparation of an African energy study.

54. The secretariat also submitted four energy co-operation projects for the African Development Bank's attention. Preliminary studies were prepared on:

- (a) The industrial development of the energy resources of the Lake Kivu area in Central Africa (this project might be of interest to five countries - Uganda, Rwanda, Burundi, the Democratic Republic of Congo and the United Republic of Tanzania;
- (b) Increasing the installed capacity of the Mururu hydro-electric plant for the benefit of the Democratic Republic of Congo, Rwanda and Burundi;
- (c) Co-operation between the Federal Republics of Cameroon and Nigeria with a view to improved navigation on the Bénoué and the generation of electric energy to supply north-eastern Nigeria, northern Cameroon, south-western Chad and the city of Fort Lamy;
- (d) Joint development, by Ghana and Upper Volta, of hydro-electric sites on the White Volta and the Black Volta to supply northern Ghana and the major consumption centres of Upper Volta with electric energy.

55. The secretariat organized missions to East Africa and Central Africa to study, in the light of the recommendations of the Sixth Summit Conference of East and Central African States, the opportunities for multinational co-operation in energy and industry.

56. Following a mission to Chad, the secretariat prepared draft statutes for Chad's future national electricity and water supply company.

57. During the period under review the secretariat completed its preparation of an electric power map of Africa. This map shows the existing and planned electric power stations and transmission lines in the countries of the region.

Hydrology

58. A representative of the secretariat attended the first preparatory meeting of the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment; and also the second preparatory meeting held in New York in November 1970.

59. A preparatory meeting for the conference on hydrology and hydro-meteorology in the economic development of Africa was held at Addis Ababa from 10 to 12 June.

60. A meeting of the Working Group of Experts on Water Resources Planning was held at the secretariat from 15 to 25 June 1970 (E/CN.14/483). The discussions of the group which consisted of highly experienced experts from countries of the region as well as from specialized agencies were most helpful in the preparation of the new work programme. Work on one of the recommendations, a publication on water development planning in African conditions, has begun.

61. During the period under review, the secretariat followed the activities of river basin commissions and attended meetings of the Niger River Commission and the Lake Chad Commission.

Mineral resources

62. The secretariat continued to compile data on African mineral exploration, development, production, processing and trade, and brought them up-to-date. Information on scientific and technological developments and legislation problems was also collected.

63. Concise notes on African mineral resources, on a country basis, were prepared. Other notes were prepared for Encyclopaedia Britannica on the mining industry in Africa and on African mineral resources on a commodity basis.

64. At the request of the Lake Chad Basin Commission, the secretariat completed a reconnaissance survey of the mineral resources of the four countries of the basin and identified areas of possible future development of these resources. There was a follow-up of the recommendations given in a report on the survey.

65. The long-standing views of the secretariat on manpower and research facilities for mineral resources development and follow-up action to strengthen existing national institutions to serve multinational purposes were discussed with some West and Central African member States.

66. During the period under review, the secretariat attended an UNCTAD meeting on iron ore and an IAEA meeting on uranium exploration geology. It also took part in a conference on African geology organized by the University of Ibadan.

Cartography

67. The secretariat maintained its efforts to get regional centres for training in photogrammetry, photo-interpretation and airborne geophysical surveys established. The Governments of Nigeria and Cameroon (in the latter case with the support of OCAM) have taken steps towards concrete implementation of the project. It is expected that firm decisions taken by these two Governments will lead to the initiation of a programme for the establishment of two centres in West and Central Africa in 1971 so that training activities may start towards the end of the year.

68. A regional seminar on cadastre was organized by the secretariat and held at Addis Ababa from 29 November to 9 December (E/CN.14/500). The seminar enabled participants to exchange experience gained and consider ways and means of improving land registration systems in member States.

69. On the occasion of the third session of the Conference of African Planners, an exhibition of maps and charts for economic planning was organized in May at the headquarters of the Commission.

70. At the request of WMO, the secretariat again assisted in the evaluation and determination of bids received for the survey of the flat lake shore area around Lake Victoria, at the mouth of river Kagera, and for the hydrographic survey of Lake Kioga. The secretariat also helped to draw up a contract to be signed by the two parties concerned.

71. The secretariat was represented at a two-day seminar on surveying education in Africa held at Nairobi, Kenya, in January, 1971. In that connexion a paper was prepared on facilities which will be made available in the centre for training in photogrammetry, photo-interpretation and aerogeophysics.

72. During the period under review, the Map Documentation and Reference Centre of the secretariat received some 800 maps and charts, and prepared about fifty to meet secretariat needs. Addenda 13 and 14 to the catalogue of maps and charts received by the Centre have been published and issued to member States and other correspondents with the Centre.

Transport and communications

Transport development

73. The Section had prepared four working papers for the meeting of transport experts, which was scheduled to be held in Libreville in May 1970, to study the transport links between the countries of the sub-region, the manpower problems and the setting up of machinery for the co-ordination of transport policies and planning in the Central African sub-region. The Government of Gabon was, however, unable to "host" the meeting in Libreville and the attempt by the secretariat to convene it in one of the countries of the sub-region did not materialize. The secretariat, therefore, tried to hold the meeting in Addis Ababa, but it did not take place because of the poor response from the countries conceived. The meeting was scheduled to be held early in 1971 after receipt of the report of the multinational interdisciplinary development advisory team (UNDAT) which had been to Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, the People's Republic of the Congo and Gabon.

74. Two major studies (one by the Economic Intelligence Unit and the other under USAID) were carried out for transport development in Eastern Africa. Those studies had not yet been made available to ECA and therefore, no action had been taken to convene a meeting of transport experts. It was planned to hold the meeting in 1972.

75. Past events in the West African sub-region did not make it possible to convene a meeting on transport in that sub-region. Contacts were now being made and it was possible that a meeting of the sub-regional transport experts could be arranged for 1972.

76. The secretariat completed the first phase of a survey of an integrated transport system for the Maghreb countries and was awaiting the Bos Report on industrialization in the sub-region to complete the second phase.

77. In November/December 1970, the secretariat prepared three working papers and serviced the meeting of East and Central African States on transport.

78. In the field of air transport, the secretariat continued to give assistance to the African Civil Aviation Commission (AFCAC) and the Association of African Airlines (AAFRA).

79. The secretariat, in co-operation with UNCTAD and through bilateral assistance, intended to set up a mission to study the port, sea and inland transport of selected countries in Africa.

80. The chapter on transportation was written for the Report of the UN/OTC Technical Assistance Mission to the Planning Commission of the Imperial Ethiopian Government.

81. The secretariat continued collecting data on the status of road research in Africa with a view of making a more detailed field study in 1971.

82. The secretariat, in co-operation with the German Foundation for Developing Countries, organized a seminar on modern railway operation and traction which was held in Germany in May 1970. Work had begun on the preparation of a constitution, terms of reference, and rules of procedure for the formation of the union of African railways recommended by the delegates attending the seminar.

Telecommunications

83. Representatives of six African countries attended an ITU meeting in Nairobi (Kenya) in July 1970 to review the preliminary work of the ITU Mission and discussed plans for the co-ordination of the second phase of the development of telecommunications in Africa. The countries concerned have supported

the presentation of a request to the UNDP (Special Fund) for the financing of the pre-investment Survey for the East African Sector of the Pan-African Telecommunication Network.

84. A revised request for detailed studies of the network, i.e. the international telecommunication routes and switching centres, in West and Central Africa had been prepared and presented to the United Nations Development Programme.

Tourism

85. A study of the possibilities of developing tourism in the Central African sub-region had been completed and the draft report circulated to the Governments concerned.

86. At the request of the secretariat of the East African Community, ECA tourism officer visited Arusha in March 1970 and prepared an outline for a programme of work for East African States for the development of tourism. In October 1970, the same officer spent three weeks in Arusha advising on the follow-up work needed for the development of tourism in the East African States.

87. In accordance with the recommendation of the sixth summit meeting of the Eastern and Central African States, the secretariat was assembling information on tourist training. At the request of the People's Republic of the Congo, a detailed report on the possibilities of the development of tourism had been completed and submitted to the Government. At the request of the Somali Government, the secretariat completed a study of tourism potentials in Somalia and presented a detailed report to the Government.

88. The secretariat co-sponsored the Dag Hammarskjöld Foundation Seminar held in Uppsala, in August 1970, and delivered a number of lectures on the development of tourism.

Fiscal and monetary issues

Fiscal issues

89. During the period under review the secretariat conducted a five-week intensive practical training course in budget-plan harmonization for English-speaking countries. The course was held at Addis Ababa from 16 February to 20 March. This course, the first of its kind in Africa to give practical orientation, was attended by fifteen middle and senior level budget and planning officers from ten English-speaking countries. The participants were awarded certificates of satisfactory and full participation by ECA at the end of the course.

90. During the course, attention was devoted to varied problems in budgetary and fiscal management areas requiring continuous attention at regional and national levels in order to achieve budget-plan harmonization in African developing countries. Current problems were pin-pointed and practical solutions suggested throughout the course. The sessions of the course included lectures, practical exercises, study and research covering various areas of budget-plan harmonization (E/CN.14/476). The interest taken by the member States was evident from the fact that all travel costs and per diem allowances of the participants were borne by the governments concerned.

91. The secretariat continued to carry out detailed country studies on the role of fiscal policy and budgetary management in economic growth in order to focus attention on the need for increased mobilization of domestic resources and budgetary improvements to realize plan targets. Studies relating to Libya and the Democratic Republic of the Congo were completed during the year and presented to the Governments concerned. Studies on other countries are in process.

92. The secretariat also produced a study on "Progress reporting and evaluation of development budgets" in order to focus attention on the need for establishing proper machinery for keeping track of the implementation of development programmes and removing any bottlenecks that might be noticed during the course of implementation. The study will be used as background material in the courses and seminars in budget-plan harmonization to be held in future.

93. At the request of the Imperial Ethiopian Government assistance was rendered to solve the problems of tariff protection for infant industries and loss of revenue through the setting up of import-substitution industries.

94. Studies on machinery for harmonizing the plan with the annual budget and machinery for project appraisal and implementation were submitted at the Seminar on Administrative Framework for Development.

95. The secretariat also participated in the meeting of the Expert Group on Tax Reform Planning convened at New York by the Division of Public Finance and Financial Institutions of the Headquarters and stressed, inter alia, the need for increased training facilities for African tax administration.

Monetary issues

96. The secretariat assisted the Association of African Central Banks in convening meetings of its sub-regional committees and attended the meeting of the East African Sub-regional Committee in Nairobi in May. ECA was also a co-sponsor of the first Central Banks training Course organized under the auspices of the Association by the Central Bank of Nigeria in Lagos from 5 October to 13 November. The secretariat assisted the Central Bank of Nigeria in the preparation of lectures and in the organization of secretarial and conference services. The course was bilingual and provided a good opportunity for senior financial and bank officers to exchange views on a number of financial and monetary issues of mutual interest to African Central Banks.

97. The study of investment legislation in African countries was continued. A comparative draft study of the investment laws in the member States of the Conseil de l'Entente was prepared and an expanded and up-dated analysis of the investment laws and regulations in English speaking countries is being finalized.

98. In implementation of ECA resolution 169 (VIII), a meeting was held in ECA headquarters in June 1970 between ADB, IBRD and ECA to discuss follow-up action. The meeting had before it a study on "Aid to Africa" (E/CN.14/WP1/30), which later was submitted at the fifth ECA/OAU Joint Meeting on Trade and Development.

The meeting agreed with the idea that an African development fund financed by contributions from developed countries should be created as a soft-loan window of the African Development Bank. The secretariat maintained close contacts with the African Development Bank on other financial problems, and participated in a meeting of national development banks held at Abidjan from 12-15 May as well as in the meeting of the Enlarged Committee on Insurance and Reinsurance of African countries held at Abidjan from 15-19 June, both of which were organized by the African Development Bank. The secretariat also took part in the sixth annual meeting of the Board of Governors of the African Development Bank held at Fort-Lamy from 24-28 August.

99. Pursuant to ECA resolution 207 (IX) the secretariat has prepared a draft study on the savings role of insurance companies in some African countries.

100. The secretariat also assisted African countries in the harmonization of their positions at the African Group at the annual meeting of the IMF/IBRD.

101. Work continued on a study on the relationship between African currencies and those of developed market economy countries, which was undertaken in accordance with a recommendation of the fourth Joint Meeting of ECA Working Party on Intra-African Trade and the OAU Expert Committee on Trade and Development.

Agriculture

Intraregional co-operation and trade in the field of agriculture

102. In the period under review, the main part of the Phase I study on intra-sub-regional co-operation and trade in the field of agriculture was undertaken. This involved analysis of intra-sub-regional trade flows in agricultural products and of prospective trade opportunities for 1975 and 1980 based on projected supply of and demand for agricultural products. It also included preliminary study of barriers to trade and of the agricultural processing industry.

103. The studies for the Central and for the West African sub-regions were completed, cleared with FAO, revised and distributed to the respective governments for their consideration. The study for the North African sub-region had also been cleared with FAO and revised and will soon be distributed to the governments, while that for the East African sub-region is nearing completion.

104. The Sixth FAO Regional Conference for Africa held in Algiers, Algeria from 25 September - 3 October considered a progress report on these studies and agreed that the finding provided a sufficient basis for discussion among countries as a first step towards co-operation in the promotion of intra-regional trade. The Conference also endorsed the proposals for more detailed Phase II study which should involve field investigation and detailed assessment of ecological potentialities and complementarities as well as detailed study of barriers to trade. These studies will be undertaken in close co-operation with FAO and OAU. Consideration is being given to hold a symposium in West Africa in 1971 to discuss the findings and the methodology of the Phase I study and the terms of reference for a follow-up Phase II study. The outcome of this symposium will determine whether similar symposia are held in the other sub-regions.

Marketing of agricultural products

105. Except for a preliminary review of the economics of livestock transport, the studies begun on the various aspects of the West African livestock and meat industry were held in abeyance, owing to the resignation of the Marketing Economist. Efforts to fill the post have not been successful, and implementation of Commission resolution 201 (IX) have been delayed in consequence.

106. A joint FAO/ECA project, however, is under preparation, following on the second FAO regional Conference on Animal Production and Health in Africa held at Kinshasa, Democratic Republic of the Congo in November 1969. The project will review and consolidate all studies undertaken on livestock development in Africa, with the object of identifying action programmes based on a detailed appraisal of the African animal production potential, the livestock industry's capacity to satisfy current and future demand, and the technical and institutional resources for attaining production objectives. It is envisaged that

the study would embrace all classes of meat and other animal products, including milk, poultry, eggs and animal byproducts, and will help governments to formulate their national plans, facilitate regional agreements, and at the same time, co-ordinate and concentrate efforts aimed at improving livestock production, processing and marketing. The project will be undertaken with the full co-operation of FAO/OAU and other interested multinational organizations.

Studies and research

107. The collection and distribution of information on agriculture in African countries, is partially met by the Agricultural Economics Bulletin for Africa, the twelfth issue of which was published by the secretariat during the period under review. Work on the publication of the thirteenth is in progress.

108. The survey of agricultural extension in eight countries of the East African sub-region mentioned in the last report had been forwarded to the governments concerned, and preparations are being made for a study of extension services in certain selected countries of the West African sub-region.

109. The secretariat also made a quantitative analysis of agricultural research workers in Africa, both nationals and expatriates, in order to determine the basis for future manpower requirements, and the general orientation of agricultural research. In addition, the secretariat worked very closely with the Association for the Advancement of Agricultural Science in Africa, and helped in drawing up the work programme for the general conference on agricultural research in Africa to be held in or about September 1971.

110. Assistance continued to be given to the sectoral Committees on Agriculture of the East and Central African States, set up by the Heads of these States to further co-operation in various fields of agricultural development. The secretariat submitted several documents on subjects such as agricultural research, wheat, forestry, animal husbandry and fisheries for consideration by the various subject matter committees.

111. The secretariat as in previous years, prepared and reviewed the drafts of various sections on Africa of the 1970 issue of the annual survey on the State of Food and Agriculture published by FAO. Also the draft of the Medium-Term Food Outlook Review for Ethiopia for 1970/73 was prepared for FAO. Data continued to be gathered for the work of the annual survey of Economic Conditions in Africa, as well as material for the study on regional grain stocks for OAU.

Advisory services

112. A member of the staff acted in a consultative and advisory capacity to the Government of the Federal Republic of Nigeria on an integrated approach to the organization of agricultural services in certain selected States of the Federation. Further discussions were held with officials of the Ministry of Agriculture, Ghana, on possible approaches to integrated agricultural development in that country.

113. Consultative and advisory services in the organization and administration of agricultural services were given to the Imperial Ethiopian Government, in addition to a study of land tenure and settlement problems in the nomadic areas of Ethiopia, and of alternative organizational systems for the implementation of a national settlement policy. The secretariat further collaborated in the work of the FAO Committee on Agrarian Reform.

114. In November-December the secretariat participated in an FAO advisory mission on agricultural development planning to five countries of the Central African sub-region following a request made by those countries to FAO.

Attendance at meetings

115. The secretariat was represented at a number of meetings during the year, including the World Conference on Agricultural Education and Training held in Copenhagen, Denmark, from 28 July to 8 August, and the fifteenth session of the Council of Ministers of OAU held at Addis Ababa from 24 to 28 August.

116. The secretariat participated in such other meetings as the Meeting of Experts on the Development of Rural Life and Institutions in West Africa and the FAO/WHO Joint Project 15 Meeting on rinderpest control organized by the Scientific, Technical and Research Commission of OAU, and also gave lectures at the Danish Development College, Holte, Denmark.

Developing rice production

117. Several missions were carried out in the West African sub-region as part of the programme for developing rice production in the area. A conference of plenipotentiaries was held at Dakar, Senegal, from 1 to 4 September under the auspices of ECA, FAO and UNDP and the joint effort of bilateral donors. The conference established a West African Rice Development Association and a rice research centre.

Human resources

Social development

118. The period under review saw further expansion of the secretariat's activities in the field of social development particularly in rural development. The staff strength, especially that of Regional Advisers, was not up to the approved requirement, with the result that the number of advisory missions to member States was restricted. The position, however, improved towards the end of the year and enabled the long-term work programme to be reorganized.

119. Pursuant to resolution 117 (VI), adopted by the Commission at its sixth session, the secretariat, in co-operation with the Inter-agency Committee on Rural Development, held in Accra, Ghana, from 22 to 31 July, a West African Meeting of Experts on the Development of Rural Life and Institutions (E/CN.14/494). The purpose of the seminar was to identify and examine critically the problems encountered by member States in the West African sub-region in their respective efforts to promote the development of active rural life and institutions. It also enabled participants to exchange ideas on the planning, organization, administration, financing and execution of rural development programmes and to secure the co-operation and agreement of governments in the sub-region in the adoption of the philosophy and a strategy of integrated approach to their rural development programmes.

120. The secretariat, with the Inter-agency Committee on Rural Development, continued to meet and consider the best ways of strengthening inter-agency collaboration in the field of rural development in Africa.

121. Under the joint auspices of ECA and the Danish Board of Technical Co-operation, a group training course in Rural and Community Development was held at the Holte Rural Development College, in Denmark, from April to June, for African senior officials responsible for aspects of their national rural development programmes.

122. The secretariat continued to attach great importance to its activities for promoting family, child and youth services in Africa; and particularly women's participation in national development. In pursuance of the recommendation of the Meeting on the Role of Women in National Development, held in Addis Ababa in March 1969, the secretariat, in co-operation with the German Foundation for Developing Countries, convened a Planning Committee, in Berlin, Federal Republic of Germany, from 6 to 10 July, to review and follow-up the recommendations of the Addis Ababa meeting and to plan for the Pan-African Women's Conference proposed for May 1971. The theme of the Conference will be "Education, vocational training and work opportunities for girls and women in African countries".

123. Under the joint auspices of ECA, ILO and the Danish Board of Technical Co-operation, a Regional Seminar on National Youth Service Programmes was held in Addis Ababa from 23 November to 4 December. The purpose of the seminar was to examine recent development in the national youth service programmes, particularly in relation to the development of skills and job opportunities and to recommend further measures which might be taken by Governments to increase the contribution of programmes to national economic and social development.

124. The secretariat continued to co-operate with other organizations, especially ILO, UNICEF, FAO and OAU in implementing its social development programmes. Consultations are continuing with the ILO on the best way to achieve co-operation in the field of national youth programmes.

125. With the aid and participation of the German National Committee of the International Council of Social Welfare, the secretariat organized a Regional Seminar on Social Welfare Services, which was held at Dar es-Salaam, Tanzania, from 27 December 1970 to 7 January 1971. The objective of the seminar was to examine the past contribution and the nature and extent of the future role of social welfare services, both governmental and non-governmental, in the economic and social organization and development of East African countries. It also

sought to consider priorities in services required and the relationships to be established between social welfare services and other governmental and non-governmental services and organizations.

126. As a follow-up to the meeting of the Expert Working Group of Social Work Educators, held in Addis Ababa in March/April 1969, the secretariat has completed arrangements for convening an Expert Group Meeting on Social Welfare Training and Administration to be held in Addis Ababa in March 1971. The meeting is to consider the question of indigenous teaching materials and suggest ways and means of promoting their production, distribution and utilization by schools of social work. It will also afford an opportunity for social work educators to follow up the recommendations of previous seminars held in Africa on social work education.

127. At the request of member States, the secretariat continued to organize advisory missions to a number of countries. Missions were undertaken to advise Governments on social welfare policy and training in Libya, Somalia, Nigeria, Ghana, Uganda, Mauritius, UAR, Tanzania, Sierra Leone, Gambia and Liberia. Missions were also organized for the purpose of rendering advice on formulating rural development programmes in Mali, Dahomey, and Gabon.

128. At the invitation of the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany, a mission was undertaken to that country from 1 to 22 October to exchange ideas with senior officials of the Federal Government and of non-governmental organizations engaged in various activities of technical assistance to African countries, and to observe, at first hand, the administration and operation of various German institutions engaged in town and country planning, manpower development and employment schemes, vocational training, apprenticeship systems and vocational guidance systems, community and social welfare services for the mother and child, the youth, the aged and the handicapped, and the promotion of cultural activities.

Publications and studies

129. The secretariat prepared pamphlets, in the form of simple guidelines, on:

- (i) Job opportunities in agriculture;
- (ii) Rural organizations (suitable for African conditions); and
- (iii) Agricultural services in rural areas.

The general idea was to suggest, in the light of the African situation, concrete activities which governments could undertake in that field.

130. During the period under review, the secretariat undertook further studies in popular participation in national development, the modernization process in Africa and social aspects of industrialization and urbanization.

Manpower and training

131. The year under review experienced further expansion in the secretariat's activities, particularly in the fields of training and of studies in development-oriented education. Staff resources improved towards the end of the year although staff strength was still not commensurate with task requirements.

Following rationalization of the long-term work programme in the field of manpower and training, the secretariat structure at present consists of four interdependent units, namely: Manpower, Training, Education and Fellowship Administration.

Manpower planning and assessment of training needs

132. In pursuance of Commission resolution 195 (IX), a three-man team of African experts visited seven countries in East, Central and West Africa during July and August to ascertain country manpower and training needs and what the United Nations organizations, particularly ECA, could do to meet identified requirements and evaluate the relevance of ECA's training programmes. The evaluation study was executed with financial assistance from the United Nations Office of Technical Co-operation. The "Report of the Expert Team on the Evaluation of ECA's Training Programme Policy and Priorities in Relation to Africa's Manpower Needs" will be presented for consideration by ECA organs with a view to implementing its recommendations.

Techniques and methods for manpower planning and training

133. The feasibility study on regional and/or sub-regional centres for human resources research and training development, called for under Commission resolution 195 (IX), was not undertaken largely because requirements were fairly well known. The training courses in manpower planning and in training methods held during the year, as well as the aforementioned Report of the Expert Team on the evaluation of training gave sufficient directives for action.

134. The secretariat's training effort during the year was concentrated on organizing a six-week advanced course in manpower planning and training programming, and a ten-day seminar on training methods and teaching aids. The former was designed to improve the competence of African manpower planners and the latter to improve the training capability and effectiveness of African training institutes. The United Kingdom Government, USAID, ILO, UNESCO, WHO, and the Ford Foundation assisted with the implementation of those projects. Nineteen trainees from 12 countries participated in the manpower planning course, and 18 participants from 17 countries attended the seminar on training methods and teaching aids. The recommendations of the latter Seminar on Training Methods, strongly favouring national trainers' workshops, made it unnecessary to organize immediately the sub-regional workshop planned for Central Africa.

135. An Expert Group Meeting on Education and Training for Development in Africa was held from 7 to 12 December as ECA's contribution to priority areas for external assistance and International Education Year. The Seminar focussed attention on structural and programme modifications, necessary to orient education and training more closely to the requirements of accelerated industrialization and the modernization of rural economies. Eleven experienced African educationists from nine countries, four consultants, experts representing UNIDO, UNICEF, ILO, FAO and UNESCO and the representatives of several bilateral and non-governmental organizations including the Association of African Universities participated in the seminar.

Studies

136. The secretariat has undertaken studies in educational development, manpower requirements and training facilities. A new study has been initiated on the educational needs connected with rural development. Apart from specific documents and working papers prepared for meetings and training courses organized by the secretariat or international organizations, the following publications were issued:

- Directory of post-secondary training facilities in Africa, Part I.
- Monograph Nos. 3, 4: Human resources planning in Africa.
- Training Information Notice (quarterly).

Fellowships

137. The secretariat continued to administer the co-ordinated programme of scholarships and fellowships awarded through it under bilateral agreements. New donors participating in the programme during 1970 were Finland, Ghana, Morocco, Sudan Tunisia, and the United Kingdom. By November some 150 offers had been received and 83 awards made. Priority in the administration of the programme continued to be given to training in the areas of critical manpower requirements, including tailored-to-need training in industries and establishments. A new dimension in the programme is the utilization of the technical assistance extended to ECA by the United Kingdom and United States Governments for the training of ECA officials. Two staff members of the secretariat received such training in 1970.

Advisory services

138. Because of the temporary withdrawal since March, of the services of the Regional Adviser in Manpower Planning, the secretariat did not render any advisory services to member States in this field. However, on request, four man-months of consultancy service were provided to the University of Ife, Nigeria, to help organize a management training course, in line with the policy of assisting African institutions to develop capability in organizing specialized training courses.

139. The implementation of the "Study tour on manpower planning and training programming" was cancelled and the "Evaluation of enrolment and output in primary and secondary schools" was deferred till 1972 for lack of resources. Similarly, a study of the feasibility of establishing an "African Scholarship and Fellowship Fund" was deferred till 1971 and, on the recommendation of the Executive Committee, the third session of the Working Party on Manpower and Training was cancelled although it is hoped to reconstitute it as an Expert Group Meeting, as recommended by the Expert Team on Training.

Co-operation with other organizations

140. The secretariat continued to co-operate with other organizations, especially UNESCO, ILO, FAO and OAU. A joint meeting with UNESCO and the OAU was held to plan studies for the possible revision of the Addis Ababa education targets. There were also consultations with the ILO and UNESCO headquarters on ways of achieving effective co-operation and concerted action through joint programming and implementation in areas of common concern.

141. The secretariat also prepared working papers for, and assisted in organizing, the second meeting of the East and Central African Committee on Human Resources which was held in November. In addition, ECA participated in the following meetings of other organizations:

- Commonwealth Conference on Education in the Rural Areas,
21 March - 3 April 1970, Accra, Ghana.

- UNESCO Workshop on Functional Literacy, 29 April - 12 May 1970,
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

- Seminar for National Correspondents of the Bureau of the Placement and Education of African Refugees, 27 April - 2 May 1970,
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

- The Prospects of International Education: The Dutch Experience,
20-22 May 1970, Rotterdam, Netherlands.

- FAO/UNESCO/ILO World Conference on Agricultural Education and Training, 28 July - 8 August 1970, Copenhagen, Denmark.
- First World Congress of Comparative Education Societies, 17-21 August 1970, Ottawa, Canada.
- UNESCO International Expert Meeting on Correspondence Courses for In-Service Teachers' Training at Primary Level in Developing Countries, 21-26 September 1970, Hamburg, Federal Republic of Germany.

Public administration

142. The secretariat continued the study which is aimed at the improvement of the administrative organization and procedures of Government and its agencies (including local authorities) to make them suitable for development.

143. The services of a consultant were made available for four months to the Government of Sierra Leone in connexion with an enquiry into local government structure in that country. During the period under review, advisory services were provided to Algeria, Morocco, Tunisia, Dahomey, Rwanda, the People's Republic of the Congo, Mali, the Central African Republic and Chad with a view to establishing Management Services (O&M Units). A programme was launched in a number of countries to promote and foster the creation of management services as well as to back-stop or support existing ones.

144. Closely related to this programme, preparations are under way for a meeting of heads of management services and their experts with heads of schools and institutes of public administration, which is planned for the second quarter of 1971.

145. A Seminar on the Administrative Framework for Development was held for English-speaking countries from 7 to 18 December. A monograph on the administrative obstacles to development, entitled "Administration for Development" was prepared and submitted to the seminar for discussion and amendment. It will be revised accordingly and distributed to management services, schools and institutes of administration and the appropriate ministries of member States.

146. Studies were conducted and assistance provided with a view to facilitating the preparation of requests for UNDP Special Fund Technical Assistance for the benefit of CAFRAD, Tangiers, and the Institute of Development Management (IDM), Dar-es-Salaam, and for the services of accountancy experts for the Kenya Institute of Administration (KIA).

147. By way of follow-up to the work done in eastern and western African countries, the secretariat continued to promote the establishment of local examination boards to help in the recruitment and training of accountants and secretaries. Kenya established its national board and launched a programme to that end. Uganda set up an Institute of Registered Accountants which will be responsible for determining professional qualifications in accountancy. The Tanzanian Institute of Development Management is planning to train professional accountants under the auspices of the proposed National Examinations Board.

148. A Seminar on Training Methods and Programmes for Directors of Training Institutes and Civil Service Training Centres was held at the Kenya Institute of Administration from 4 to 15 August. A representative of the secretariat acted as consultant to the third National Management Conference of the Sierra Leone Institute of Management (SLIM) and participated in the Interregional Seminar on the Administration of Management Improvement Services organized by the Public Administration Division of United Nations Headquarters in co-operation with the Danish Government, and held at Holte, Denmark. The secretariat was also represented at the Conference of Institutes of Public Administration of Commonwealth Countries at Nairobi, Kenya, and at the Inter-African Public Administration Seminar at Gaborone, Botswana, at which a secretariat paper on the headship of the Civil Service was presented.

149. An official of the secretariat gave a course on organization and management (O&M) in the Imperial Ethiopian Institute of Public Administration (IEIPA), Addis Ababa, mainly for senior staff and O&M Officers of the Customs Department of Ethiopia.

150. The third edition of the Manual on Organization and Management (O&M) (formerly Organization and Methods (O&M) Training Manual) is being reproduced and will soon be circulated to management services, schools and institutes of public administration and the appropriate ministries of member States.

Study of African postal systems

151. The UPU regional postal adviser, attached to the secretariat, has started the study of African postal systems. The aim of the study is to collect information on present routings and the actual time which it takes between posting and delivery to the addressee, by means of control letters and trial forms and to suggest ways and means of improving the existing surface and air postal services. The adviser made visits to Mauritius, Lesotho, Swaziland, Zambia, Burundi, Rwanda, the Democratic Republic of Congo, the People's Republic of the Congo, Gabon, the Central African Republic, Chad and East Africa to make on-the-spot studies and suggest improvements. He will visit the other countries as soon as possible.

Population Programmes

152. With the thrust and direction given by the Executive Committee and the Technical Committee of Experts and the finances provided by the United Nations Fund for Population Activities during the period, the secretariat expanded its activities as follows:

- (a) Assisting Governments in understanding the population situation in the region and in giving due recognition to the inter-relationship between population dynamics and economic and social growth;
- (b) Helping Governments, at their request, to set up population programme services;
- (c) Ensuring the training of personnel by supporting national institutions and establishing regional training and research centres; and
- (d) Co-ordinating the regional activities of the United Nations organs in the field of population.

In these activities the secretariat has worked in close collaboration with the United Nations Population Division and the Office of Technical Co-operation.

Demographic development

153. The second meeting of the Preparatory Committee for the African Population Conference was held at Addis Ababa, from 3 to 5 June, under the auspices of ECA and the International Union for the Scientific Study of Population and in co-operation with the International Planned Parenthood Federation (see E/CN/489). The Government of Ghana has proposed that both the African Population Conference and the first session of the Conference of African Demographers be held in Accra, Ghana, from 9 to 18 December 1971 and from 20 to 22 December 1971 respectively. Preparatory arrangements, both scientific and organizational, are now under way and the secretariat is working in active collaboration with the national committee set up for this purpose. The Expert Group on Population meeting at Addis Ababa in June 1970, reviewed the population programmes of the secretariat and provided technical guidelines in the fields of studies, information services, training activities, regional advisory services and technical meetings (see E/CN.14/488).

154. At the request of the respective governments, the secretariat organized missions to Botswana, Burundi and Swaziland to assist them in appraising the population situation and formulating requests to the United Nations Fund for Population Activities in the population field. It also formed a part of the United Nations inter-agency population mission to Mauritius, requested by the Government. The secretariat also undertook a study of the extent, organization and implementation of population programmes in a number of countries.

Establishment of demographic norms for Africa

155. As a follow-up to the Working Group on Fertility Studies and Evaluation of Population Programmes, which met at Addis Ababa from 26 to 30 January 1970, the secretariat organized a Technical Group on Pilot Studies on Fertility, Mortality and Evaluation of Population Programmes with a view to evolving guidelines for African countries which are undertaking studies in these fields or propose to undertake them in the future (E/CN.14/473).

Demographic studies

156. The secretariat undertook a study of census post-enumeration data, supplemented by visits to a number of countries in North and West Africa, a study of census and vital statistics data relating to towns and cities in Africa, and a study of age patterns of fertility in African countries and sub-national population groups. Projections of the total and urban populations of the African countries have also been revised. Other studies are either under way or will be taken up as soon as the number of staff dealing with population programmes is increased.

Collection, exchange and distribution of information

157. As part of its information service and clearing-house activities, the secretariat issued the first three numbers of the African Population Newsletter, a publication reviewing the demographic situation in the region, selected population topics and the activities and programmes of the African Governments and institutions in this field. The Newsletter contained the revised population estimates and projections for use by African Governments. The first number of the African Population Studies series is under preparation. The secretariat also distributed to government departments, institutions and individuals several publications of special interest to the region.

Advisory services

158. Regional advisory services on different aspects of population were provided at the request of a number of Governments. Secretariat officials also assisted at inter-regional meetings on population and took part in several meetings on African demography organized by other bodies.

Research and training

159. As a result of negotiations, supplemented by missions organized by the secretariat, offers of host facilities for the establishment of demographic training and research centres were received from the Governments of Cameroon and Ghana for the French and English-speaking countries south of the Sahara

respectively, the former being supported by a resolution of the OCAM Heads of State and Government. Draft agreements are to be completed without delay and the Centres will start operating early in 1971. The secretariat also provided assistance in demographic training and research to the Haile Selassie I University at Addis Ababa and the East African Statistical Training Centre in Dar-es-Salaam (United Republic of Tanzania) and is co-operating with a number of national universities and institutions in this field.

Co-ordination of activities

160. As a part of the regional co-ordination of programmes on population, the secretariat has organized the first United Nations Regional Inter-Agency Co-ordination Meeting on Population and a meeting of non-United Nations organizations interested in African population programmes, held at Addis Ababa, respectively from 11 to 13 January and from 14 to 15 January. The aim of these meetings is to facilitate co-ordination of the activities of various bodies, thus permitting a more rational distribution of scarce resources.

Housing

Housing finance

161. The East African Sub-regional Meeting on Specific Aspects of Housing Finance sponsored by ECA and the United Nations Development Programme was held in Kampala, Uganda, from 29 June to 4 July, (E/CN.14/485). Its purpose was to examine specific aspects of housing finance, measures to increase the inflow of capital to housing from the public and private sectors, and the resources, financing mechanisms and training programmes of credit institutions involved in providing more effective development in housing finance. A number of documents were prepared for the meeting and in particular, the attention of the participants was drawn to "Review of sources and methods of financing for housing and urban development in Africa" (E/CN.14/HOU/64) and "Establishment and development of housing banks and their role in African countries" (E/CN.14/HOU/70).

Housing-building costs

162. In March 1970 the secretariat invited West African Governments to appoint members of a West African Working Group of Experts on House-building Costs. The members of the group met in Kumasi, Ghana, from 31 August to 11 September, to examine in detail the specific factors which contributed to house-building costs and to devise ways and means for reviewing and reducing costs on a permanent rational basis (E/CN.14/496).

Improvement of housing

163. The Regional Working Group on Improvements in Rural Housing and Community Facilities sponsored jointly by ECA and the United Nations Development Programme, in conjunction with WHO, met in Addis Ababa from 19 to 24 October (E/CN.14/495). It was planned to follow the Seminars on Rural Housing and Community Facilities, Maracay, Venezuela, April 1967 and Caracas, Venezuela 1969, which were sponsored by the United Nations through the Centre for Housing, Building and Planning, and the Office of Technical Co-operation, with the co-operation of the Venezuelan Government and WHO. The Regional Working Group was attended by nine African representatives, and considered methods of improving the standard of rural housing, both in design and construction, the provision of water supply and sanitary facilities and methods of financing.

164. In 1968 the secretariat initiated the practice of holding mobile training courses for building contractors. The first was held in East Africa (1968) and the second in West Africa (1969). From 14 September to 7 October the course was given in the Central African sub-region in the Democratic Republic of Congo, Gabon, the People's Republic of the Congo, Chad, the Central African Republic, and Cameroon. There were approximately two hundred participants in the programme this year. The desire was expressed by participants that these courses should be held on a continuing basis and for longer periods of time. In Kinshasa and in Yaoundé the contractors took the opportunity to organize themselves into associations of contractors.

Advisory services

165. From 9 February to 6 March 1970, the secretariat organized missions to Sudan, United Arab Republic, Libya, Tunisia, Algeria, and Morocco to discuss the progress of follow-up activities to the recommendations made by the North African Working Group of Experts on House-building Costs which met in Tangier, Morocco, from 1 to 12 September 1969.

166. As the result of an agreement between the Government of Botswana, Headquarters Office of Technical Co-operation, and the secretariat, a mission visited Botswana from 6 to 28 March to advise the Ministries of Development Planning, and Local Government and Lands on measures which the Government and its agencies could take to promote a low-cost housing programme.

167. From 5 to 9 June, at the request of the Kenya Government, the secretariat undertook a mission to Kenya to follow up the mission of September-October 1969 for survey of existing facilities and future measures to provide for adequate housing mortgage development.

168. From 24 June to 1 July an expert from the secretariat carried out a mission to Dar-es-Salaam, United Republic of Tanzania to survey the slum and squatter areas of Dar-es-Salaam, and to determine progress on the ECA/ICHDA Co-operative Housing Site and Service Project. From 1 to 21 July he visited Lusaka, Zambia; Blantyre and Zomba, Malawi; Nairobi and Mombasa, Kenya; as part of a joint ECA/UN Headquarters fact-finding mission on slum and squatter settlements. As a result of the mission, the expert recommended that the secretariat should sponsor research on slums and uncontrolled settlements in order to increase public awareness and to assist governments in formulating policy and actions for resettlement and rehabilitation.

169. The Gambian Government was provided with advisory services from 5 to 14 August in respect of the implementation of the recommendations contained in the report of the 1969 secretariat mission on steps to be taken to establish a housing credit agency.

170. The secretariat in collaboration with the Government of the Netherlands and the Headquarters Office of Technical Co-operation took part in a combined ECA/Netherlands mission to the Ministry of Housing and the Ghana Housing Corporation, Accra, Ghana, from 21 February to 24 March to advise and assist in the re-organization of the Accounting Department of the Ghana Housing Corporation and its methods and procedures. In particular advice was given on the system and physical collection of rents; calculation of rents; build-up of capital assets; and training of accounting staff.

Statistical services

171. During the period under review, work on the statistical programme was maintained in the light of its two basic objectives which are: (a) assistance in the development and co-ordination of national statistical services; and (b) establishment of a centralized statistical service for the African region.

The Conference of African Statisticians, which is responsible for the formulation of the programme, met in October 1969 and its next biennial session will be convened in October 1971.

172. Assistance in developing national statistical services - and those of multinational groupings - involves three interrelated programmes: training of African statisticians, provision of statistical advisory services, and application of standard methodology appropriate to the conditions of the region.

Training of African statisticians

173. Efforts to develop professional-level statistical training in the region continued to be concentrated on the two Institutes of Statistics and Applied Economics at Rabat, Morocco, and Kampala, Uganda, which are assisted by the UNDP (Special Fund). There were 198 enrolments for professional courses in these two Institutes during the 1968/69 academic year. A further important contribution to professional training was made by national centres, including the School of Statistics at Abidjan which provides an international service.

174. Middle-level training was maintained, and it is notable that two of the centres originally co-sponsored by the United Nations continued to meet heavy demands. These were the Statistics Training Institute at Yaoundé, Cameroun, which is now assisted by UNDP (Special Fund), and the East African Statistical Training Centre at Dar-es-Salaam, United Republic of Tanzania, which has been transferred to the technical assistance programme of the East African Community.

Advisory services and other country assignments

175. The secretariat continued to provide statistical advisory services to countries in the region. During 1970/71 four advisers undertook 47 missions in the fields of national accounts, demographic statistics and sample surveys.

176. The work of the statistical advisers was supplemented by staff members who undertook additional country visits in connexion with general economic statistics, industrial statistics, pricecomparison studies and national accounts. Current demand indicates that there is an urgent need to strengthen the advisory service in national accounts and to provide an expert in data processing.

Application of standard methodology

177. In the application of standard methodology within the region, national accounts continued to be one of the primary considerations, particularly in view of the revised international recommendations in this field. A Seminar on the Revised United Nations System of National Accounts, organized in co-operation with the Institute of Statistics and Applied Economics, was held at Kampala, Uganda, from 13 September to 4 October. It was attended by 19 participants from 15 countries and proved an effective means of initiating statisticians in the intricacies of the system. The seminar was for English-speaking participants only, and a similar project will be organized for the French-language group at the Rabat Institute during the second quarter of 1971.

178. A Seminar on Data Required for Projections was held at Addis Ababa, from 9 to 13 November. Its objects were to clarify data needs and uses in national planning and in analysing the regional economic situation, particularly with respect to the applications of national accounts for these purposes. The meeting was organized as a joint statistics and economic research project and was attended by both national statisticians and planners. It was followed by a Working Group on Public Sector Statistics, which met in Addis Ababa, from 16 to 20 November. One of the main objects of this project was to promote the standardization of government accounts within the context of the national accounting framework.

179. In addition to the routine work of compiling national accounts and other statistical material, some progress was made in establishing complete annual series for a number of basic variables for each country in the region. This work, which involves the use of estimation procedures, was undertaken because reasonably comprehensive data proved necessary for various ECA projects, particularly the annual economic surveys. Further series are now being prepared and figures are being deflated to a constant price basis so as to provide a more comprehensive system of data for analytical purposes.

180. During the earlier part of 1970, some of the secretariat's work on demographic and social statistics was suspended as a result of staff transfers to the new Population Programme Centre. Activities were resumed in October when temporary staff arrangements were made, and efforts to recruit more permanent demographic statisticians are continuing.

Publications and studies

181. The compilation of a Manual on Demographic Sample Surveys has made good progress and the draft is expected to be completed in the first quarter of 1971; it will be considered by the Conference of African Statisticians at its seventh session which is scheduled for October 1971. Work has also continued on a Manual on Household Economic Surveys which is due for completion later in 1971. These manuals will incorporate the essential aspects of African survey experience during recent years.

182. The following regular publications have been maintained:

Quarterly:

Statistical Newsletter

Statistical Bulletin for Africa

Foreign Trade Statistics for Africa, Series A: Direction of trade.

Half-yearly:

Foreign Trade Statistics for Africa, Series B: Trade by commodity and by country.

183. The first issue of the African Statistical Yearbook was published at the end of 1970. It incorporates the previous document entitled Yearly Statistics of Industrial Production and a national accounts publication proposed some time ago, together with available data on agriculture, trade, etc. The Yearbook is regarded as a project of special importance because, at the regional level, interest lies mainly in annual figures. Efforts to improve this publication will continue and it is likely that there will be changes in its content and presentation in the course of the next few years.

184. Included in the work programme are a number of statistical studies, each of which is intended to improve the information in a specific field by making use of data from all available sources. During 1970 attention was given to a study of the purchasing power parity of African currencies which is linked with a similar project at world level. Two other projects scheduled for the period under review were studies of the pattern of private consumption expenditure and of the structure and importance of non-monetary activities. In both cases progress has been made in compiling basic material. A preliminary report on the structure of the public sector in African countries was presented to the Working Group on Public Sector Statistics in November.

185. The installation of a larger computer, which was referred to in the previous annual report, has not yet been approved and the secretariat's capacity for data processing and analysis therefore remains limited. Efforts are being made to reduce the effects of this difficulty by introducing more systematic input procedures, but the amount of data that can be handled will be somewhat restricted, and the transfer of data between the ECA computer and other installations will remain difficult so long as the secretariat does not have the necessary tape facilities.

Science and technology

Application of science and technology to development

186. During the period under review the secretariat continued to apply General Assembly resolution 2318 (XXII) on science and technology. It took part in the thirteenth session of the United Nations Advisory Committee on the Application of Science and Technology to Development (UNACAST), which was held in New York from 1 to 10 April. General considerations concerning scientific development and specific proposals by ECA relating to industrial programmes were submitted for the attention of members of the Committee as well as an important document on scientific development which contained suggestions concerning, inter alia, the African Regional Plan.

187. An ECA/UNESCO Regional Symposium on the Utilization of Science and Technology for Development in Africa was held at Addis Ababa from 5 to 16 October. The Symposium concentrated on several problems, the most important of which were: policy-making and planning in science and technology; human resources for scientific and technological development; the creation of infrastructures for development; natural resources survey, research and development; industrial research and development; regional co-operation in science and technology.

188. The African Regional Group of the United Nations Advisory Committee on the Application of Science and Technology to Development (UNACAST), held its fifth meeting at Addis Ababa from 19 to 22 October and discussed regional proposals for the World Plan of Action. The Group reviewed the activities of ECA since its fourth meeting and considered information on the activities of the OAU Scientific Council of Africa with a view to improving co-ordination of science and technology programmes in the region.

189. The secretariat attended the fourteenth session of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination Sub-committee on Science and Technology and the meeting of the UNACAST Working Party on the World Plan of Action in New York from 2 to 14 December.

Creation of institutions

190. The first meeting of the ECA Panel of Experts on Advanced Institutes for Applied Science and Technology in Africa was held at the University of Manchester Institute of Science and Technology, United Kingdom, from 10 to 14 August. The Panel consisted of two experts from Africa, one from the United Kingdom and a representative of the secretariat. A number of observers, including a representative of OAU, participated in the panel discussions. The meeting formulated some ideas on the need for and possible forms and functions of such institutes. These ideas will facilitate the preparation of projects for institutes in a number of countries.

191. So as to give effect to the idea put forward in 1968 concerning the establishment of a regional institute of fuel science and technology, the secretariat undertook a mission from 31 October to 10 November to the Federal Government of Nigeria. The main discussions concerned the institute's statutes, aims, activities and relations with the University of Ibadan. The institute will provide training and research and development facilities in the technology of petroleum exploration and production and will assist the Government in the formulation of policies and plans for the rational utilization of petroleum resources.

192. During the same period the secretariat took part in a meeting of the Development Committee at the University of Ibadan concerning the establishment of an institute for applied science and technology. It should be recalled that ECA is assisting the University of Ibadan in the planning of the institute, which is also to receive aid from the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA). As it became apparent during the meeting that there were differences of approach between ECA and CIDA, representatives of CIDA, the University of Ibadan and the secretariat met again in December at Ottawa, Canada, and in order to enable the approaches of ECA and CIDA to this project to be harmonized in line with the plans of the University of Ibadan.

193. From 11 to 16 November a representative of the secretariat visited Zambia for consultations with Government representatives and to collect preliminary information on the advisability of setting up an institute of metallurgical research and development in Zambia. The Government is very interested in playing host to such an institute, which could serve Kenya, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania and Zambia.

Science and mass media

194. During the November mission to Nigeria, the representative of the secretariat followed the progress of the pilot project for the establishment of a science editorial section in the "Daily Times" of Nigeria. This project, which is in its implementation phase, is the outcome of a resolution adopted by the International Seminar on Science and Mass Media, held in 1968 under the joint auspices of ECA and the German Foundation for Developing Countries. The selection of trainee science editors has already been completed.

195. In accordance with the arrangements made at this Seminar, a Country Seminar on Science and Mass Media for East Africa was held at Kampala, Uganda, from 23 to 27 November under the auspices of the secretariat and the Foundation.

Standardization

196. A UNIDO/ECA/ISO Regional Workshop for Personnel Engaged in Standardization was held at Addis Ababa from 17 to 24 November for the English-speaking African countries. The main topics which the Workshop dealt with were: standardization in the African region; organization and operation of a national standardization body; adoption of the metric system (SI); training of manpower for standardization at national and regional level. With a view to co-ordinating regional standardization activities, the workshop recommended the establishment of a central co-ordinating body in the form of a standards advisory committee within the ECA secretariat. Such a body would serve purely as a "clearing-house", and one of its first tasks would be to study the existing situation with a view to determining the region's requirements regarding standardization. Recognizing the need for a change-over to the metric system, the workshop recommended that the developing countries of Africa should adopt the International System of Units (SI).

Participation in meetings

197. The secretariat attended the seventh Biennial Conference of the West African Science Association (WASA), held at the University of Ibadan, Nigeria, from 30 March to 4 April. During the conference the secretariat presented a paper on "National structure for policy-making and planning in science and technology", and a collection of papers on "Some issues in science and technology for development". ECA's participation was welcomed by the Conference and served as a good introduction for the secretariat to the West African scientific community.

198. At the invitation of the Committee for Engineering Education in Middle Africa, the secretariat took part in the Second Conference on Engineering Education in Middle Africa, held at Nairobi, Kenya, from 6 to 11 July. ECA was asked to provide a framework for expansion of the work of the Committee to enable it to cover more countries in the region.

Special measures in favour of the least developed among the developing countries

199. Examination of the question of the least developed of the developing countries, as recommended by the fourth ECA/OAU Joint Meeting on Trade and Development, was continued. The secretariat also followed developments in this area in other parts of the United Nations system, especially the work of the UNCTAD Group of Experts and the Working Group of the Committee for Development Planning. The African Group at the Trade and Development Board in consultation with other developing countries, submitted a draft resolution at the tenth session of the Board requesting the establishment of an ad hoc group of experts to assist the Board and its permanent organs until the eleventh session in all matters concerning the least developed of the developing countries. The resolution was adopted.

Information service

200. The secretariat continued to publicize the activities of the United Nations in general and those of the Economic Commission for Africa in particular, so as to help create both inside and outside the African region, the best possible atmosphere for realization of the objectives of the United Nations.

201. Conventional means of mass media, namely the Press, radio and television, were used. Films were distributed and other information material displayed.

The Press

202. Press releases were issued on conferences and seminars organized by the secretariat. Feature articles were written for the magazine African Target, ECA's quarterly publication. A number of features in the current series ECA Priorities in the 1970's were also widely distributed to Press agencies inside and outside the African region.

Radio and television

203. Interviews with leading personalities and various experts and round-table discussions were recorded throughout the period under review. The previous year the secretariat tried to circularize to all member States copies of broadcasts recorded in Addis Ababa; users were requested to return the tapes when they had finished with them. As very few tapes were returned to the secretariat the experiment had to be discontinued. However, a few tape recordings are sent from time to time to radio stations in the countries of origin of those interviewed during meetings organized by the secretariat.

204. Before such interviews can be broadcast more regularly to the countries of the region, the secretariat will need to have more extensive equipment including, among other items, basic recording and editing equipment.

205. Documentary films sent to the service by various United Nations agencies are supplied to the Ethiopian Television Service, whilst some of these films are distributed to non-governmental organizations, on request, for private viewing to limited groups.

C. AFRICAN INSTITUTE FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING

206. In accordance with resolution 193 (IX), which was adopted by the Commission at its ninth session, a number of Governments of member States supported the request to the Governing Council of UNDP concerning the financing of the second phase of the Institute's project. The second phase began as of November 1970.

207. As the activities of the Institute in its first seven years have been almost exclusively devoted to training, to the neglect of research and advisory services, it is proposed to reorientate its action programmes and intensify research during the second phase. The Institute's new Director who was appointed in September 1970 has had consultations in this connexion with regional institutions.

208. At its tenth meeting which was held in January 1970, the Governing Council nominated the members of the Academic Advisory Board. The work of the Board should make for better co-ordination of the activities of the Institute and those of universities and research institutions in the region.

209. With the co-operation and participation of universities and research institutions, the Institute organized national and sub-regional courses and seminars in the region.

210. At the third session of the Conference of African Planners, held at Addis Ababa, in May 1970, another seven non-permanent members of the Institute's Governing Council were elected. During the election, participants stated that the Conference of Ministers should review the number of non-permanent members of the Council and the method of election.

D. RELATIONS WITH SPECIALIZED AGENCIES AND OTHER ORGANIZATIONS

211. During the period under review the secretariat continued to co-operate closely with the specialized agencies and other organizations in the following fields: consultation and exchange of information, participation in meetings of common interest, joint project planning and implementation and joint participation in technical assistance activities related to UNDP Special Fund projects.

212. With the co-operation of the Divisions at Headquarters, the secretariat implemented several projects and, among other things, organized conferences, seminars and working groups.

213. In co-operation with GATT and the International Trade Centre, the secretariat organized courses on international trade, trade policy and trade promotion.

214. The secretariat organized, in conjunction with UNIDO, a number of meetings and training courses and implemented a few regional projects.

215. During the period under review, the Inter-agency Committee for Rural Development made up of UNICEF, UNDP, HCR, ILO, FAO, UNESCO, WHO and ECA continued its activities and organized, inter alia, an expert meeting on the development of rural life and institutions in West Africa.

216. In conjunction with ILO and the Danish Council for Technical Co-operation, the secretariat organized a regional seminar on national youth service programmes. Talks are at present proceeding with ILO in an attempt to devise the best possible method of co-operation in national youth programmes.

217. In agriculture, the secretariat continued to study intra-sub-regional co-operation and external trade with the co-operation of FAO and participated in meetings and studies organized by FAO.

218. The secretariat undertook joint projects with UNESCO in training and science and technology. These projects dealt with the use of science and technology to promote development in Africa and also with the possible revision, if need be, of the objectives of the Addis Ababa Plan.

219. During the period under review, ECA and OAU continued to strengthen the bonds of existing co-operation. The secretariat participated in the organization of the fourth and fifth joint meetings of the Working Group on Intra-African Trade of ECA and the OAU Expert Committee for Trade and Development.

220. ECA also helped the secretariat of the Conference of East and Central African States in organizing its sectoral committee meetings and in preparing working papers for these committees.

E. MEETINGS OF SUBSIDIARY BODIES DURING THE PERIOD UNDER REVIEW

Body and Chairman	Session	Document symbol of report ^{3/}
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE		
<u>Chairman</u> , H.E. Mr. Youssouf Sylla (Senegal)	Third meeting, Addis Ababa 18-21 May 1970	E/CN.14/479
<u>Chairman</u> , H.E. Mr. Youssouf Sylla (Senegal)	Fourth meeting, Addis Ababa 9-13 November 1970	E/CN.14/498
CONFERENCE OF AFRICAN PLANNERS		
<u>Chairman</u> , The Hon. Dr. Jones Ofori-Atta (Ghana)	Third session, Addis Ababa 20-29 May 1970	E/CN.14/481

^{3/} Copies of reports that are not available through the normal distribution channels at United Nations Headquarters or at Geneva may be obtained from the Regional Commissions Section of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs at United Nations Headquarters.

F. LIST OF MEETINGS AND TRAINING COURSES
HELD DURING THE PERIOD UNDER REVIEW

Date and place	Title
5-9 January Addis Ababa	Working Group on Industrial Statistics
8 January - 6 February Lusaka	Trainers Workshop on Modern Training Methods and Teaching Aids (English-speaking countries)
26-30 January Addis Ababa	Working Group on Fertility Studies and Evaluation of Population Programmes
9-14 February Addis Ababa	First Meeting of the ECA Technical Committee of Experts
16 February - 18 March Addis Ababa	Training Course in Budget-Plan Harmonization (English-speaking countries)
17-21 February Addis Ababa	(i) Regional OPI/NGO Conference in Africa on United Nations Second Development Decade (ii) Editors Roundtable
13 April - 3 July Addis Ababa - Geneva	ECA/ITC Training Course in Trade Promotion (English-speaking countries)
1 May - 25 June Holte (Denmark)	UN/RDC Community Development Group Fellowship Training Course
4 May - 24 July Addis Ababa - Geneva	ECA/ITC Training Course in Trade Promotion (French-speaking countries)
18-21 May Addis Ababa	Third Meeting of the ECA Executive Committee
20-29 May Addis Ababa	Third Session of the Conference of African Planners
21 May - 16 June West Germany	ECA/German Foundation Seminar on Modern Railway Operation and Traction
3-5 June Addis Ababa	Second Meeting of the Preparatory Committee for the African Population Conference
8-10 June Addis Ababa	Meeting of Expert Group on Population

Date and place	Title
10-12 June Addis Ababa	Preparatory Meeting for the Conference on African Hydrology and Hydro-meteorology
15-25 June Addis Ababa	Working Group of Experts on Water Resources Planning
29 June - 4 July Kampala	East African Sub-regional Meeting on Specific Aspects of Housing Finance
13 July - 22 August Lagos	Advanced Training Course in the Methodology and Techniques of Manpower Planning and Training Programming (English-speaking countries)
22-31 July Accra	West African Meeting of Experts on the Development of Rural Life and Institutions
4-12 August Nairobi	Seminar on Training Methods and Programmes for Directors of Training Institutes and Civil Service Training Centres
10-14 August Manchester	First Meeting of the ECA Panel of Experts on Advanced Institutes for Applied Science and Technology in Africa
13-24 August Geneva	Fifth Joint Meeting of the ECA Working Party on Intra-African Trade and the OAU Expert Committee on Trade Development
14 September - 7 October Cameroon, Chad, Congo (B), Congo (K), Central African Republic, Gabon	Training Course for Building Contractors from Central Africa
31 August - 11 September Kumasi	West African Working Group of Experts on House-Building Costs
13 September - 4 October Kampala	Seminar on the Revised United Nations System of National Accounts (English-speaking countries)
17-19 September Copenhagen	Joint ECA/OAU Meeting of African Countries Members of IBRD/IMF
5-16 October Addis Ababa	ECA/UNESCO Regional Symposium on the Utilization of Science and Technology for Development in Africa

Date and place	Title
5 October - 6 November Lomé	ECA/GATT Training Course on Commercial Policy and Trade Promotion (French-speaking countries)
5 October - 13 November Lagos	Training Course of the Association of African Central Banks
16 October - 18 December Monrovia	ECA/GATT Training Course on Commercial Policy and Trade Promotion (English-speaking countries)
19-22 October Addis Ababa	Fifth Meeting of the Regional Group for Africa of UNACAST
19-24 October Addis Ababa	Regional Expert Working Group on Improvements in Rural Housing and Community Facilities
3-7 November Addis Ababa	Third Conference on Soil Fertility and Fertilizers used in Africa
9-13 November Addis Ababa	Fourth Meeting of the ECA Executive Committee
9-13 November Addis Ababa	Seminar on Data Required for Projections
16-20 November Addis Ababa	Working Group on Public Sector Statistics
17-24 November Addis Ababa	UNIDO/ECA Regional Training Workshop for Personnel Engaged in Standardization
23-27 November Kampala	ECA/German Foundation Seminar on Science and Mass Media
23 November - 4 December Addis Ababa	Africa Regional Seminar on National Youth Service Programmes
25 November - 9 December Addis Ababa	Seminar on Cadastre
7-18 December Addis Ababa	Seminar on the Administrative Framework for Development (English-speaking countries)
9-11 December Addis Ababa	Technical Meeting on Pilot Studies on Fertility, Infant Mortality and Evaluation of Population Programmes

Date and place	Title
7-12 December Addis Ababa	Expert Group Meeting on Education and Training for Development in Africa
7-12 December Addis Ababa	UNIDO/ECA/AFRASEC Training Workshop for Managerial Staff of Chambers of Industry in Africa (English- speaking countries)
28 December - 2 January Dar-es-Salaam	ECA/ICSW Seminar on Social Welfare Services
1-13 January Addis Ababa	Regional Inter-Agency Co-ordination Meeting on Population
14-15 January Addis Ababa	Meeting of Experts from NGOs and Non-African Governments interested in African Population Programmes.