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ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

AAC	African Association of Cartography	ARCEDEM	African Regional Centre for Engineering, Design and Manufacturing
AAP-SAP	African Alternative Framework for Structural Adjustment Programmes for Socio-economic Recovery and Transformation	ARCSE	African Regional Centre for Solar Energy
AAPAM	African Association for Public Administration and Management	ARCT	African Regional Centre for Technology
AAPSO	Afro-Asian Peoples' Solidarity Organization	ARI	African Rehabilitation Institute for Disabled Persons
AAS	African Academy of Sciences	ARSC	African Remote Sensing Council
AATPO	Association of African Trade Promotion Organizations	ARSO	African Regional Organization for Standardization
AAU	Association of African Universities	ARSP	African Remote Sensing Programme
ACABQ	Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions	ASTIS	African Science and Technology Information System
ACARTSOD	African Centre for Applied Research and Training in Social Development	ASYCUDA	Automated System for Customs Data
ACC	Administrative Committee on Co-ordination	ATRCW	African Training and Research Centre for Women
ACI	African Cultural Institute	BADEA	Arab Bank for Economic Development in Africa
ACP	African, Caribbean and Pacific Group	BCEAC	Banque centrale des Etats de l'Afrique centrale
ACMAD	African Centre of Meteorological Applications for Development	BCEAO	Central Bank of West African States
ACMS	African Centre for Monetary Studies	BOAD	West African Development Bank
ADB	African Development Bank	CACH	Central African Clearing House
AFSA	African Statistical Association	CADIS	Central African Development Information System
AGRIIS	Agricultural Information System	CAFRAD	African Centre for Administrative Training and Research for Development
AHSCP	African Household Survey Capability Programme	CAMRDC	Central African Mineral Resources Development Centre
AIDF	African Industrial Development Fund	CDP	Committee for Development Planning
AIHTTR	African Institute for Higher Technical Training and Research	CEAO	Economic Community of West Africa
ALO	Arab Labour Organization	CEPGL	Economic Community of the Great Lakes Countries
ANC	African National Congress	CILSS	Permanent Inter-State Committee for Drought Control in the Sahel
ANSTI	African Network of Science and Technology Institutes	CIRDAFRICA	Centre for Integrated Rural Development in Africa
AOCRS	African Organization for Cartography and Remote Sensing	CMEA	Council for Mutual Economic Assistance
APPER	Africa's Priority Programme for Economic Recovery	CODESRIA	Council for the Development of Economic and Social Research in Africa
ARCC	Africa Regional Co-ordinating Committee for the Integration of Women in Development	CPC	Committee for Programme and Co-ordination
		CRTO	Regional Remote Sensing Centre, Ouagadougou

CRTK	Regional Remote Sensing Centre, Kinshasa	ICID	International Commission on Irrigation and Drainage
DAC	Development Assistance Committee	ICIPE	International Centre for Insect Physiology and Ecology
DIESA	Department of International Economic and Social Affairs	ICM	Intergovernmental Committee for Migration
DLCO-EA	Desert Locust Control Organization for Eastern Africa	IDA	International Development Association
DTCD	Department of Technical Co-operation for Development	IDB	Islamic Development Bank
ECA	Economic Commission for Africa	IDDA	Industrial Development Decade for Africa
ECCAS	Economic Community of Central African States	IDEP	African Institute for Economic Development and Planning
ECDC	Economic co-operation among developing countries	IDNDR	International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction
ECE	Economic Commission for Europe	IDRC	International Development Research Centre of Canada
ECLAC	Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean	IDWSSD	International Drinking Water Supply and Sanitation Decade
ECLO	Emergency Centre for Locust Operations (FAO)	IFAD	International Fund for Agricultural Development
ECOSOC	Economic and Social Council of the United Nations	IFORD	Institute de formation et de recherche démographiques
ECOWAS	Economic Community of West African States	IGADD	Intergovernmental Authority on Drought and Development
EDF	European Development Fund	IHO	International Hydrographic Organization
EDI	Economic Development Institute of the World Bank	ILCA	International Livestock Centre for Africa
EEC	European Economic Community	ILO	International Labour Organisation
EIB	European Investment Bank	IMF	International Monetary Fund
ESADIS	East and Southern African Development Information System	INSTRAW	United Nations International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women
ESAMI	Eastern and Southern African Management Institute	IOC	Indian Ocean Commission
ESAMRDC	Eastern and Southern African Mineral Resources Development Centre	IPPF	International Planned Parenthood Federation
FACC	Federation of African Chambers of Commerce	ISI	International Statistical Institute
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations	ITU	International Telecommunication Union
GATT	General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade	IUSSP	International Union for the Scientific Study of Population
IACC	Inter-Agency Co-ordinating Committee	JASPA	Jobs and Skills Programme for Africa
IAEA	International Atomic Energy Agency	JIU	Joint Inspection Unit
IBRD	International Bank for Reconstruction and Development	KBO	Kagera Basin Organization
IAWGD	Inter-agency Working Group on Desertification	LAS	League of Arab States
ICAO	International Civil Aviation Organization		
ICC	International Chamber of Commerce		

LCBC	Lake Chad Basin Commission	RIPS	Regional Institute for Population Studies
LDCs	Least developed countries	SADCC	Southern African Development Co-ordination Conference
LPA	Lagos Plan of Action	SAP	Structural adjustment programme
LWF	Lutheran World Federation	SAPAM	Special Action Programme for Administration and Management in Africa
MU	Maghreb Union	SAREC	Swedish Agency for Research Co-operation with Developing Countries
MULPOC	Multinational Programming and Operational Centre	SDI	Selective Dissemination of Information
NACP	National Accounts Capability Programme	SFD	Saudi Fund for Development
NADIS	North African Documentation and Information Centre	SNPA	Substantial New Programme of Action for the 1980s for the Least Developed Countries
NATCAPs	National Technical Co-operation Assessments and Programmes	STAP	Subregional Technical Assistance Programmes
NBA	Niger Basin Authority	STPA	Statistical Training Programme for Africa
NCC	National Co-ordinating Committee	SWAPO	South-West Africa People's Organization
OAU	Organization of African Unity	SWMTEP	System-Wide Medium-Term Environment Programme
OCLALAV	Organisation commune de lutte antiacridienne et antiavaire	TCDC	Technical co-operation among developing countries
ODA	Official development assistance	TEPCOW	Technical Preparatory Committee of the Whole
OECD	Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development	TNCs	Transnational Corporations
OMVG	Organization for the Development of the Gambia River	UAR	Union of African Railways
OMVS	Organization for the Development of the Senegal River	UDEAC	Central African Customs and Economic Union
PAC	Pan-African Congress of Azania	UNAFRI	United Nations African Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders
PADIS	Pan-African Documentation and Information System	UNCHS	United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat)
PANA	Pan-African News Agency	UNCSDHA	United Nations Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs
PANAFTEL	Pan-African Telecommunications Network	UNCSTD	United Nations Centre for Science and Technology for Development
POPIN	Population Information System for Africa	UNCTAD	United Nations Conference on Trade and Development
PTA	Preferential Trade Area	UNCTC	United Nations Centre on Transnational Corporations
RASCOM	Regional African Satellite Communications System	UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
RASDS	Regional Advisory Service in Demographic Statistics	UNDRO	United Nations Disaster Relief Organization
RBA	Regional Bureau for Africa (UNDP)		
RBASEP	Regional Bureau for Arab States and European Programmes		
RCSSMRS	Regional Centre for Services in Surveying, Mapping and Remote Sensing		
RECTAS	Regional Centre for Training in Aerospace Surveys		

UNEDIFACT	United Nations Rules for Electronic Data Interchange for Administration, Commerce and Transport
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
UNIDO	United Nations Industrial Development Organization
UNIFEM	United Nations Development Fund for Women
UNITAR	United Nations Institute for Training and Research
UN-PAAERD	United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development
UNSO	United Nations Sudano-Sahelian Office
UNTACDA	United Nations Transport and Communications Decade in Africa
UNTFAD	United Nations Trust Fund for African Development
UNTNA	Union of National Radio and Television Organizations in Africa
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
USSR	Union of Soviet Socialist Republics
WADIS	West African Development Information System
WFC	World Food Council
WFP	World Food Programme
WFTU	World Federation of Trade Unions
WHO	World Health Organization
WIPO	World Intellectual Property Organization
WMO	World Meteorological Organization
WTO	World Tourism Organization.

INTRODUCTION

1. The present annual report of the Economic Commission for Africa covers the period 11 April 1989 to 19 May 1990. It has been prepared in accordance with paragraph 18 of the Commission's terms of reference and was adopted by the Conference of Ministers of the Commission on 19 May 1990.

CHAPTER I

MATTERS CALLING FOR ACTION BY THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL OR BROUGHT TO ITS ATTENTION

A. Matters calling for action by the Economic and Social Council

2. At its two hundred sixty-seventh meeting held in Tripoli, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya from 15 to 19 May 1990, the ECA Conference of Ministers responsible for economic development and planning unanimously adopted the following resolutions for action by the Council:

A

679 (XXV). Improving information flows in the African region

The Conference of Ministers,

Recalling its resolution 498 (XIX) of 26 May 1984 on the Pan-African Documentation and Information System in Africa,

Recalling also its resolution 600 (XXII) of 24 April 1987 on information systems development in Africa,

Bearing in mind its resolution 658 (XXIV) of 7 April 1989 on strengthening information systems in Africa,

Noting with satisfaction the performance of PADIS in the delivery of technical assistance to member States in the period since 1988,

Appreciative of efforts made by PADIS in creating an information system to assist member States in their development,

Noting with concern the precarious situation of the bulk of PADIS funding for technical assistance which is presently scheduled to end on 31 December 1990,

Recognizing the need for adequate training in the region in current information technology,

Concerned by the small number of up-to-date computer equipment at ECA to be used to service African member States,

1. Commends member States which have already designated national participating centres in the PADIS network and calls upon those that have not done so to designate their participating centres;
2. Reminds participating centres of their role in the network, including the contribution of information;
3. Urges member States hosting subregional centres to accelerate the process of their establishment;
4. Strongly urges the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) to ensure the continuation of PADIS technical assistance activities on behalf of member States by implementing its allocation to project

RAF/86/053 to permit the continuation of professional and administrative staff through the UNDP Fifth Programming Cycle;

5. Exhorts African member States to include PADIS in their pledges to the United Nations Trust Fund for African Development;

6. Appeals to bilateral and multilateral donors to continue and upgrade their support to PADIS;

7. Requests the Executive Secretary to explore further ways and means of securing regular budget posts for PADIS;

8. Urges the Secretary-General of the United Nations to provide PADIS with the necessary computer equipment to ensure its effective functioning.

B

680 (XXV). The future of the African Institute for Economic Development and Planning (IDEP)

The Conference of Ministers,

Recalling its resolution 669 (XXIV) on the future funding of the activities of the African Institute for Economic Development and Planning (IDEP),

Recalling the Special Memorandum of the Governing Council of IDEP,

Considering the outstanding record of IDEP in the training of African planners and development specialists,

Further considering the continuing and growing need of African Governments for the services of IDEP in the fields of training, research and advisory services,

Considering also the possibility that the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) will withdraw its financing of IDEP at the end of 1990 and that IDEP is the only regional institute able to provide training and research services to all the member States of the Commission in the area of economic development and planning,

Noting with great distress that the persistent and substantial shortfall in member States' contributions to IDEP will inevitably force its closure this year if no remedial action is taken,

1. Urgently appeals to the member States of the African Institute to:

(a) Immediately pay to IDEP their contribution for 1990 and their arrears for 1989;

(b) Pay back to IDEP all their remaining arrears according to a schedule to be arranged with the management of IDEP;

(c) Pay their regular annual contribution to IDEP in a timely manner under arrangements to be determined with the management of IDEP;

2. Calls upon the United Nations General Assembly, as a matter of urgency, to approve the inclusion of four key posts for IDEP in the United Nations regular budget, namely the Director, the Chief of Administration and Finance and two senior lecturers, in line with the recommendation of the Economic and Social Council in its resolution 1985/62 of 26 July 1985, to enable IDEP to carry out its approved work programme and functions on a continued and sustained basis as stipulated in its Statute;

3. Appeals to UNDP to help the Institute to survive its present financial crisis and in particular to:

- (a) Quickly set up the evaluation mission announced in October 1989;
- (b) Give its full backing to the short-term training programme and to the research and advisory activities of IDEP;
- (c) Continue its support to the activities of IDEP in 1990 and beyond;

4. Commends the Governing Council of IDEP on the decisions taken to rationalize the use of resources and urges the management of the Institute to persevere in that endeavour.

C

682 (XXV). Improving technical facilities at the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA)

The Conference of Ministers,

Recognizing the need for providing adequate equipment and training in the region in current information technology,

Concerned about the paucity of up-to-date automation and computing equipment at the secretariat of the Economic Commission for Africa,

Further concerned about the constraints that such a situation imposes on ECA to properly assist African member States in enhancing their planning and monitoring capacities,

Urges the Secretary-General of the United Nations to provide the ECA secretariat with the necessary office automation and computing equipment for its optimal functioning and for better service to member States.

D

684 (XXV). The Abuja Declaration on Participatory Development: The Role of Women in Africa in the 1990s

The Conference of Ministers,

Having considered in depth the Abuja Declaration on Participatory Development: The Role of Women in Africa in the 1990s as adopted by the Conference on the Integration of Women in Development at its fourth meeting held in Abuja, Nigeria, from 6 to 10 November 1989,

Having noted that the issues raised and concerns expressed by the Conference, with regard to the implementation of the Arusha Strategies for the Advancement of Women in Africa are consistent with the aforementioned Declaration and reinforce the mandate of this Conference,

Mindful of the need for accelerating the pace of implementation of the Arusha Strategies and to take concerted action to mobilize support from every quarter to promote women's participation and integration in the development process,

Mindful of the need for a socio-economic strategy for the 1990s enabling women to fully play their role and assume their responsibilities with regard to the conceptualization, planning, design and implementation of programmes conducive to long-term sustainable socio-economic transformation,

Concerned by the devastating impact of Africa's socio-economic crisis and the short-term structural adjustment measures which have aggravated the social degradation and lack of economic opportunities for women,

Appreciative of the initiative taken by the Conference which represents an essential contribution to national, regional and international efforts to improve the human condition in Africa,

1. Congratulates the organizers of the Conference for their commendable initiative to assess the progress made in the implementation of the Arusha Strategies for the Advancement of Women in Africa, to identify problems impeding its overall impact and to recommend comprehensive measures whose implementation at the national, subregional, regional and international levels would accelerate the integration of women in the development process;
2. Expresses its appreciation to the Government of the Federal Republic of Nigeria for its generosity in hosting the Conference and, in particular, to His Excellency the President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria and Mrs. Maryam Babangida for their leadership role in ensuring the success of the Conference;
3. Further expresses its deep appreciation to the participating Governments for ensuring high-level and fully motivated representation at the Conference, and to the United Nations, in particular the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), non-governmental and intergovernmental organizations and other multilateral and bilateral donors who contributed generously to the organization of the Conference which resulted in the Abuja Declaration;
4. Endorses the findings, conclusions and recommendations of the Conference as set forth in the Abuja Declaration concerning participatory development of African women in the 1990s;
5. Urges member States to fully implement the recommendations of the Abuja Declaration by integrating women as an essential part of their recovery and long-term development programmes;
6. Further urges international financial institutions, bilateral and multilateral donors, organizations of the United Nations system, non-governmental organizations and African intergovernmental organizations to implement, as a matter of urgency, the recommendations contained in the Abuja Declaration;
7. Requests the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly of the United Nations to ensure that speedy and appropriate follow-up action is taken to implement the recommendations contained in the Abuja Declaration;
8. Requests the Executive Secretary of ECA to disseminate the Abuja Declaration as widely as possible, particularly to member States, all United Nations agencies and organizations, donor countries and organizations, regional and subregional organizations, non-governmental organizations, institutions of higher learning and manpower development establishments in Africa;
9. Further requests the Executive Secretary of ECA to co-ordinate and monitor the implementation of the recommendations of the Abuja Strategies and to present comprehensive reports thereon to the ECA Conference of Ministers.

693 (XXV). Proposal for interregional co-operation in the area of trade facilitation, and in particular the phased application of EDIFACT whenever appropriate

The Conference of Ministers,

Recalling resolution 1989/118 of the United Nations Economic and Social Council on interregional co-operation for facilitation of international trade which called upon regional commissions and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) to jointly prepare a project proposal in this field,

Recognizing that African countries need to effectively co-operate with the rest of the world and to participate in international trade facilitation, including the use of electronic data interchange for transmission of trade documentation,

Conscious of the urgent need in Africa to build up, strengthen and upgrade capacities to identify problems and requirements for facilitation for international and intra-African trade, including the analysis of practices, procedures, laws, regulations, policies and documentation governing international trade and that such capacity building would benefit government ministries/departments concerned with planning, trade, transport, customs administration, statistics and data processing,

1. Decides to fully support the project proposal on interregional co-operation for facilitation of international trade prepared jointly by the regional commissions and UNCTAD;

2. Recommends that the United Nations Economic and Social Council endorse this proposal and recommend it for funding by donors;

3. Invites all Member States of the United Nations to support this project proposal;

4. Requests the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the World Bank, the regional development banks and bilateral donors to provide adequate financing to ensure the full realization of this project;

5. Requests the Executive Secretary of ECA to report to the twenty-sixth session of the Commission on the implementation of this resolution.

695 (XXV). Planning, programming, monitoring and evaluation

The Conference of Ministers,

Recalling its resolutions 674 (XXIV) and 675 (XXIV) of 7 April 1989 on the draft Medium-term Plan and the proposed programme of work and priorities for the biennium 1990-1991,

Recalling also General Assembly resolution 37/234 of 21 December 1982 on programme planning,

Having examined the report of the meeting of the Ad hoc Committee on the draft Medium-term Plan 1992-1997, ¹ the proposals for updating the 1990-1991 programme budget, ² the Biennial Report of the Executive Secretary, 1988-1989 ³ and the self-evaluation of programmes in ECA, ⁴

Recalling further General Assembly resolution 44/201 of 21 December 1989, section B, on the Economic Commission for Africa concerning the inadequacy of resources and the review of the translation and interpretation services,

Appreciates the support of the African Group in New York and African representatives in the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination (CPC) and the Economic and Social Council,

Appreciates highly the efforts of the African Group in New York in their endeavours for an increase in resources for ECA for the biennium 1992-1993,

Notes with satisfaction the high performance rates in the implementation of the programme budget for the biennium 1988-1989,

1. Endorses the report of the meeting of the Ad hoc Committee on the draft Medium-term Plan 1991-1997;
2. Endorses also the proposals for updating the 1990-1991 programme budget;
3. Approves the changes to the programme budget for the biennium 1988-1989 including the reformulation of outputs, the postponements, the proposals for termination and the additional outputs added at the initiative of the secretariat in accordance with the factors necessitating such changes;
4. Requests the Secretary-General of the United Nations to include those changes in his submission to the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination;
5. Calls upon the African members of the Committee to support the changes to the programme budget for the biennium 1988-1989;
6. Calls also upon the African Group in New York to continue its support for an increase in resources for the biennium 1992-1993 for ECA in accordance with the United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development (UN-PAAERD).

¹ E/ECA/CM.16/29.

² E/ECA/CM.16/28.

³ E/ECA/CM.16/2.

⁴ E/ECA/CM.16/30.

698 (XXV). The final review and appraisal of the United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development, 1986-1990 (UN-PAAERD)

The Conference of Ministers.

Recalling General Assembly resolution 43/27 of 18 November 1988 in which the General Assembly decided that the final review and appraisal of the United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development (UN-PAAERD) should be conducted at its forty-sixth session to be held in 1991,

Noting with appreciation the two reports of the ECA secretariat on the progress in the implementation of the UN-PAAERD as well as preparations for the final review and evaluation of the UN-PAAERD,

Noting further with appreciation the work of the United Nations Steering Committee and the United Nations Inter-Agency Task Force on the monitoring of the implementation of the UN-PAAERD,

Convinced of the need that the final review and evaluation of the implementation of the UN-PAAERD by the General Assembly should be an occasion for an in-depth appraisal of the actions taken by all sides in the implementation of the Programme as well as of the measures that are needed to sustain accelerated growth and development in Africa beyond 1991,

Convinced further of the need for ECA member States to conduct a thorough assessment of the implementation of the Programme and also of the need that such assessment should be as up-to-date as possible,

Concerned over the continuing deterioration in the economic and social conditions in Africa and the possibility of the continuation of such trends in the 1990s,

1. Recommends that mechanisms for the final review and appraisal of the implementation of the UN-PAAERD should be similar to those of the mid-term review of the Programme and that for this purpose an Ad hoc Committee of the Whole of the General Assembly should be established to appraise the Programme and to propose measures for sustained development in Africa beyond 1991;

2. Decides that a special memorandum to the Ad hoc Committee of the Whole of the General Assembly on the final review and appraisal of the UN-PAAERD should be prepared in May 1991 by the seventeenth meeting of the ECA Conference of Ministers and that the draft of this special memorandum should be considered by an Intergovernmental Expert Group Meeting to be convened immediately before the Technical Preparatory Committee of the Whole (TEPCOW), and the Conference of Ministers;

3. Invites the Executive Secretary of ECA to mount special multisectoral missions to all ECA member States early in the fourth quarter of 1990 to collect up-to-date data on the implementation of the Programme on the basis of which the ECA special memorandum will be prepared;

4. Requests the General Assembly to make available to the ECA secretariat the financial resources that are required to mount such special missions on the review and appraisal of the implementation of the UN-PAAERD;

5. Urges member States and their development and planning apparatuses to participate actively in the preparation of the special memorandum.

702 (XXV). Transforming and strengthening the Multinational Programming and Operational Centres (MULPOCs) of the Economic Commission for Africa

The Conference of Ministers,

Recalling its resolution 311 (XIII) of 1 March 1977 establishing the Multinational Programming and Operational Centres (MULPOCs),

Recognizing that the MULPOCs have, over the years, played a vital role in fostering subregional economic co-operation and integration and that the objectives for which they were established are more valid today than they were 13 years ago,

Considering the imperative need for women to participate positively and effectively in the implementation of programmes aimed at their integration in the process of development in each subregion,

Concerned about the poor performance and achievements of the MULPOCs during the past few years mostly as a result of insufficient financial and human resources and their inadequacy to meet the new tasks that they are to perform towards economic recovery and transformation,

Welcoming General Assembly resolution 43/216 endorsing the financial reports and audited financial statements of the Board of Auditors and the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (ACABQ) which "strongly recommended that the achievements of the MULPOCs be thoroughly evaluated with a view to deciding whether this experiment should be continued or whether the mandate, number and structure of these Centres should be completely reorganized",

Noting with satisfaction the decision of the Secretary-General to appoint a Review Team whose mandate was, inter alia, to examine the structure and organization of the MULPOCs with a view to determining their suitability for the execution of their tasks taking into account the General Assembly resolution referred to above,

Noting that the current distribution and location of the MULPOCs are in keeping with the spirit of the Final Act of Lagos in terms of the need to promote co-operation and integration within the framework of the subregional economic groupings.

1. Takes note of the report of the Review Team which concludes that the structures, organization and operations, respectively, of the Multinational Programming and Operational Centres of the Economic Commission for Africa should be maintained, transformed and strengthened;

2. Warmly congratulates the Review Team on the thorough and objective manner in which it has carried out its work and for its findings and recommendations thereon;

3. Strongly supports the conclusions of the Review Team that the MULPOC institutions should be transformed and strengthened to provide member States with the required technical assistance and advisory services for the execution of their joint projects within the framework of the intergovernmental organizations;

4. Adopts the new mandate of the MULPOCs as proposed by the Review Team; -

5. Strongly urges the United Nations General Assembly to provide the MULPOCs with additional human and financial resources to enable them to respond more effectively to multinational and multisectoral programming requirements based on priorities identified by the member States, and to provide immediately a minimum "core" of such resources;

6. Decides that, given the financial constraints and the need for better co-ordination between the MULPOCs and the intergovernmental organizations, the MULPOCs should report directly to the ECA Conference of Ministers through the Committees of Intergovernmental Experts which will be responsible for supervising the activities of the MULPOCs at the subregional level;

7. Urges the General Assembly, donor and technical assistance organizations to provide the MULPOCs with sufficient resources for the formulation and implementation of programmes for the effective participation of women in the development process of their respective subregions;

8. Recommends that the current number and composition of the MULPOCs should be maintained since they fit in with the structure of existing subregional economic groupings. Their distribution could, however, be reviewed in future to make for the rational use of available resources and to reflect developments in the subregional economic groupings;

9. Submits the attached memorandum⁵ on the strengthening and transformation of the MULPOCs to the Economic and Social Council for consideration;

10. Appeals to member States to continue their support and assistance to the MULPOCs through the United Nations Trust Fund for African Development and/or any other appropriate means;

11. Urges technical assistance and funding agencies to assist in the implementation of the relevant recommendations of the evaluation team regarding the need to provide the MULPOCs with sufficient financial and human resources for the effective execution of their mandate.

B. Matters brought to the attention of the Council

3. The Conference of Ministers of the Economic Commission for Africa also adopted the following resolutions:

678 (XXV). United Nations Trust Fund for African Development accumulated interest

The Conference of Ministers authorized the Executive Secretary of ECA to use the interest accrued on the UNTFAD Specific Fund contributions for the implementation of projects consistent with the purpose of UNTFAD.

681 (XXV). Future of the African demographic training institutes

The Conference of Ministers called the attention of member States to the fact that failure to pay contributions to the Institutes might compel them to close down and urged African member States to see to it that they fully assume their responsibilities for the survival of the Institutes.

683 (XXV). The Addis Ababa Plan of Action for Statistical Development in Africa in the 1990s

The Conference of Ministers appealed to intergovernmental agencies, multilateral and bilateral donor institutions to continue and further strengthen their assistance in the statistical field in the region, in the context of the Addis Ababa Plan of Action for Statistical Development in Africa in the 1990s.

685 (XXV). Women and apartheid

The Conference of Ministers requested the Economic Commission for Africa to institute mechanisms that would strengthen the Southern African Development Co-ordination Conference and sustain activities in favour of women of the subregion directly or indirectly.

⁵ See chapter IV, resolution 702 (XXV).

686 (XXV). Women in global and regional strategies

The Conference of Ministers requested that during the negotiations with development agencies, ECA and member States take into account the conclusions of the Abuja Conference and ensure that women's needs are taken into account in the provisions of these agreements.

687 (XXV). Africa Regional Co-ordinating Committee for the Integration of Women in Development (ARCC)

The Conference of Ministers requested ECA to strengthen the human resources of the African Training and Research Centre for Women (ATRCW) to enhance its capacity to service ARCC.

688 (XXV). Establishment of the Technical Advisory Committee for the development of nuclear science and technology in Africa

The Conference of Ministers decided to establish a Technical Advisory Committee for the development of nuclear science and technology in Africa to provide a system for acquisition and transfer of technology in Africa, making it possible to achieve a steady development of African capabilities in nuclear science and technology.

689 (XXV). Strengthening of capacities in Africa for the development and application of science and technology in the 1990s

The Conference of Ministers considers that science and technology should be one of the major components in the national, subregional and regional programmes of socio-economic development in Africa and urged member States to set up a fund for science and technology development.

690 (XXV). Making the African Centre of Meteorological Applications for Development (ACMAD) operational

The Conference of Ministers strongly urged the member States which have not done so to undertake urgent steps to ratify the Constitution and pay their contributions so that the centre can become operational.

691 (XXV). The African Charter for Popular Participation in Development and Transformation

The Conference of Ministers adopted the African Charter for Popular Participation in Development and Transformation (Arusha 1990) as a statement of the strategy that should be incorporated in development policies adopted by African Governments with a view to promoting popular participation in development and by encouraging people and their organizations to undertake self-reliant development initiatives.

692 (XXV). Hydrographic surveying and nautical charting services

The Conference of Ministers drew the attention of African countries to the availability within the International Hydrographic Organization of technical capabilities that can be profitably used in their maritime hydrographic and nautical charting activities and in the establishment of national hydrographic and nautical charting committees.

694 (XXV). Co-operation in fisheries in Africa

The Conference of Ministers urged African States to establish an intra-African information network on fishing vessels operating illegally and to propose measures to be instituted within the context of a regional legal framework to ban such vessels.

696 (XXV). "Priority Africa" Programme of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)

The Conference of Ministers welcomed with satisfaction the "Priority Africa" Programme and expressed its appreciation to the Director-General of UNESCO for the initiative he has taken in launching this Programme and for setting up a unit in his cabinet for its implementation.

697 (XXV). Improvement of the role of women in the informal sector: production and management

The Conference of Ministers recommended to African countries to consider favourably the legal ways and means of helping in the work protection and profits of operators in the informal sector and in the enhancement of the role of women in the informal sector.

699 (XXV). Strengthening the African Institute for Higher Technical Training and Research

The Conference of Ministers called upon member States of the Institute to pay their contributions to the budget of the Institute as expeditiously as possible.

700 (XXV). The proposed establishment of the African Economic Community

The Conference of Ministers appealed to all member States to take every measure at the national, subregional and regional levels to implement the project in accordance with the indicative time frame.

701 (XXV). Contributions of member States to ECA-sponsored institutions

The Conference of Ministers invites all member States to pay particular attention and support to the ECA-sponsored institutions with a view to promoting their activities and enabling them to generate the necessary resources for their operations.

703 (XXV). Menace of the new world screwworm fly

The Conference of Ministers urges and called upon all donor countries, United Nations agencies and all other relevant bodies to come promptly forward to enable the launching of a massive operation from within the Great Libyan Arab Jamahiriya to eradicate this potentially dangerous pest.

704 (XXV). Emergency assistance to Namibia

The Conference of Ministers appealed to the United Nations system, international organizations and multilateral organizations to contribute resources that would enable the Economic Commission for Africa to implement an emergency programme of assistance in Namibia.

CHAPTER II

WORK OF THE COMMISSION DURING THE PERIOD 11 APRIL 1989 TO 19 MAY 1990

A. Activities of subsidiary organs

4. The list of meetings of subsidiary organs held during the period under review is contained in annex II to this report.

B. Other activities

5. Described below are the activities carried out under the Commission's approved programme of work and priorities or pursuant to the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council and the Conference of Ministers.

Food and agriculture

Agricultural development policy, planning and programming

6. As part of the secretariat's continued effort to improve national competence in agricultural planning and policy formulation, a seminar was organized for the following countries covered by the Yaoundé-based MULPOC: Cameroon, the Central African Republic, Chad, the Congo, Equatorial Guinea, Gabon and Sao Tome and Principe. The specific objective of the seminar was to enhance the countries' capacities in implementing, monitoring and evaluating agricultural investment programmes and projects. In addition, studies were undertaken in selected Central, Eastern and Southern African countries with a view to identifying viable inter-country programmes and projects as well as training requirements in agricultural planning and policy-making. The outcome of the seminar and studies was discussed in four reports, three of which were submitted to the Follow-up Committee meetings of the Gisenyi- and Lusaka-based MULPOCs.

7. The reports addressed a number of problems significant among which were the lack of competence in project identification and formulation, absence of well-defined parameters for project monitoring and evaluation, existence of periodic conflicts between expatriate project personnel and national counterpart staff, dispersion of project activities and inordinate delay in project implementation due, partly, to bureaucratic impediments. Other problems also raised included difficulties inherent in the formulation and implementation of subregional and regional projects, shortage of resources, growing project staff turnover, decline in national educational standards, reluctance of most donors to finance long-term development projects, rising costs of overseas training courses and inadequacy of national educational policies.

8. The activities were not confined to the identification of problems alone. They also included remedial actions aimed at the introduction of incentive-oriented managerial systems, strengthening of inter-country co-operation, implementation of educational reform measures, co-ordination of activities performed by the private schools and public sector educational establishments and restructuring or relocation of such establishments on the basis of equitable geographical distribution.

9. The secretariat has continued its efforts to assist member States to improve their agricultural planning and policy-making. Studies were prepared on structural adjustment policies and their impact on agricultural development in the region. Work is under way to produce guidelines for strengthening policy measures aimed at the effective mobilization and utilization of resources for programme/project implementation.

10. In an effort to monitor and evaluate the implementation of the UN-PAAERD in the agriculture sector, three field missions were undertaken to the subregions of the Lusaka, Niamey and Tangier MULPOCs with a view to assessing activities carried out to implement the Programme and the constraints encountered in that respect. The missions' findings, which were highlighted in three separate reports submitted to the meetings of the three

MULPOCs, were unanimous on the fact that the countries of the subregions made efforts to implement the Programme, particularly in such areas as locust, drought and desertification control, improvement of national early warning systems, mobilization and distribution of emergency food supplies and expansion of food and agricultural production.

11. Other areas in which the countries performed creditably were forest development, conservation and exploitation, fish resource utilization and assessment, irrigation development, policy reforms, resource mobilization, resettlement and rehabilitation of refugees, displaced persons and victims of natural calamities, promotion of inter-State co-operation in agricultural development and improvement of such relevant support services as research, extension work, marketing, training, credit and mechanization.

12. However, the missions found inadequate certain country activities stressed in the Programme. These included the attainment of food self-sufficiency, co-ordination of aid from donors, settlement of political conflicts, accelerated implementation of reform measures, planning for and prevention of emergency situations, internal and external resource mobilization and allocation, development of early warning systems particularly at subregional and regional levels and management of public sector institutions. Distribution of relief supplies, marketing of agricultural commodities and utilization of highly skilled manpower were found to be grossly inadequate.

13. The monitoring and evaluation exercise enabled the countries to understand the objectives of the Programme and the constraints inherent in its implementation. It also enabled the United Nations agencies and donor communities to understand what the countries would require to implement the Programme successfully. In other words, it made all those concerned aware of the development goals embodied in the Programme and the difficulties experienced in its execution. Such awareness will enhance the development efforts of the countries, the United Nations agencies and the donors alike. It will enable them to readjust their programmes and strategies and take corrective measures. A similar evaluation exercise is envisaged in the immediate future for the member countries of the Gisenyi- and Yaoundé-based MULPOCs.

14. As a basis for the promotion of food security, the secretariat undertook a study on the development and improvement of agricultural data in member countries of the Niamey-based MULPOC. The study, whose findings were highlighted in a report submitted to this year's meeting of the Niamey MULPOC, emphasized the early warning system, calling for reliable data on such parameters as size of crop harvest, weather variability, soil moisture content and amount of rainfall. The study addressed, *inter alia*, the qualitative and quantitative improvement of data, efficient collection methods, storage, retrieval, regular up-dating and exchange of the data, continued use of secondary data sources, development and retention of the requisite manpower and improvement of related infrastructure and institutions.

15. One of the fundamental prerequisites for promoting food security is the setting-up of efficient early warning systems not only at the national level, but also at subregional and regional levels. Yet, this is an area in which the countries have had limited success. Since the study identifies the impediments to efficient early warning systems at all levels and formulates action-oriented recommendations, it is likely to have a major impact on the countries' capacities to promote food security. The secretariat plans to undertake a study, in the near future, on measures to improve basic statistics on socio-economic indicators of agrarian reform and rural development in the member countries of the Gisenyi and Lusaka MULPOCs. A technical publication on this will be prepared and submitted to the countries concerned.

16. In the area of forestry development, advisory services on afforestation and reforestation techniques were rendered to selected countries in the Lusaka MULPOC subregion. The main thrust of the advisory services was to improve existing techniques for expanding, conserving and exploiting forest resources, as a tool for stemming drought and desertification. In addition, a mission was fielded to selected countries in the Niamey MULPOC subregion. The objective of the mission was to evaluate the current methods used in conserving, managing and utilizing natural forest. The main focus of the evaluation was on investment projects and firewood requirements. A report summarizing the mission's findings was prepared and submitted to the policy organ of the Niamey MULPOC while another report documenting the assistance covered under the advisory services was transmitted

to the countries of the Lusaka MULPOC. The problems addressed in both cases included the selection and planting of drought-resistant plants, prevention and control of forest fires, development of alternative sources of energy, relevant skill development, efficient management of forestry development institutions and promotion of inter-country co-operation in related areas, particularly forestry research and training.

17. Drought remains a permanent threat to the region as a whole. The aim of the two publications was to assist the countries in preventing or mitigating the adverse consequences of drought and desertification through such actions as conservation, management and rational utilization of natural resources including forests. The secretariat envisages to carry out, in the immediate future, an evaluation of the natural forest conservation, management and exploitation practices in the Lusaka MULPOC subregion. A report on this will be prepared for submission to the policy organ of that MULPOC early next year.

Agricultural production, institutions and services

18. In its sustained efforts to help member States expand their food and agricultural production, the secretariat produced several documents including two technical publications on women's landholdings and rights and on supporting services related to small-scale farmers. Two reports were finalized, for submission to the policy organ of the Gisenyi MULPOC, on the utilization of non-conventional food resources and institutional improvements including agricultural support services geared to the requirements of women and pastoralists. The problems addressed in the documents embraced the role of women in agricultural production, their share of benefits as producers, the nature of their landholdings and rights, their tenure security, the type of support services extended to them such as credits and extension services, their illiteracy rate and the extent of male domination. Other issues stressed in the documents included the possibility of solving the region's food deficiency problem through the expansion and utilization of non-conventional food resources such as forest by-products. The publications also underscored the need for restructuring and improving relevant institutions.

19. There are no misgivings about the catalytic role of women in food and agricultural production. Though dominated by their male partners, they perform the bulk of the agricultural activities including marketing. In this context, publications produced by the secretariat are extremely important as they will have a significant impact on the formulation of agricultural policies, drawing-up of agricultural development plans, legislation of equitable land-use rights and practices, revamping of agricultural support institutions, minimizing of human suffering resulting from hunger and malnutrition and promoting rational utilization of natural resources.

20. Following the inter-agency consultation convened last year, the secretariat organized a regional meeting of experts on a collaborative research programme for sustained locust and grasshopper control. The importance of inter-State co-operation for the performance of the agricultural sector including the control of locusts and grasshoppers was underscored in a report for submission to the policy organ of the Tangier MULPOC within the context of the protocol of the Preferential Trade Area treaty. The secretariat also finalized a technical publication on the promotion of inter-State co-operation in the production of cereals and tubers in the Gisenyi MULPOC subregion.

21. Natural calamities, such as locust infestation and floods, continue to seriously jeopardize the attainment of food self-sufficiency in the region. Besides, the fragmentary activities carried out in the region at the national level have proved inadequate for the development of the food and agricultural sector. This is particularly true of pest invasion control, agricultural trade, training, exploitation of fish resources, drought and desertification control and conservation and utilization of such natural resources as rivers, lakes, land and forests.

22. The secretariat is planning to intensify its activities in the immediate future in the areas of subregional and regional co-operation. A technical publication will be prepared on the promotion of co-operation among member countries of the Lusaka MULPOC in the production and distribution of agricultural machinery and low-cost farm implements. The publication is expected to be completed towards the end of the year for transmission to the countries concerned.

23. The secretariat also played an active role in the harmonization of national policies, particularly in the area of livestock development. Here it provided advisory services to the Kagera Basin Organization (KBO) for the implementation of a project on trypanosomiasis control. It also prepared a report, for submission to the policy organ of the Lusaka MULPOC, on the prevention, reduction and elimination of livestock waste and losses.

24. Several other publications were prepared on the identification of constraints to policy harmonization, the basis for policy formulation types of national authorities involved and the identification of subsector policy harmonization areas. Problems of parallel importance also emphasized in the publications included the reduction of livestock losses, recycling and utilization of livestock by-products, improvement of livestock marketing, control of animal diseases, selection and breeding of drought-resistant livestock species, development of animal feed and rehabilitation of livestock processing industries.

25. The measures recommended by the documents aim at enabling the countries of the region to expand livestock production through viable strategies for policy harmonization, for the reduction of livestock losses and the control of such diseases as trypanosomiasis, onchocerciasis and rinderpest.

Agricultural marketing institutions, services and facilities

26. In this domain, the secretariat organized two seminars one of which was at the regional level and aimed at improving storage methods, with emphasis on pest control techniques. The other, meant only for the Gisenyi MULPOC subregion, was aimed at improving techniques for processing, preserving and storing food products particularly root crops. A report on this was prepared and submitted to the policy organ of the Gisenyi MULPOC. The principal problems addressed by the seminars were the design, construction, siting, management and operation of storage structures, application of pesticides, quantitative and qualitative assessment of storage losses, improvement of storage management techniques, biological control of pests and development and selection of pest-resistant crop varieties.

27. The capacity of member countries to feed their growing populations largely hinges on their ability to increase food availability by reducing crop losses through the development of appropriate marketing infrastructure and services including food processing and preservation. The seminars which as stated above were intended to bring about practical improvements in such services and facilities have had a considerable impact on the countries' self-sufficiency efforts. A report on food-loss reduction measures through insect pest management, for implementation in the near future, will be submitted to the meeting of the Lusaka MULPOC early next year.

28. The secretariat also produced a report on the contribution of the stabilization funds maintained by marketing boards for the development of rural marketing infrastructure and a technical publication on fish marketing in Central and North Africa. The report was prepared for submission to the ECA Conference of Ministers in 1990. It addressed the main problems of the countries' price stabilization policies, the role of the private sector, the management and functioning of marketing boards, their utilization of stabilization funds, types of financial incentives offered to push up agricultural production, crops favoured by the boards' price stabilization policies, magnitude of food subsidies and nature and management of marketing services including storage and processing.

29. For its part, the technical publication addressed the problems associated with the techniques and facilities used in fish harvesting, processing, preservation, pricing and transportation. It also addressed the consumers' fish demand, foreign involvement in fish marketing, investment in development of fish marketing infrastructure, assessment and reduction of fish losses, recycling and effective utilization of fish by-products and policy on the role of artisanal fishermen in marketing activities.

30. Just like livestock products and crops, fish availability is a sine qua non for the attainment of food self-sufficiency. This is especially true of maritime countries, whose populations have food habits based principally on fish products. The objective of the technical publication was precisely to help the countries remove the

barriers to increased fish production and contribute to their efforts towards achieving food self-sufficiency. Hence, its impact is reckoned to be extremely beneficial.

Integrated rural development

31. Activities undertaken by the secretariat in the field of integrated rural development were mostly linked to the objectives of the World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development (WCARRD). They focused mainly on diagnosing policy issues for rural development as well as on collecting and disseminating information on integrated rural development.

32. In order to sensitize member States to crucial problems relating to integrated rural development, the secretariat prepared two issues of the journal Rural Progress. Among the critical matters evoked in the publications were the need for participation in the planning and execution of rural development projects at the grass-roots level, adoption of measures to improve sanitary conditions, progressive reduction of illiteracy rates, development of rural infrastructure including schools and hospitals, increasing the availability of water resources and improving rural income. In addition, various articles having a bearing on rural development were extracted from relevant publications such as AAF-SAP and included in the journal for the information of member countries.

33. Currently, from 80 to 90 per cent of Africa's population subsists in rural areas, with most of this depending, for survival, on agriculture. Even though food and agricultural production in rural Africa is largely for subsistence, it is also a major source of domestic and export revenue for most countries. As a result, the dissemination of information on various issues relating to integrated rural development, through the journals, could have a far-reaching impact on food and agricultural production in the region. Several documents on related matters are in the pipeline. Of these, a manual on topologies and activities of rural organizations in agriculture and rural development in selected African countries is to be produced in the immediate future.

Exploitation of fish resources

34. Conscious of the immense contribution that fish resources could make to the region's food self-sufficiency, the secretariat also carried out activities in this area. It prepared a report, for submission to the ECA Conference of Ministers in 1990, on multinational co-operation in coastal, marine and inland fisheries. It also completed a technical publication on co-operation in the development of coastal and marine fish resources for insular member States and organized a seminar on living resources of the sea for the countries of the Yaoundé MULPOC.

35. The problems addressed in the documents included some of the issues raised above in relation to the marketing of fish products. Other problems discussed, mainly in connection with production, were the evaluation and development of inland fisheries, improvement of port facilities and provision to small-scale producers of such facilities as fishing rods, nets and equipped boats. Also emphasized were the selection and multiplication of fish species, improvement of extension services, identification of areas for multinational co-operation, analysis and co-ordination of activities performed by concerned intergovernmental organizations, mobilization of investment funds for expanded fish production, joint ventures in the exploitation of fish, acquisition of modern vessels for deep-sea fishing, development of aquaculture and improvement of related skills and institutions.

36. Since the region's ability to satisfy its food requirements is contingent upon its capacity to exploit its fish resources, many of the problems addressed and measures proposed in the documents therefore crucially redound to the region's efforts to expand fish catches. Consequently, the publications are expected to have a substantial impact on the region's food and agricultural development strategies. The secretariat thus envisages to carry out similar activities in the near future. One such activity is the preparation of a technical publication on measures for strengthening inter-State co-operation for optimizing marine fish resource exploitation and management in the region.

Regular programme of technical co-operation

37. Further to the activities referred to under the foregoing five sectors, the secretariat offered useful advisory services and participated in relevant meetings or conferences.

38. Advisory services were provided to Djibouti, Guinea, Burundi, Rwanda, Zaire and the Congo in such areas as improvement of agricultural research, preparation of agricultural development planning strategies and creation of research networks for regional farming systems. Advisory services will be rendered to the countries of the Lusaka and Niamey MULPOC on the formulation of regional research programmes as a basis for resolving common agricultural problems and for utilizing better results emanating from international agricultural research centres. Advisory services will also be offered to the countries of the Tangier and Yaoundé MULPOCs on subregional co-operation in the creation of a regional food security network. Advisory services were offered to the countries in response to their expressed or felt needs in the sector's development. Their content mainly reflected some aspects of the sector in which the secretariat made a substantial contribution as explained above. As such, they reinforced the measures taken by the countries under the various subprogrammes. Issues such as those pertaining to agricultural research, food security, and development planning were and still are crucial problem areas. Since the advisory services helped to propose measures to tackle these, they should have an impact on the countries' agricultural development.

39. The meetings, conferences and symposia it participated in had a double advantage as such fora served as a two-way traffic through which the secretariat communicated information on its activities to the countries and collected similar information on the latter's activities. Obviously, this type of information exchange could also have a positive impact on agricultural development as it helps to increase awareness on current development issues, thereby eliminating needless duplication of efforts.

40. Among the meetings and conferences were the West African Farming Systems Research Network Symposium on the Development of Improved Technologies for Different Agro-ecological zones in the subregion; the African Leadership Forum Conference on the Challenges of Agricultural Production and Food Security in Africa; and the ADB/AFAA Workshop on Agricultural Research and Development in Africa.

Marine affairs

41. In March 1989, the secretariat undertook a technical assistance mission to Uganda and Zaire within the framework of fishery development in their shared lakes. This mission fell within a co-operation agreement signed between the two countries as a result of the peculiarities of shared resources management. A set of projects was presented and discussed at a conference of funding agencies (EEC, UNDP, DANIDA, ADB, FAC). The mission was followed by a seminar on the management of the African rift basin shared lakes which was organized jointly with FAO in May 1990 within the framework of the Lusaka-based MULPOC.

42. The secretariat also covered the fishery and aquaculture aspects of a multidisciplinary mission undertaken by UNDP in May-June 1989 to identify subregional co-operation projects for the Nile Valley countries. The mission had to define guidelines and the modalities of co-operation as well as identify, for each country, national interests expected from the joint management of the fishery and aquaculture sector and activities, plans and programmes and subregional co-operation programmes for the development of the sector.

43. At the request of the Lake Chad Basin Commission (LCBC), the ECA undertook in August 1987, in conjunction with the FAO a technical and economic assistance mission in order to rehabilitate the LCBC fishery programme. In order to implement a seminar on fishery planning, as recommended by the mission, the secretariat conducted a survey in August 1989 on fish marketing and processing in the subregion, in co-operation with the FAO in preparation for the seminar.

44. The seminar on fishery planning in the conventional Lake Chad basin took place in N'Djamena in January 1990 under the auspices of LCBC with assistance from the secretariat and FAO. The seminar led to a complete

redefinition of the LCBC fishery programme and the formulation of development projects for submission to funding agencies.

45. During the period the secretariat participated in the United Nations Special Conference on the Law of the Sea and in March 1989, in the Ministerial Conference on Fishery Co-operation amongst African Atlantic Ocean Coastal Countries and presented a report to the former on ECA programme of activities and co-operation between ECA and other United Nations agencies in the area of fishery and aquaculture and on project on the establishment of a fishery data bank in the subregion to the follow-up committee of the latter. The conference, in particular, made it possible to complete and harmonize activities undertaken by various United Nations agencies in the area of the law of the sea and marine affairs.

46. The secretariat is currently planning a seminar on marine living resources in Africa to take place in Moscow in July 1990. The seminar will bring together 21 African countries and about 10 non-African countries involved in the exploitation of marine living resources in Africa, and will focus on problems related to the sometimes conflicting coexistence of small-scale and industrial fishing in Africa.

47. The secretariat, in close collaboration with FAO, undertook a study in October 1989 on the development of multinational co-operation in the area of fishery and aquaculture within the North African MULPOC. The study will be presented to a regional seminar at the end of 1990 in order to secure the preparation of project index cards.

Development issues and policies

48. Under the socio-economic analysis and projections subprogramme, the following documents were prepared:

(a) Survey of Economic and Social Conditions in Africa (E/ECA/CM.15/3/Rev.1). The survey is an annual technical document produced to review the main trends in the African region, take stock of the socio-economic events and analyze the main issues in Africa's economic performance and development at the regional, subregional and sectoral levels as well as highlight the associated policy concerns;

(b) Economic Report on Africa, 1990 (E/ECA/CM.16/3). This document, published annually, provides a short and pointed analysis of the major socio-economic trends in the African region and focuses on key issues on Africa's development such as resources and physical constraints, external debt, policy stances and social concerns.

49. The secretariat provided technical assistance to member States in plan preparation, evaluation and appraisal with the aim of assisting them to develop and improve their own national mechanisms for reviewing and appraising development policies and programmes and designing techniques for sectoral planning. It also assisted in developing short-term forecasting systems for African countries with the view of enabling them to monitor short-term developments and assess their policy implications.

50. Studies were also prepared on the progress made in the implementation of regional development strategies, in particular, the Lagos Plan of Action (LPA), the Final Act of Lagos (FAL), Africa's Priority Programme for Economic Recovery (APPER), the United Nations Programme of Action for Africa's Economic Recovery and Development (UN-PAAERD), and the African Alternative Framework to Structural Adjustment Programmes for Socio-economic Recovery and Transformation (AAF-SAP).

51. In response to General Assembly resolution 43/182, the secretariat prepared the African contribution to the preparation of the International Development Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade.

52. In an effort to operationalize AAF-SAP, a number of studies were undertaken in the areas of exchange rates, production subsidies and interest rates as policy instruments for adjustment with transformation. In

addition to this, a survey was made on the modelling of the Framework, with emphasis on proposed basic models that would allow for the final elaboration of a macro-economic model of AAF-SAP.

53. In the field of economic co-operation and integration, studies were prepared on the conceptual and practical methodologies and approaches for the harmonization and co-ordination of national development plans at the subregional level and on the structure of African markets and the creation of customs unions.

54. Under the subprogramme on least developed countries, the following three documents were prepared:

(a) Review of economic and social conditions in African least developed countries (1980-1989) and the prospects for 1990 and 1991 (E/ECA/LDCs.10/EXP.9/2), which considers the macro and sectoral growth trends and overall socio-economic performance in the 28 African LDCs, with emphasis on such key sectors as food, agriculture and manufacturing. The study highlights the debt problem of the African LDCs vis-a-vis other developing African countries and resource flows and its impact on growth in the 1980s;

(b) A review of the implementation of the Substantial New Programme of Action (SNPA) for the 1980s for the LDCs: A review of the decade in Africa and policy issues for the 1990s (E/ECA/LDCs.10/EXP.9/3) which evaluates national actions taken by the African LDC, international support measures in terms of volume of ODA transfer, aid modalities and debt relief, and proposes a framework of policy measures for consideration by the Conference of Ministers of African LDCs aimed at defining activities appropriate to national, social and economic objectives for the 1990s, prior to negotiation at the second United Nations Conference on Least Developed Countries in September 1990;

(c) Preliminary evaluation of some aspects of the employment problems and policies in African LDCs which provides an overview of the employment situation in African LDCs including the constraints accentuating the problem in the manufacturing and agricultural sectors. The paper argues that given the rapid population growth and the inadequate labour absorption capacity of industry, agriculture must be organized not only to produce marketable supplies but also to provide much more productive employment than it does at present. The paper also calls for a radical removal of existing institutional constraints in order to make small farming a vehicle for increasing production, generating employment and distributing income. Providing more investment, new technology and new services alone is inadequate for alleviating mass poverty unless there are instruments for influencing their ultimate distribution within the rural economy.

55. The secretariat serviced and prepared the reports of the ninth meeting of the Intergovernmental Committee of Experts of African Least Developed Countries and the tenth meeting of the Conference of Ministers of African Least Developed Countries, held in Tripoli, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, from 3 to 5 and on 14 and 15 May 1990, respectively.

56. A paper on the African position was prepared for presentation to the high level preparatory meeting for the second United Nations Conference on LDCs and for consideration by the Intergovernmental Committee of Experts of African LDCs and the Conference of Ministers of African LDCS. The secretariat participated in a second Round-table Follow-up Meeting on Agriculture and Rural Development, held in Maseru, Lesotho on 6 and 7 September 1989, and also took part in an international workshop on least developed countries, organized in Austria by the Vienna Institute for Development and Co-operation on 30 and 31 October 1989.

57. Missions were also fielded to Djibouti and Uganda to assist in the preparation of country presentations to the second United Nations Conference on LDCs to be held in September 1990.

Policies, institutions and technical assistance for economic co-operation

58. The promotion and strengthening of subregional economic co-operation and integration constitute the thrust of the MULPOCs' activities. The meetings of the follow-up committees of the five MULPOCs were organized and serviced. The meetings reviewed progress made in the implementation of work programmes. A number of consultative meetings of potential promoters of multinational ventures were also held with the aim

of reviewing the possibility of creating multinational ventures based on existing resources and subregional complementarities.

59. Also at MULPOC level, studies were undertaken on the linking of national transport networks with subregional transport programmes the objective of which is to open up each country of the subregion in order to facilitate the movement of people, goods and services within each subregion. Other studies at that level were on migratory labour in Southern Africa, viability of the irrigation schemes of the Niger and Mano River valleys in West Africa, lake transport for the CEPGL subregion and non-recorded border trade for the Yaoundé MULPOC subregion.

60. The ninth meeting of Chief Executives of ECA-sponsored Subregional and Regional Institutions was held from 11 to 13 April 1989. The meeting discussed, among other things, the collective approach to the mobilization of financial resources and the harmonization of conditions of service.

61. The fourth meeting of ECA, UNDP, African intergovernmental organizations and United Nations specialized agencies also held during the period focused on the progress made in the implementation of multinational assistance projects of African economic groupings, river and lake basins, and on the setting-up of a consultative mechanism of financial institutions to mobilize resources for subregional and regional projects.

62. A series of high-level seminars on economic integration were organized in Addis Ababa, in Dakar, Senegal and in Lagos, Nigeria to reactivate the economic integration process in West Africa.

63. A technical review of the implementation of TCDC/ECDC projects was prepared. The review identified a number of obstacles to interregional TCDC/ECDC endeavours. It also made proposals aimed at reactivating TCDC/ECDC activities on the basis of concrete promotional studies to be prepared under the multisectoral projects financed by UNDP and within the framework of the South-South partnership.

Human resources planning, development and utilization

64. During the period under review, activities in human resource planning, development and utilization were focused on education and training for development and on manpower and employment planning and policies.

65. In the area of education and training for development, a national seminar for non-formal education and extension, personnel, methods, techniques and strategies for improving non-formal education delivery capabilities in rural areas was held at the University of Ibadan, Nigeria from 1 to 7 October 1989 and was attended by 156 participants from all states in the country. The seminar reviewed and identified common problems faced by government ministries responsible for education, community development, local government and non-governmental organizations in evolving adequate strategies for national mass education with a view to finding lasting solutions to illiteracy, ignorance, poverty and superstition. It consolidated an African approach to the global problem of illiteracy and came up with an action plan for launching the International Literacy Year in Nigeria.

66. Four technical publications were produced during the period. The first, produced in December 1989, was on trends and issues in African education with focus on educational developments, structural changes and reforms and curriculum development in the following 16 African countries; Kenya, Liberia, Mauritius, the United Republic of Tanzania, Ethiopia, Lesotho, Botswana, the Gambia, Ghana, Somalia, Uganda, Rwanda, Swaziland, Malawi, Zambia and Zimbabwe. The studies revealed a number of common problems faced by these countries in implementing educational reforms and the various approaches adopted by governments to solve them. A second publication, also in December 1989, was on non-formal education and development with focus on the basic issues of non-formal education and the problems of rural poverty, and how approaches to non-formal education might help solve some of these problems.

67. Also produced in December 1989 was the third technical publication on training strategies and methodologies for management trainers. The publication emphasized the training function in an organization,

the identification of training needs, formulation of training policies, training administration, major approaches to management training and the methods, techniques and strategies commonly used for training personnel. The last of the publications, produced in April 1990, was on improving the quality of teaching and learning in institutions of higher learning in Africa. It dealt mainly with the general problems of teaching and research in higher institutions, dimensions of the lecturers' work, required competencies of every lecturer, improvement strategies and effective teaching and research methods aimed at quality output.

68. In the area of strengthening regional co-operation in human resource development, an advisory service mission was undertaken, in October/November 1989, on the development of programmes and operational aspects of the African Institute for Higher Technical Training and Research, based in Nairobi, Kenya. The three-man mission visited the following six countries: Egypt, Ghana, Nigeria, Senegal, Zaire and Zambia where they had discussions with government officials responsible for higher and technical education in those countries. The primary objective of the mission was to identify the impediments to the payment of assessed contributions, to membership growth of the Institute and to its academic development. The findings of the mission were presented to the Governing Council of the Institute for necessary action.

69. With regard to grant and fellowship administration, a publication, Training Information Notice, was issued in December 1989 with details on the nature and type of training courses available during the period.

70. As for manpower and employment planning and policies, two subregional training workshops on institutional requirements for human resources planning and programming were held for the East and Southern and West African subregions. The East and Southern African subregion workshop, which was held in Moscow, USSR from 9 to 19 October 1989, was attended by senior government officials from Botswana, Ethiopia, Kenya, Lesotho, Uganda and Zambia as well as representatives from ILO. The West African Workshop, held in Freetown, Sierra Leone from 12 to 26 March 1990, was attended by senior government officials from Burkina Faso, Benin, Chad, the Gambia, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Mali, Mauritania, the Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, Sierra Leone and Liberia. The two workshops, among other things, formulated broad guidelines and strategies for the development of national comprehensive human resource management processes. They produced reports on the status of human resource planning and programming, specifying the nature of institutional and other factors that have constrained manpower development and utilization, planning and programming in the two subregions.

71. One national workshop on strategies for employment generation and productivity enhancement was held in Swaziland in December 1989. The workshop also identified socio-economic and institutional bottlenecks to employment growth in the Swazi economy, proposed strategies for employment creation and productivity enhancement and further identified ways and means of strengthening institutional support for employment planning and the monitoring of plan implementation.

72. Two other activities that took place during the period were a seminar on the teaching of development economics in African universities, which was held at the University of Ghana, Accra, on 29 and 30 March 1990. The seminar, which was attended by scholars, professors and other academics from a number of African universities, reviewed the teaching of development economics in African universities, proposing improvements to the teaching of this subject through the production of economics textbooks that are more appropriately attuned to African realities. The second activity was the meeting of the Ministerial Follow-up Committee of Ten of the Conference of Ministers Responsible for Human Resources Planning, Development and Utilization, held in Tripoli, Libya on 11 and 12 May 1990. The meeting reviewed the status, policies and programmes of human resources planning, development and utilization in Africa.

73. In the same area of manpower and employment planning and policies, three technical publications were produced. The first was a report, to the afore-mentioned Conference of Ministers Responsible for Human Resources Planning, Development and Utilization, on human resource requirements for agricultural development in Africa. The report gave an overview of the manpower situation for the agricultural sector in Africa, its structure and pattern, the distribution of skilled agricultural manpower, estimated agricultural development manpower needs and examined common African agricultural manpower development issues.

74. The second publication, in December 1989, was a monograph on human resource development in Africa. It focused attention on reforms, adjustments and human resource development in Africa, citing the case of Zambia's adjustment and stabilization policies and their effects on human resource development. It examined Malawi's present manpower situation and future prospects for meeting the country's skilled manpower requirements.

75. The last of the technical publications, a handbook for manpower planners in Africa, dealt extensively with human resources and the dynamics of socio-economic transformation and development in Africa, macro-economic foundation to manpower planning, quantitative aspects of manpower planning, manpower planning approaches and techniques and human resource management, planning and programming. It treated in detail some basic policy and institutional issues and ended with an examination of institutional requirements for comprehensive human resource planning and programming.

Pan-African Documentation and Information System (PADIS)

76. The Pan-African Documentation and Information System (PADIS) was established to assist member States in developing information support for development planning. In the African region, researchers, planners and decision-makers often lack ready access to the information they need for development planning as a result of shortage of trained personnel in information management, outdated methods of information processing and dissemination and lack of norms and standards for harmonization of development documentation and information.

77. In order to help overcome these obstacles, PADIS mounted a series of activities during the period which included the delivery of training, advisory services and other forms of technical co-operation for ECA member States on information management and development. It undertook data base development and network building, provided user services and serviced legislative and other meetings including expert groups, undertook studies and issued publications, all of which aimed at information development in the region. Details on each of these areas follow.

Training activities

78. Training activities during the period included the holding of national level training courses for staff of PADIS national participating centres, subregional training courses in computerized documentation techniques, training courses in management of documentation and information centres, and internships.

79. In order to improve the ability of national centres (which reached 33 during the period) to participate in the PADIS network, PADIS held national level training courses in PADIS methodologies for a number of the centres during the period. Training curriculum included utilization of computer programmes for bibliographic data base management as well as other aspects of PADIS tools and methodologies for bibliographic work. Three national level courses in PADIS methodologies were organized during the period:

(a) For participants from Botswana, held at the Library School of the University of Botswana from 20 to 24 June 1989;

(b) For participants from Zambia, held in Lusaka from 22 July to 6 August 1989; and

(c) For participants from Ghana, held in Accra, from 17 to 27 April 1990.

80. Following introductory training in PADIS methodologies, specialized courses were devised and delivered for national participating centres, at their request. These courses included training in the publication of national DEVINDEXes, in the utilization of PADIS data bases and in CDS-ISIS software for bibliographic data base management. During the period, the following training in this category took place:

(a) Training staff in Swaziland in the utilization of CDS-ISIS from 25 to 28 July 1989;

(b) Training for staff of the the Sudan and Egypt national participating centres in CDS-ISIS, held in Khartoum, from 26 March to 4 April 1990; and

(c) Training in CDS-ISIS for participants from Botswana, held in Addis Ababa, from 24 April to 5 May 1989.

81. PADIS also organized subregional training courses in techniques for computerized management of both bibliographic and numerical data. These included:

(a) For staff of CEPGL in CDS-ISIS and other computer software, from 21 August to 3 September 1989;

(b) For heads of documentation and information centres in the West African Development information System, in Niamey from 18 to 22 September 1989;

(c) For agricultural documentalists from English-speaking CIRDAFRICA member States, in collaboration with CIRDAFRICA, in Nairobi from 23 to 28 October 1989;

(d) For agricultural documentalists from French-speaking CIRDAFRICA member States, in collaboration with CIRDAFRICA, in Brazzaville from 6 to 11 November 1989;

(e) For documentalists from the Kagera Basin Organization member States (Burundi, Rwanda, the United Republic of Tanzania and Uganda), in Kigali from 14 to 23 May 1990.

82. The area of management of documentation of information and documentation centres is relatively new in Africa. PADIS' training for member States on this subject included national and regional seminars as well as a regional study tour outside the region. Specific seminars in this area were:

(a) Study tour to the Soviet Union on the management of scientific, technological and socio-economic information systems and networks, in Moscow and in Leningrad from 15 to 27 October 1989;

(b) Regional seminar on the management of national and institutional documentation centres and services in Africa, in Nairobi from 11 to 15 December 1989.

83. During the period fellowships were awarded to interns from the Intergovernmental Authority on Drought and Desertification (IGADD) and the Kagera Basin Organization (KBO). In addition, documentalists and heads of national, subregional and institutional participating centres as well as African library/information science schools received fellowships to participate in a special course on PADIS as a medium for information standardization and harmonization in Africa, held in Addis Ababa from 26 March to 4 April 1990.

84. At the request of member States, institutional participating centres including ECA-sponsored institutions, and non-governmental organizations, PADIS delivered advisory services on a wide range of topics relating to development information management. During the period these included advisory services to Algeria (May 1989), Zambia (5 to 12 June and 22 July to 6 August 1989), Rwanda (June 1989), Swaziland (21 to 30 November 1989), Ghana (20 to 29 January 1990) and Uganda (13 to 17 November 1989, 1 to 9 March and 7 to 11 May 1990).

85. Technical support services were provided to:

(a) The African Centre for Applied Research and Training in Social Development (ACARTSOD), in Tripoli from 25 to 30 April 1989, on the development of African social development data base;

(b) The Environment Liaison Centre International, Nairobi, on the development of a data base on women and the environment in Africa, from 26 to 29 June 1989;

- (c) ICIPE, on the establishment of a specialized information network, PESTNET, from 27 to 29 November 1989;
- (d) Kagera Basin Organization, on the installation of computer equipment and on the organization of its publications service, from 9 January to 3 February 1990;
- (e) African Association of Science Editors, on its participation as an institutional participating centre in the PADIS network, at its regional conference held in Ibadan, Nigeria from 1 to 5 March 1990;
- (f) IDEP, on the organization of its documentation collection and service, from 30 April to 5 May 1990.

86. Data base development expanded on several fronts. PAD-DEV, the PADIS bibliographic data base on economic and social, scientific and technological aspects of African development literature to which national participating centres contribute, grew by nearly 10,000 entries. Of these, about 8,600 records were contributed by national centres. The receipt of inputs to PADIS-COMP, the PADIS complementary files series (data bases acquired from United Nations organizations and other international bodies) increased. Four new data bases, ILCADOC, from the International Livestock Centre for Africa; DUNDIS, the data base of development projects of the United Nations and its agencies, from the Advisory Council on the Co-ordination of Information Systems (ACCIS); SESAME, reference data base on agricultural research and rural development, from the Ministry of Research and Technology (France) and that of the IDRC Energy Research Group, were acquired containing approximately 70,000 references.

87. The data base on African experts grew by approximately 1,500 entries during the reporting period. Contents of the data base were used for search services and for the preparation of the updated editions of the Directory of African Experts.

88. Two new data bases were opened: one on ongoing research projects in East and Southern African countries (RESPRO) and the other on African development institutions.

89. Major developments in respect of the statistical data bank (PADIS-STAT) included: increase in the number of years covered by the data base from 21 to 26 years; possibilities of the transportability of the data bank from the Hewlett Packard computer and its operating system to IBM-compatible micro-computers and utilization of Dbase data base management systems; and the preparation of guidelines for data base administrators and end users. Missions for installation and training in use of the data base were also undertaken to several countries of the region, as enumerated above.

90. PADIS' network consists of its national, subregional and institutional participating centres. Advances were made during the period in the establishment and strengthening of each of these areas.

91. During the period, the number of national participating centres increased from 25 to 33, an increase of 32 per cent in a single year. The countries which joined the network during the period were: Egypt, Ghana, Sierra Leone, Lesotho, Kenya, the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Tunisia and Zimbabwe. Many of these centres received advisory services from PADIS and started to contribute inputs to PADIS data bases.

92. Regarding the establishment of subregional centres, Zaire signed the host country agreement for the establishment of the Central African Development Information System (CADIS) in February 1990. Equipment was installed and staff trained at the offices of the Niamey-based MULPOC, which is to house the WADIS; heads of documentation systems from the subregion were trained in computerized documentation techniques; and the documentalist who was engaged to operate WADIS was given training in computerized documentation techniques at PADIS. Joint activities were undertaken with the Arab League Documentation Centre to promote the North African Development Information System (NADIS).

93. A data base on telecommunications networks and information systems in the region was designed, at the request of the Standing Committee on the Harmonization and Standardization of Documentation and Information

Systems at ECA-sponsored Institutions (SCOHSIS), which was established by the 1986 meeting of Chief Executives of ECA-sponsored Institutions. A draft agreement was developed for institutional participating centres to join the PADIS network; some 43 institutions have now signed it to indicate their desire to participate in the PADIS network.

94. PADIS continued to deliver services to users in the form of (a) published indexes to development literature; (b) SDI bulletins; (c) customized question/answer service; and (d) documents/microfiche delivery.

95. Growth was achieved in the number of individual and institutional subscribers to the SDI service, with the number now standing at 173 as opposed to 134 at the beginning of the period. The number of requests for the customized question/answer service increased from 43 in the previous period to 125 in the present period. Requests for information on African development experts, institutions and projects were negligible prior to 1989. However, 89 requests for such information were filled during 1989-1990. Nearly 950 documents, in hardcopy and microfiche formats, were delivered to individuals and institutions during the period. National and institutional participating centres also received magnetic tapes and diskettes containing references to development information from PADIS and PADIS-COMP bibliographic, referral and statistical data bases.

96. Online user service facilities were made available to the OAU Secretariat as well as to the UNDP and ILO offices in Addis Ababa. Plans are underway to extend these services to Addis Ababa University and the International Livestock Centre for Africa, as well as to a number of national, subregional and institutional participating centres (under a grant from the International Development Research Centre for a project on computer networking in Africa) by mid-1990.

97. PADIS serviced the Information Science Committee of the sixth session of the Joint Conference of African Planners, Statisticians and Demographers held in Addis Ababa in January 1990 and the meeting of the North African Follow-up Committee of Officials held in Tripoli on 14 and 15 May 1990. Technical reports were prepared for and considered by these meetings.

98. PADIS organized an expert group meeting on the establishment of a data bank on women and development in Addis Ababa from 15 to 19 May 1989. Technical as well as background papers and reports were prepared and presented to that meeting.

99. In order to keep abreast of developments in information development in the region, PADIS undertook a number of studies during the period. These included:

(a) Study on the utilization of microcomputers by documentation and information centres in Africa (January 1990); and

(b) Study of women and development information needs and resources in Botswana, Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, Egypt and Senegal;

Studies are currently underway on (a) development information user needs in francophone countries of Africa and (b) marketing of information products in Africa.

100. During the period PADIS published four issues in English, French and Arabic, of its quarterly newsletter. The manual for PADIS participating centres and three current awareness bulletins of DEVINDEX were also published. A diskette utilizing computer graphics to explain PADIS operations was produced and distributed to the PADIS network.

101. The activities of PADIS contributed to a measurable increase in the number of personnel trained in up-to-date techniques of information management, in the number of institutions involved in a network for development information exchange and in the acceptance of norms and standards for the harmonization of development documentation and information in the African region.

102. In June 1990, PADIS will begin implementing a computer networking project, which will test, on a pilot basis, many newly developed forms of information technology which have not been introduced hitherto or only on a limited basis in Africa (these include CD-ROM, optical erasable disks, use of modems, scanners and facsimile transmission) for improved development information exchange.

103. Despite the achievements so far made, PADIS faces a number of problems in the immediate future regarding its continuation. Its staff are all paid from extrabudgetary funds presently available only until the end of 1990. In order for PADIS to continue in 1991 and beyond, either the present donors will have to continue their financial assistance, or other donors will have to be found or support will need to be secured from the regular budget of the United Nations.

Environment

104. During the period under review, the environment in Africa programme of ECA was focused on development of environmental capabilities including conservation of resources and pollution control. Within this context, member States were assisted in establishing institutional mechanisms to monitor environmental degradation resulting from development activities.

105. Three areas of programme activity were emphasized, namely:

- (a) Technical co-operation for developing national environmental capabilities;
- (b) Co-ordination of environmental activities within the Commission, with UNEP and with other international organizations working on environmental problems in Africa; and
- (c) Environmental assessment and management relating to the impacts of development on natural resource utilization, including pollution control and waste disposal.

106. The focus of activities under the programme element entitled Technical co-operation for developing national environmental capabilities was on combating drought and desertification control within the context of APPER and the UN-PAAERD.

107. An important achievement under this programme element was the mobilization of resources for making the African Centre of Meteorological Applications for Development (ACMAD) located in Niamey, Niger, operational. This was a joint activity between ECA and WMO with the collaboration of other concerned agencies of the United Nations system in which the donor community had shown considerable interest. A donors meeting was held in Geneva on 28 September 1989 at which many donors and bilateral agencies made concrete pledges of financial and technical support.

108. Under co-ordination of environmental activities with UNEP and other international organizations working on environmental problems in Africa, activities were carried out to ensure that environmental considerations were taken into account in all the programmes of the Commission. ECA also contributed to proper co-ordination of the activities of all the agencies of the United Nations system as regards environmental matters, in order to avoid duplication of programmes and projects. This included participation in activities co-ordinated by UNEP, particularly those of the Designated Officials on Environmental Matters (DOEM), which assure effective cross-programming between the concerned agencies of the United Nations system with those of UNEP.

109. The last meeting was held in Geneva from 25 February to 1 March 1990. Important among the items discussed was the preparation for the 1992 United Nations Conference on Environment and Development to be held in Brazil in June 1992.

110. Regarding environmental assessment and management relating to the impacts of development on natural resource utilization, including pollution control and waste disposal, studies and technical publications were prepared on the different aspects of environmental assessment; these were made available to member States,

either directly or through the Joint Intergovernmental Regional Committee on Human Settlements and Environment and the ECA Conference of Ministers.

111. Since the dumping of hazardous and toxic wastes in Africa by countries and private business institutions in the developing world was also a major concern, a study was carried out by ECA on industrial pollution in the region within the context of the Industrial Development Decade for Africa (IDDA) and a publication was made on the subject. ECA also collaborated with the OAU to prepare the first draft of an African convention on the transboundary movement of hazardous and toxic wastes within the context of the Basel Convention on the Transboundary Movement of Hazardous and Toxic Wastes.

112. The major problem that the secretariat had in implementing this programme element was the scarcity of relevant data on individual member States due to low or non-response to correspondence sent out requesting information. An equally serious problem was that, even when specific missions were sent out, it was difficult to collect the right type of information because such information was scattered in several government ministries and departments. This underscores the need for governments to designate focal points for environmental matters.

Human settlements

113. Despite budgetary constraints during this period, all activities were implemented as planned and efforts were made to mobilize extrabudgetary resources for the execution of the building materials development project in Africa. Pursuant to decisions taken by the fifth meeting of the Joint Intergovernmental Regional Committee on Human Settlements and Environment, endorsed by the Commission, the human settlements programme focused on two main activities, namely policy formulation and building materials development. Activities carried out during the period are described below.

Policy formulation

114. The following four activities were undertaken during this period:

(a) A technical publication on principles applicable to the establishment by governments of networks of training institutions being used in the areas of human establishments;

(b) An expert group meeting on planning methodologies and techniques in human establishments in the rural areas;

(c) A technical publication on the organizational needs of the building sector concerning the supply of production and support services in the rural areas;

(d) Data collection for the preparation of a technical publication on principles applicable to the formulation of national integrated policies and programmes that are likely to facilitate the implementation of the world shelter strategy up to the year 2000.

115. Technical studies and publications mentioned above contain recommendations at both the national and regional levels on the methodological applications and management practices which seek to attain the objectives set by the human settlements programme at the level of member States.

116. The expert group meeting, among other things, facilitated the exchange of experiences among participants.

Building materials development

117. Two major activities were carried out during this period within the efforts made by the secretariat towards the development of building materials in Africa. These activities are:

(a) A technical publication on the African regional programme relating to research and development applied in the area of building materials; and

(b) Preparation of project documents in order to mobilize extrabudgetary resources for the establishment of pilot production units for stabilized soils blocks in Senegal, fibrocement tiles in Guinea and Cameroon and hot-blast stove in Uganda.

Industrial development

Policy development, planning and institution building

118. In the field of industrial policy and planning, the activities of the secretariat included the preparation of technical publications, as well as the preparation and servicing of the Intergovernmental Committee of Experts of the Whole on Industrialization in Africa and the ninth meeting of the Conference of African Ministers of Industry, held from 22 to 31 May 1989 in Harare, Zimbabwe.

119. Technical publications were among the documents that were considered by the Intergovernmental Committee of Experts. They have been prepared to address two basic issues presently facing African industry, namely the underutilization of installed industrial capacity and industrial protection policies. The former revealed that the main weaknesses of Africa's industries are in the areas of planning, pre-feasibility and feasibility studies, supply of equipment and other inputs, manpower and management. With respect to the publication on industrial protection policies, the focus was on providing guidelines on formulation and implementation of protection measures of African infant industries at national, subregional and regional levels.

120. Other documents included:

(a) Report to the ninth meeting of the Conference of African Ministers of Industry on progress made in the implementation of measures to promote the African Industrial Development Fund (AIDF);

(b) Report to the ninth meeting of the Conference of African Ministers of Industry on the measures to strengthen the African Regional Centre for Engineering Design and Manufacturing (ARCEDEM);

(c) Rapport sur les programmes et activités industrielles entrepris dans les pays africains dans le cadre du Programme d'action des Nations Unies pour le redressement économique et le développement de l'Afrique (PANUREDA);

(d) Report on the implementation of the UN-PAAERD with respect to food processing industries;

(e) Survey of pulp and paper industries and projects in Africa; and

(f) Prospects for the rationalization and development of pulp and paper industry in Africa.

121. These documents were among those which formed the basis for the African common position to the third General Conference of UNIDO adopted by the Conference of African Ministers of Industry. The eighth joint progress report by the secretariats of ECA, OAU and UNIDO on the implementation of the programme of the IDDA, was prepared. It consisted of part I: Actions carried out by the secretariats towards the implementation of the programme of the IDDA and part II: Impact of selected IDDA projects.

122. Two issues of the bulletin "Focus on African Industry" were published in July and December 1989 respectively. The first dealt with adjusting industrial policies with long-term industrialization strategies. The second focused on adjusting industrial policies towards development, as well as on preparations towards the proclamation of the second IDDA. The publications highlighted the current industrialization problems and the need for new approaches for industrial development in Africa.

123. Activities in the field of general institution building were centred on providing support services to ARCEDEM and preparing and servicing meeting on intra-African subregional industrial co-operation within the framework of the Industrial Development Decade for Africa (IDDA).

124. With regard to support services provided to ARCEDEM, the activities of the secretariat concentrated on backstopping the Centre in preparing for and conducting seminars and study tours, in training courses at the headquarters in Ibadan, Nigeria, and in procurement of hand tools, machines and equipment for its different workshops. In this connection a workshop/study tour on core metallurgical industries was organized from 8 to 21 October 1989 in Hungary for ARCEDEM trainees.

Development of basic industries

125. Chemical industry: In the chemical industries subsector, fertilizers, pesticides and pharmaceuticals continued to be given high priority in the IDDA programme. In this connection, in December 1989 a document entitled "Rapport sur la rehabilitation et l'optimisation de l'utilisation de l'unité industrielle de production de quinine de SEREDOU" was prepared at the request of the Government of Guinea.

126. Engineering industry: In the engineering industry subsector, a subregional report (in four volumes) on existing engineering industries in PTA countries was completed and distributed to Governments and IGOs. Subsequently, four model prefeasibility reports, one each on agricultural machinery, equipment and tractors, low-cost engine-driven road transport vehicles machine tools and spare parts were also completed and distributed. They were subsequently presented to the ninth meeting of the Committee on Industrial Co-operation of PTA (31 October 1989 in Lusaka, Zambia). The model prefeasibility reports are expected to provide member States with techno-economic data and information in usable forms and facilitate decision-making on follow-up activities on the industries concerned in the form of feasibility or related studies.

127. In line with the priority given to agricultural inputs by the UN-PAAERD, technical publications were prepared and workshop/study tours organized for the North African subregion. The technical publications were on the manufacture of agricultural machinery and equipment in the North African countries and on the improvement of agricultural equipment maintenance capacity.

128. The main purpose of these publications was to promote the proper utilization and local manufacture of such essential inputs with a view to increasing substantially agricultural productivity and production. The first publication was discussed in a workshop held in Tangier, Morocco (1-8 December 1989) and was followed by a study tour in Morocco of installations adapting, designing, and engaged in prototype making and testing, as well as manufacturing and maintaining agricultural tools, implements and machinery. Participants from the North African countries had the opportunity to exchange experiences and to get exposure to different designing, manufacturing and maintenance practices.

129. Metal industry: In the metal industry subsector two technical publications were prepared. One was on the rehabilitation of national, subregional or regional metal workshops for the production of spare parts. This is expected to promote better utilization and rehabilitation of existing metallurgical and engineering workshops for the production of spare parts in African member States. The other was on the present status and prospects for the production of flat steel products in Africa. These publications are intended to encourage the production of an essential range of inputs for the engineering industry.

130. In addition, a report was produced on problems and perspectives on intra-African co-operation policy in the field of metallurgy and presented at the Colloque international sur le theme: problemes et perspectives de l'industries miniere en Afrique which took place in December 1989 in Paris, France.

Development of agro- and forest-based industries

131. Self-sufficiency in food remains the region's number one priority as spelled out in APPER UN-PAAERD. In the area of agro industries promotional activities on the production and utilization of composite flours

continued. A technical publication entitled "Promotion of R and D on and production and utilization of composite flours in Africa" was produced. The document emphasizes the need for the African countries to go beyond composite flours to wheatless products and recommends political measures to achieve this goal.

132. ECA made substantive contributions to the preparation of UNIDO's "programme approach on programming selected agro-food industrial systems (AFIS) in Africa". This programme approach can be successfully used as a means of programming comprehensive technical assistance with a high potential impact on the development of agro-industries.

133. In the field of forest-based industries two studies on pulp and paper, which were based on findings of extensive travel in a number of African countries in Eastern and Southern Africa, were presented to the Inter-governmental Committee of Experts. The studies surveyed the pulp and paper industries and projects in Africa and considered prospects for the rationalization and development of the pulp and paper industry in Africa. They led to proposals on upgrading and/or expanding existing facilities and, in some cases, establishing new ones.

Development of small-scale industries

134. Emphasis on the development and promotion of small-scale industries continued. In order to assist African entrepreneurs concerned with small-scale industries to improve their capabilities, a portfolio of project profiles on small-scale industrial projects for entrepreneurs was prepared and presented to a regional seminar for entrepreneurs engaged in agro- and agro-allied small-scale industries held in Abidjan, Cote d'Ivoire from 11 to 15 December 1989. In addition a report entitled "Development des capacités entrepreneuriales pour les petites industries en Afrique" was prepared (October 1989).

135. Indo/ECA project on small-scale industries: The above projects funded by Indian Government grant to ECA and comprising workshop and study tour started in December 1989. Its objectives are to identify industrial projects that can be set up in the small-scale sector; prepare profiles for identified projects; strengthen existing institutions engaged in the promotion of small-scale industries or suggest the creation of such industries; and prepare manuals on industrial profiles and extension services. Most of the missions planned to selected African countries were undertaken. The missions conducted detailed discussions with entrepreneurs, government officials and organizations in charge of the promotion of small-scale industries. As a result of this project, it is expected that each selected country will be able to develop a long range programme for the development of small-scale industries, including related infrastructure.

136. The ninth meeting of the Conference of African Ministers of Industry, jointly organized by ECA and UNIDO in co-operation with the Government of Zimbabwe and the OAU, was held in Harare, from 29 to 31 May 1989. The main objective of the meeting was to review on the basis of the report of the preceding meeting of the Intergovernmental Committee of Experts of the Whole on Industrialization in Africa, progress made towards the industrialization of African countries, with particular emphasis on the implementation of the programme of the IDDA and the role of industry in the recovery and development of Africa.

137. The secretariats held a series of consultation meetings related to preparatory activities of the second IDDA, both in Addis Ababa and Vienna. One such meeting, held in Vienna during September 1989, agreed on the substance which would be reflected in the United Nations Secretary-General's report to General Assembly in December 1989. The secretariats co-ordinated their efforts at servicing the African Group at UNIDO III in Vienna in November 1989 and the African Group in respect of negotiations related to a resolution on the second IDDA at the General Assembly in New York during December 1989. The main results of the above meetings and activities are discussed below.

138. The Bureau of the ninth meeting of the Conference of African Ministers of Industry was convened in Vienna on 19 November 1989 by the Secretary-General of the OAU with a view to reviewing follow-up actions to the resolutions and decisions adopted in Harare and preparing the third session of the General Conference of UNIDO. The meeting which was chaired by H.E. the Minister of industry and Technology of Zimbabwe was also attended by the members of the African Group in Vienna. At this meeting, the three secretariats of ECA, of ECA,

OAU and UNIDO provided briefings on developments that have taken place since the ninth meeting of the Conference of African Ministers of Industry and on issues dealt with at the second regular session of ECOSOC inter-secretariat consultations in September 1989 on preparation of the Report of the Secretary-General related to the preparation of the second IDDA (1991-2000) facilitated discussions and decisions at the twenty-fifth session of the Assembly of Heads of Government which resulted in the adoption of resolution AHG/Res.180(XXV) on the proclamation of the second IDDA as well as discussions and decisions of the Industrial Development Board on IDDA II.

139. At the third session of the General Conference of UNIDO held from 20 to 24 November 1989 on an item related to the second IDDA, a draft resolution formulated by the African Group formed the basis for discussions. The draft resolution which was adopted by consensus as res. GC.3/10 of 23 November 1989 requested the Director-General to strengthen and rationalize, within the UNIDO secretariat, the mechanism for the co-ordination, monitoring and evaluation of the implementation of the second IDDA, with a view to readjusting the shortcomings of the past IDDA identified in the mid-term evaluation report while keeping the special identity of the programme and its unit within the Area Programmes Division.

140. The proclamation of the second IDDA, by the forty-fourth session of the United Nations General Assembly in December 1989 and the adoption of res. 44/237 with programme budget implications was of major significance to the preparatory phase of the second IDDA. Of the total \$US 1,345,800 earmarked for the preparation of the second IDDA, \$US 883,900 and \$US 461,900 will be disbursed by UNIDO and ECA respectively, thus enabling the secretariats to assist member State in their preparatory phase of the second IDDA as envisaged in the Conference of African Ministers of Industry resolution 2(IX) in May 1989.

141. The secretariats prepared a draft framework for the preparation of country and subregional programmes for the second IDDA as well as terms of reference for local and international experts who will assist member States and relevant subregional organizations in the preparation of their respective programmes. The draft framework was dispatched to member States and subregional organizations requesting them to immediately start with the preparation of the programmes. Other activities carried out include the identification and recruitment of experts and the finalization of the composition of the Working Group of Governmental Experts of the second IDDA.

International trade and development finance

142. During the period under review, the secretariat serviced, among others, the tenth meeting of the Conference of African Ministers of Trade which took place in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, from 17 to 18 November 1989. The Conference took note of a major document entitled 'The draft Addis Ababa Strategies for Revitalizing Africa's Trade Recovery and Growth in the 1990s' (E/ECA/TRADE/89/25/Rev.1). The strategies were intended to provide a framework for operationalizing the trade-related measures contained in the Lagos Plan of Action with a view to restructuring and expanding Africa's trade in the next decade. The document contains practical and imaginative policy instruments and measures for domestic, intra-African and international trade that would need to be implemented to enhance the overall performance of the trade sector in Africa.

143. Due to the importance of trade in development, the Conference decided to postpone the adoption of the document to allow for more consultation and discussion to take place at the national level. The strategies will be submitted to the next extraordinary meeting of African Ministers of Trade to be held in the near future.

Domestic trade

144. As a follow-up to the guidelines and recommendations spelled out in the Lagos Plan of Action, a technical publication was prepared on consumer goods and marketing channels to promote domestic production and trade in African countries (E/ECA/TRADE/89/30). The publication was intended to help member States, especially senior officials in ministries of trade, to identify problems and adopt policy measures to improve marketing channels for consumer goods, and optimize the role of domestic trade in the development process of their countries. A study entitled 'Alternative patterns of domestic trade structures and mechanisms for

establishment of more rational distribution channels" (E/ECA/TRADE/89/14) was presented to the Conference of African Ministers of Trade highlighting the policy options for improving domestic trade structure of the member countries. It analysed the major problems facing the African region in promoting domestic trade and recommended policy measures to be adopted by the Conference to alleviate those problems.

145. The question of women's involvement in domestic trade is of special interest to Africa due to the fact that they play a significant role in this particular field. In light of this fact and women's economic and social significance as a proportion of the economically active part of the population in Africa, a report entitled "Mechanisms of integrating women in trade and commerce" (E/ECA/TRADE/89/20) was submitted to the aforementioned Conference. The report provided a critical assessment of women's involvement and specific activities undertaken by women in trade. An attempt has also been made in the report to define measures that are required to promote their activity and enhance their role in the society.

146. In general, the subprogramme has assisted member countries to increase their awareness of the need to integrate domestic trade in the overall development policy and to promote and rationalize their domestic trade as a means of furthering economic development and maintaining a proper balance between rural and urban areas.

Intra-African trade

147. The secretariat undertook activities in order to assist member States in designing, adopting and implementing policies and measures aimed at promoting and expanding intra-African trade. These included the publication of a "Manual on standardization of intra-African trade documentation and procedures" (E/ECA/TRADE/89/38). The study aimed at guiding member States in simplifying and harmonizing their trade documentation and procedures by adopting a uniform, comprehensive and systematic tariff classification; adopt a standard system of valuation of goods; reduce to a minimum the number of institutions required to handle trade documents; harmonize the nature of the information to be contained in trade documents and design standard trade documents for customs operations relating to export, re-export and import of goods.

148. A report on "Intra-African trade: Situation, problems and prospects - A general analysis" (E/ECA/TRADE/89/15) was submitted to the Conference of African Ministers of Trade, highlighting the main features of intra-African trade with a view to identifying the major reasons why it has so far failed to respond to measures already adopted by African countries to promote its expansion.

149. The secretariat also prepared a compendium of trade legislations, rules, regulations and practices based on experiences of selected subregional economic groupings of English-speaking African countries. A similar compendium is being prepared for selected groupings of French-speaking African countries.

150. Another major concern of the secretariat was the collection and dissemination of information needed by the African business community and member States. In this context, four issues of "Flash on Trade Opportunities for Traders and Businessmen" (Nos. 46, 47, 48 and 49) and one volume (Vol. 14, September 1989) of "African Trade Bulletin" along with an "African Trade Directory 1989" (E/ECA/FACC/3) were prepared and distributed to trade promotion organizations, chambers of commerce and businessmen. These periodicals continued to assist member countries in filling the glaring trade information gap that has impeded the promotion of trade between African countries.

151. As a follow-up to the first Regional Symposium on African State Trading Organizations (STOs) organized by the secretariat in Addis Ababa in March 1987, a report on the "Structures and management of State Trading Organizations - Issues of reform and restructuring of STOs" (E/ECA/TRADE/89/18) was submitted to the Technical Meeting of Experts of the Conference of African Ministers of Trade held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, from 13 to 16 November 1989. The report presented a broad analysis of the structural and functional characteristics of African STOs, based on the findings of consultants and field investigation carried out within the framework of UNDP project RAF 88/012/A.01/51, i.e., "Selective managerial training for STOs personnel for the development and management of STOs in African countries south of the Sahara".

152. The second Regional Symposium on African State Trading Organizations was held in Port Louis, Mauritius, in October 1989. The Symposium, which was jointly organized by ECA and the International Association of State Trading Organizations (ASTRO) in co-operation with the Mauritius State Trading Corporation (STC), dealt with: (a) the impact of restructuring and reform experiments on African STOs and the alternative policy solution relevant to the African conditions; (b) a plan of human resource development for accelerating trading skills in STOs in the emerging competitive trading conditions; (c) examination of policy options and operational measures for intra-STOs' co-operation.

Trade with non-African countries

153. The activities of the secretariat were directed towards finding effective means of assisting member States in promoting stable growth of export earnings by diversifying their export market destination and their commodity structures. To this end, the activities concentrated mainly on promoting technical assistance to member countries in pursuing policies aimed at halting and/or reversing the declining export incomes including, among others, restructuring and diversifying their external trade, increasing the effectiveness of their participation in international negotiations with a view to removing protectoral barriers (both tariff and non-tariff), and intensifying trade expansion policies with other developing regions within the framework of ECDC.

154. A paper was prepared on "Mechanisms for facilitating trade between African countries and China - A study of selected African countries" (E/ECA/TRADE/89/7). The paper highlighted the advantages that could be drawn by African countries in their trade with the People's Republic of China, specifically in trade in agricultural commodities that China needed as raw materials to fill the gap in its domestic production, in exchange for a variety of light consumer manufactures that China offers rather cheaply in comparison with those that Africa obtains from other sources.

155. During the Conference of African Ministers of Trade, a number of reports were also reviewed including the Report on trends in international trade between Africa and other developing countries (E/ECA/TRADE/89/9); The implementation of the Global System of Trade Preferences among developing countries (E/ECA/TRADE/89/12); and Recent developments in the situation of trade relations between Africa and China (E/ECA/TRADE/89/24). Other publications also submitted during the Conference were: the Report on the implementation of the Integrated Programme for Commodities (E/ECA/TRADE/89/17); Recent trends and developments in international trade relations (E/ECA/TRADE/89/16); Mechanisms for diversifying commodity trade including policy options towards processing and industrialization in Africa (E/ECA/TRADE/89/10); and Progress report on the implementation of the Global System of Trade Preferences among developing countries (GSTP) (E/ECA/TRADE/89/21).

156. Pursuant to the resolution of the eighth session of the Conference of African Ministers of Trade, the secretariat assisted member States in preparing for and participating in negotiations for the ACP-EEC Lomé IV Convention. Technical assistance continues to be rendered to the African Group in the ongoing Uruguay Round of Multilateral Trade Negotiations within the framework of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT). To this end, the secretariat participated in a number of seminars organized under the auspices of a UNDP project in selected African countries: the United Republic of Tanzania (25-27 October 1989), Zimbabwe (30-31 October 1989), Ethiopia (2-4 November 1989) and Burundi (16 March 1990). The secretariat also took active part in the third meeting of the Expert Group on African Commodity Problems.

International financial and monetary policies

157. The focus of this subprogramme was on finding ways of improving international financial flows and adapting them to the needs of African countries, as well as to work towards the reform of the international monetary system on an equitable basis in which self-sustained development could be promoted. The secretariat issued technical publications containing policy proposals with the aim of enabling African countries to optimize and derive maximum benefit from financial and monetary relations and provide technical assistance for the purpose. To this end, three documents were prepared: Manual on the application of common concepts and database on external debt of African countries for senior officials in the Ministries of Finance and Planning and

in the central banks (E/ECA/TRADE/89/37); Impacts of major developments and international monetary and financial relations on African economies (E/ECA/TRADE/89/32); and Alternative mechanisms and structures for monetary and financial co-operation among developing countries (E/ECA/TRADE/89/31).

158. Pursuant to the decisions of the first meeting of the Enlarged Ministerial Committee of Libreville on the establishment of an African Monetary Fund held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, on 11 and 12 April 1989, an ad hoc meeting of experts was convened in Addis Ababa from 27 November to 1 December 1989 to review the updated feasibility study on the proposed African Monetary Fund (E/ECA/TRADE/89/23) and to make practical proposals that would enable the joint secretariat of ADB, OAU, ACMS and ECA to finalize the revised study and to submit its report to the Ad hoc Technical Sub-Committee of the Enlarged Ministerial Committee of Libreville.

159. The report and recommendations of the Ad hoc Expert Group Meeting on the African Monetary Fund and Africa's External Debt (E/ECA/TRADE/89/33) were thoroughly examined by the joint secretariat of ECA, ADB and OAU during a meeting held in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire, from 22 to 26 January 1990.

160. The revised study, "The feasibility study on the establishment of an African Monetary Fund (An Update)", was finalized and sent to the Chairman of the Ad hoc Technical Sub-Committee of the Enlarged Ministerial Committee of Libreville on the African Monetary Fund in order for him to convene a meeting of the Ad hoc Technical Sub-Committee.

161. Mounting and crushing external debt-servicing burden, among others, had continued to render structural adjustment programmes in many African countries difficult to implement. Debt management therefore constituted one of the most vital elements in the transformation process. A meeting between OAU, ECA and ADB was also convened in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire, during the same period to agree on modalities for implementing the decisions taken at the international seminar on the African common position on Africa's external debt crisis, held in Cairo, Egypt, from 28 to 30 August 1989.

Transnational Corporations in Africa (TNCs)

162. During the period under review, the Joint ECA/UNCTC Unit on Transnational Corporations continued to focus its efforts on research on the impact of TNCs on social and economic development within the context of the UN-PAAERD, with particular emphasis on important issues such as the role of foreign direct investment (FDI) in the financing of African development, as well as the role of institutional mechanism in promoting FDI.

163. The Joint Unit carried out a technical study on the role of TNCs in the development of informatics in Africa to enhance the awareness and understanding of the African countries as regards the implications of TNCs' activities on some technological development issues such as informatics. The study provided recommendations on policy options and alternatives with a view to assisting African countries to take appropriate measures for dealing with TNCs in this particular area. It also conducted a study on regional co-operation focusing on arrangements and agreements pertaining to foreign direct investment in selected ECA subregional economic groupings, i.e., UDEAC and CEPGL. This publication analysed African strategies and policy options relating to negotiations with TNCs operating within the boundaries of economic integration groupings.

164. A report in the field of TNCs' involvement in African trade with special reference to primary commodities for export was also produced and presented to the tenth meeting of the Conference of African Ministers of Trade. The report aimed at providing strategies and policy options for strengthening Africa's trade sector with particular reference to recent developments and emerging trends relating to TNCs in African trade.

165. The 1989 edition of Transnational Focus, No. 6 was also published to inform member States of recent research and information on TNCs. The development data and information on foreign direct investment was again given prominence in line with the objective of publishing, by the United Nations Centre on Transnational Corporations (UNCTC), a comprehensive TNC Directory to be issued in June 1990.

166. The Joint Unit participated in two regional workshops organized by the UNCTC, i.e., African Regional Workshop on Toxic and Hazardous Wastes and the Regional Workshop on Development of a Programme on TNCs for African Universities.

167. Missions were also mounted to selected member countries to review issues relating to the development of national information system on TNCs; to assess the role of TNCs in development financing and other TNCs' activities in specific areas such as regional arrangements; and to collect data and information on FDI, TNCs' foreign affiliates and the legal framework of TNCs.

Natural resources

Mineral resources

168. During the period under review, the secretariat continued its technical and administrative assistance to member States, the Central African Mineral Resources Development Centre (CAMRDC) and the Eastern and Southern African Mineral Resources Development Centre (ESAMRDC) located respectively in Brazzaville, Congo and Dodoma, United Republic of Tanzania.

169. The secretariat pursued the study on the exploitation of trona in Chad initiated in 1988 at the request of the Government of that country. Field visits to extraction sites were carried out and discussions held with all actors involved in this activity, including artisanal producers, buyers and government representatives. Measures to improve artisanal production were suggested; project document for submission to potential donors was drafted; and a feasibility study of an industrial producing/processing/packaging unit has been undertaken.

170. With regard to CAMRDC, in response to a request of its Governing Council, the secretariat undertook the evaluation of the Centre. The report of the evaluation team, which analyses the failure of the Centre to achieve its objectives and suggests measures to improve the situation of the institution, has been distributed to member States and will be the main basic document to be discussed at the forthcoming Governing Council meeting scheduled to take place in June 1990.

171. With regard to ESAMRDC, the secretariat has been involved in the provision of advice on the development of infrastructural facilities comprising a mineral dressing laboratory, a rock and soil mechanics laboratory, an industrial minerals laboratory and a library and documentation unit.

172. In compliance with its objective aimed at increasing the knowledge of the continent's mineral potentials, the secretariat pursued a study on copper and bauxite/alumina/aluminium. This is an ongoing study which started in 1985 with a review of development trends in the industries of these commodities in Africa over the last decade. This time, the secretariat concentrated its efforts on the processing and marketing aspects of copper/bauxite/alumina/aluminium and products of copper and aluminium.

173. The secretariat also carried out a study on the assessment of iron ore production and its future in West Africa, as part of a comprehensive study which will cover the entire region, the result of which will be considered by the fourth Regional Conference on Mineral Resources Development and Utilization in Africa, which will be convened in 1991.

Water resources

174. In the field of water resources, the secretariat provided advisory services to Lesotho on the implications of its Highlands Water Project involving large-scale water transfer across its borders, and multisector development programmes such as hydropower and integrated rural development. The secretariat participated at the follow-up meeting to the sixth Round-table Conference (27 February to 1 March 1989) at which the progress of the Highlands Water Project was reviewed and financial and technical assistance was solicited from funding agencies, bilaterals and the United Nations system. It also participated at the second meeting of the Committee on River and Lake Basins (CORLAB) that took place in Harare, Zimbabwe, on 27 and 28 April 1989,

where a review of the progress of CORLAB activities was made and recommendations for future actions were outlined. The secretariat participated at the meeting organized by the Comité interafricain d'études hydrauliques (CIEH) on the Drinking Water Supply and Sanitation Decade (IDWSSD) for its 14 member countries. The meeting was held in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso, from 19 to 25 February 1990. Along with other participants, the secretariat assisted in reviewing the progress and in outlining the perspective for future implementation of the sector activities through new orientation in policy and strategy. Towards this action, recommendations were drawn up for national governments and international organizations.

175. The secretariat, jointly with UNDP, has been assisting the Nile riparian countries towards greater co-operation in the development of the basin's resources. A fact-finding mission visited eight countries (except Ethiopia) in May/June 1989. Projects were identified and a draft report - Nile Basin Integrated Development Fact-Finding mission Report - was prepared. It is expected that the fact-finding Mission will visit Ethiopia and return to the United Republic of Tanzania to collect more data. A revised draft report on which further action will be initiated is expected after this.

176. The secretariat also participated at the African regional consultation on the achievements and shortfalls of the African member States and their plans and strategies for the 1990s in terms of national, subregional and regional activities in connection with the International Drinking Water Supply and Sanitation Decade (IDWSSD). This regional consultation was organized by UNDP, the World Bank and the African Development Bank, and held at Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire, from 7 to 11 May 1990. One of its major objectives was to prepare a regional sectoral perspective prior to the global sectoral consultation to be held at New Delhi, India, in September 1990.

177. In order to assist member States in the enhancement of river basin development activities, a synthesis report on all river basin activities was presented to the eleventh Technical Preparatory Committee of the Whole (TEPCOW) and the sixteenth meeting of the ECA Conference of Ministers. The paper reviews the progress made in this field and sets out recommendations to achieve better progress in the future.

178. In response to the recommendation of the Regional Meeting on Socio-economic and Policy Aspects on Water Resources Management in June 1986, the secretariat has undertaken to publish, on an annual basis, an information bulletin with a view to keeping technicians, engineers, planners and administrators working in the water resources field informed on new techniques, innovations and strategies in the sector. Two issues of the bulletin have been published.

179. As a result of the poor performance of the African region in meeting the targets of the International Drinking Water Supply and Sanitation Decade (IDWSSD), the secretariat identified areas where policy and strategy review could lead to improved performance in the 1990s. In this respect, a paper on the "Economic aspects of rural water supply" was prepared. The paper assesses the present situation in water supply and sanitation and highlights the inappropriate linkages between macro-economic planning on the one hand and water sector planning and project planning at the micro-economic level on the other. It also deals with such issues as public participation, operation and maintenance, cost-recovery, rural incomes, subsidies, national capital investment, external resource flows and the impact of structural adjustment programmes on the performance of the sector and suggests strategies.

Cartography and remote sensing

180. Activities of the secretariat during the reporting period continued to focus on the development of cartography and remote sensing applications in Africa as an essential element in the development of natural resources, environmental monitoring and early warning systems.

181. The secretariat provided technical support and advisory services to the Regional Centre for Services in Surveying, Mapping and Remote Sensing (RCSSMRS) at Nairobi, Kenya, the Regional Centre for Training in Aerospace Surveys (RECTAS) and the African Organization for Cartography and Remote Sensing. It provided management inputs in the implementation of decisions of their respective policy bodies, the impact of which was

their sustained growth during the period and the appreciation of the services rendered by them to member States.

182. The seventh United Nations Regional Cartographic Conference for Africa was convened and took place in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso, in September 1989 at which among other working papers and reports, the secretariat presented a study on the status of topographical mapping in Africa. The Conference recommended placing emphasis on regional co-operative programmes that would lead to the building up of a strong geographic information database and as a way to address problems relating to the standardization of geodetic and map specifications and geographical names in Africa.

183. The secretariat attended the United Nations inter-agency meeting and contributed inputs to the Secretary-General's Report on Co-ordination of Outer-Space Activities within the United Nations System. The meeting urged other United Nations agencies to assist the ECA secretariat in strengthening its remote sensing programme.

184. As programmed, the revised index sheets of one of the twelve blocks of the cartographic inventory for Africa Atlas were published. Also published was the accession list of maps and charts received in the Map Documentation and Reference Centre during 1989. The Centre provided important inputs into the preparation of materials for the exhibition of charts mounted during the tenth anniversary celebrations of the Africa Regional Co-ordinating Committee for the Integration of Women in Development, held at Abuja, Nigeria, in November 1989.

185. As a service unit of the Commission, the Cartography and Remote Sensing sub-programme prepared maps and charts for inclusion in studies, reports and other publications of the secretariat, as well as for public information.

Energy and development

186. The thrust of activities under the energy and development programme was aimed at assisting African member States in the development of indigenous energy resources and in integration of energy policies into the overall socio-economic development and economic growth policies.

187. In the areas of exploration, evaluation and development of energy resources in Africa, reports and technical publications were prepared and submitted either to the relevant intergovernmental organizations or directly distributed to member States. Thus two reports on a study on the possibility of interconnection of the electrical grids in neighbouring States of CEPGL were submitted to the Council of Ministers of the Gisenyi-based MULPOC in 1989 and to the Follow-up Committee of the Council of Ministers of the Gisenyi-based MULPOC in March 1990. These reports stressed the great need for co-operation between CEPGL member States in connecting electric power transmission lines across national borders and developing subregional electric power grids. Since peak loads vary among members of this Community, interconnection can provide both cost savings and great assurance of available power. By this report member States are encouraged to avoid the mistake of relying solely on their own electric power plants.

188. One technical publication related to exploration, exploitation, distribution and use of renewable sources of energy in some coastal and island States of Eastern and Southern Africa and in the CEPGL countries was prepared in 1989. This study attempts to understand what has been achieved by selected African member States (Djibouti, Ethiopia, Kenya, Seychelles, Somalia, the United Republic of Tanzania, Rwanda, Burundi and Zaire) over eight years of concerted action by the Governments in the implementation of the Nairobi Programme of Action. It also attempts to explain why the outlook for most renewable energy technologies in African countries is still very promising despite the very little progress achieved so far. As a follow-up to this study, a paper on contribution of new and renewable sources of energy to integrated rural development in Africa was prepared and presented to the fifth session of the Intergovernmental Committee on the Development and Utilization of New and Renewable Sources of Energy which was held at United Nations Headquarters from 26 March to 4 April 1990.

189. The need to integrate energy policies and planning into overall socio-economic planning is still felt in many African countries. To assist on this problem, missions were mounted to Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe, on request of these member States. The purpose of the mission was to advise on-the-spot, on formulation of integrated energy policies and their integration into policies for overall development and economic growth. The reports of these missions containing the recommendations of the secretariat were submitted to the member States concerned.

190. A report on possibilities for the local manufacture of electrical equipment, parts and components of such equipment that can be used in development and utilization of new and renewable sources of energy was prepared in 1989 and submitted to the Follow-up Committee of the Council of Ministers of Gisenyi-based MULPOC in March 1990. This report identified the kind and nature of the parts and components which could be manufactured in existing facilities in Burundi, Rwanda and Zaire that already produce cables, insulators, batteries and electrical lamps. The greatest potential for local manufacturing is in Zaire, where solar refrigerators are assembled and there are factories for the production of electrical lamps and batteries.

191. One publication on energy resources in Africa was prepared in 1989 and distributed to member States. This publication reviewed the status of conventional and new and renewable sources of energy with emphasis on the resources of coal and hydropower development. The status of energy planning and policy, energy management as well as energy production and consumption in 1984-1987 in African countries are also discussed in the publication.

192. The meeting of plenipotentiaries on the Establishment of the African Nuclear Energy Commission was held in Addis Ababa from 22 to 25 May 1989. The meeting was attended by representatives of 19 African member States and by some observers. This meeting which was organized as a follow-up to ECA Conference of Ministers resolution 572 (XXI) has recommended the establishment of a Technical Advisory Committee for the development of nuclear science and technology in Africa. This committee will serve as the mechanism for co-ordination of the development of nuclear science and technology in Africa.

193. In co-operation with the United Nations International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women (INSTRAW), the secretariat organized the seminar on women and new and renewable sources of energy (NRSE) from 16 to 20 October 1989 in Addis Ababa. This seminar was attended by 18 participants from 13 African countries. Also participating in an observer capacity were 22 representatives of United Nations organizations and bodies and non-governmental organizations. The seminar assisted in identifying the areas where women can make a significant contribution to the development of NRSE in Africa as well as provide a link between the government and funding agencies in order to facilitate the betterment of life of African women especially in rural areas.

194. In institution building, the secretariat continued to render support to member States on the establishment of the African Regional Centre for Solar Energy (ARCSE) in Burundi. The secretariat serviced the meetings of the ARCSE Executive Board and Council in June and December 1989 respectively. The meeting approved the work programme of the Centre for the 1990-1991 biennium and suggested that the efforts to collect the contributions from the member States should be intensified.

Population

195. During the period under review, the secretariat's activities in the field of population focused on three subprogrammes, as in the previous years: (a) population policies and development planning; (b) demographic analysis in the context of economic and social development; and (c) regional training and research.

196. Assistance to member States in population-related activities continued to be given special attention by the secretariat through regional advisory services. The assistance provided included: (a) evaluation and analysis of census or survey data, preparation of tabulation, evaluation and analysis plans, and preparation of census questionnaires. The countries which benefited from such assistance were: Benin, Cameroon, the Congo, Ghana, Liberia, Malawi, Mauritania, Mauritius, the Niger, Swaziland and Zimbabwe; (b) project formulation on (i)

population and development in Gabon, and (ii) an intercensal demographic survey in Djibouti. Follow-up assistance was also provided to Gabon in the launching of the project on population and development; (c) training related activities: these included (i) middle-level training for Nigerian nationals at the National Population Commission; (ii) training of local personnel and guidance in analysis of population census data in Swaziland; (iii) teaching a course on demographic methods at Addis Ababa University and guidance of an M.A. student thesis; (iv) lectures on fertility at the middle-level training workshop in Lesotho; (v) preparation of a course on population and development at the University of Malawi; (vi) lectures delivered at the Regional Institute for Population Studies (RIPS) in Ghana, on data sources quality and adequacy for analysis and utilization in Africa; and (vii) assistance to Zimbabwe in finalizing a workbook on demographic data evaluation and analysis.

197. Regional advisors were also involved in other activities: preparations for the subregional training workshop on use of microcomputers in data analysis; preparation and publication of a workbook on demographic data evaluation and analysis based on a workshop that had been organized by ECA and RIPS; participation at a UNFPA brainstorming exercise on population and development.

198. Some of the problems encountered in the provision of advisory services included communication difficulties and delays between the secretariat and member States. With only one adviser covering francophone countries, it is becoming increasingly difficult to respond adequately to all the requests coming from member States. The sixth session of the Joint Conference of African Planners, Statisticians and Demographers, in January 1990, recommended to UNFPA to consider increasing its support to the ECA Population Division advisory services.

199. The secretariat completed and presented the following reports to the sixth Joint Conference of Planners, Statisticians and Demographers: (i) An evaluation of the age-sex data of recent African censuses (E/ECA/PSD.6/20); (ii) Evaluation of national experiences in the implementation of population policies in ECA member States in relation to the Kilimanjaro Programme of Action (KPA) (E/ECA/PSD.6/21); (iii) The relative roles of maternal and child health care and family planning programmes, proximate determinants and socio-economic correlates in influencing fertility (E/ECA/PSD.6/22); (iv) Methodological and technological innovations in the areas of demographic data collection, processing and analysis (E/ECA/PSD.6/TP8); and (v) Biennial report on the activities of the population information network for Africa (POPIN-Africa) (E/ECA/PSD.6/TP9). The Joint Conference appreciated the documents which were presented for discussion. It also indicated some of the areas where more studies were needed.

200. Other studies were prepared and distributed to member States as part of the approved programme of work: (i) Study on the impact of maternal and child health and family planning (MCH/FP) programmes on fertility, infant and childhood mortality and maternal health [ECA/POP/TP/89/2(1.3)]. It confirmed that MCH/FP programmes can have an impact to reduce infant and childhood mortality as well as maternal mortality depending on the strength of the MCH/FP programmes. End users' reactions received from member States on the study indicate that the study is useful and relevant. (ii) Study on the effect of nuptiality variables on fertility in selected African countries [ECA/POP/TP/89/6/2.1(ii)b]. The study covered Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, Kenya, Lesotho and Senegal and showed that early and universal marriage, high remarriage rates and little contraceptive use are among the variables contributing to high fertility rates. In order to moderate fertility levels, the study recommends, among other things, the need to increase age at marriage, to improve education and status of women, to encourage use of modern methods of contraception as well as some of the good traditional methods of fertility regulation. The impression from end users show that the study was well received. The only criticism made refers to the poor printing quality of the statistical tables. (iii) A comparative study of infant and childhood mortality and its relationship with fertility, cultural factors and socio-economic development in selected African countries (ECA/POP/TP/89/4/2.4). The results of the study which covered Egypt, Mauritania, Morocco, Senegal, the Sudan and Tunisia, showed the important role played by women's education, birth spacing intervals and age of women in influencing both fertility and mortality. The study advocated the need to (a) provide women with adequate education; (b) encourage birth spacing intervals of two years or more; (c) stop childbearing beyond the age of 35; (d) improve development programmes. Such efforts were seen as essential to reducing fertility, and infant and childhood mortality. (iv) Study on patterns, causes and consequences of urbanization in Africa [ECA/POP/TP/89/1(2.5(ii))]. The study noted the low but fast growing urbanization, and the development of primate cities which has negative consequences on overall national development. It calls on countries to have

comprehensive and sound urban policies co-ordinated with regional and rural development programmes. (v) Study on estimates and projections of African population trends, [ECA/POP/TP/89/3[2.5(iii)]]. The study pointed out that population growth rates continued to be the main demographic characteristic of African populations with significant consequences on socio-economic development, especially with reference to increase in the labour force which cannot be readily absorbed. (vi) Study on status and prospects of population policies in ECA member States (E/ECA/SER.A/8) (in African Population Studies Series No. 10). The study put together data on population policies from United Nations monitoring reports published to date including the sixth United Nations population inquiry. There is a lot more known on population policy perceptions and trends in perceptions than on implementation of policies. Reactions from end users testify the usefulness of the study.

201. Regarding the activities of the Population Information Network in Africa (POPIN-Africa) these included: (a) the convening of the Working Group Meeting on Population Information Dissemination and Diffusion (PAWID). The Group consists of media experts and practitioners, educationalists, population communication experts, population information and documentation specialists and population experts. The Working Group mapped out strategies for better addressing the population information, education and communication issues (IEC) in the African region; (b) organization of POPIN-Africa Technical Working Group Meeting (PAT) which discussed, among others, the strategies for the development of the national population information centres (NPICs) in the POPIN-Africa network; (c) contacting a number of countries and discussing with them the establishment of NPICs. To this effect POPIN-Africa assisted a number of member States in the formulation of project documents for the establishment of national participating centres; (d) computer-ization of POPIN-Africa data base; (e) dissemination of population information and documents.

202. The secretariat participated at a number of population related meetings including the following: Colloquium on the impact of family planning programmes in sub-Saharan Africa: current issues and future prospects, held in Accra; Seminar on the role of family planning as a fertility determinant, held in Tunis; the twenty-first session of the Population Commission of ECOSOC, New York; UNFPA International Population Forum, held in Amsterdam; UNESCO/UNFPA Seminar/Workshop for African journalists and communicators on awareness creation, held in Cameroon; Expert group meeting on international migration policies and the status of female migrants, held in Italy; and national seminar on safe motherhood, held in Ethiopia.

203. The secretariat continued its administrative support in assisting the Regional Institute for Population Studies (RIPS) in Ghana, the Institut de formation et de recherche démographiques (IFORD) in Cameroon, and the Centre d'études et de recherche sur la population pour le développement (CERPOD) at the Sahel Institute in Mali. The secretariat assisted in the servicing of the Governing Councils of IFORD and RIPS which took place in March 1990 and attended the CERPOD Management Committee and Donors Meeting.

Public administration and finance

204. During the period under review, the secretariat assisted member States in improving the management of their public administration and finance.

205. In an advisory capacity, in the area of public administration and management, the secretariat collaborated with member States' governments in organizing and developing a series of training courses and programmes.

206. In May 1989, the secretariat collaborated with the Ministry of Local Government in the Gambia in reorganizing its local government structures; it also assisted in devising a machinery for local development planning, and plan implementation and in developing a programme for improving the human resources of those structures.

207. In June 1989, the secretariat collaborated with the Zimbabwe Institute of Public Administration and Management in organizing a workshop on Critical Skills in Public Policy Management in Harare. The workshop was attended by 35 participants and resource persons from East and Southern African countries.

208. In September 1989, the secretariat carried out an evaluation of the training activities of the Unified Local Government Service in Botswana. Advice was given on the formulation of a comprehensive training strategy, including clear training objectives and other measures to enhance the operational performance of local councils in the country.

209. From 30 October to 8 November 1989 in collaboration with Ecole nationale d'administration (ENA) Lomé, Togo, the secretariat organized for 35 participants a national training workshop for Togo local government officials on the role of local government in economic recovery and development.

210. From 13 to 22 November 1989, in collaboration with Ecole nationale d'administration et magistrature (ENAM), Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso, a national training course on the role of local government in economic recovery and development for Burkina Faso local government officials was held in Ouagadougou. The training course was attended by 30 participants.

211. In November 1989, in collaboration with the Zambian National Institute of Public Administration, the secretariat organized a workshop for senior executives of local councils on the role of local government planning and plan implementation.

212. During 1990, the secretariat organized: an executive development workshop for senior members of the Nigeria Police Force (February); in collaboration with the Liberia Institute of Public Administration, a national workshop focusing on the economic recovery programme for Liberia (March); in collaboration with the Management Development Institute of the Gambia, an executive development workshop for senior members of the Gambia Police Force and a training workshop for senior Local Government Officials, both in April.

213. To provide suggested guidelines to member States for the improvement in the management of their public services, the following technical publications were completed:

(a) The problems of public administration and management systems in Africa and measures to strengthen them [ECA/PHSD/PAM/5(1.1)(i)(b)];

(b) The capabilities of African regional and subregional institutions of public administration and management in providing the training, research and consultancy needs urgently required by the development process [ECA/PHSD/PAM/89/6(1.1)(i)(a)].

214. In the field of development of budgetary and taxation systems, the following technical publication was completed during the period under review: Improvement in tax administration measures and procedures for efficient and increased tax revenue collection, ECA/PHSD/BUD/89/1[2.2(i)(9)].

215. From 7 to 18 August 1989, a national training workshop for accounting officials of the Government of Zambia was organized and conducted in collaboration with the National Institute of Public Administration, Lusaka. The national training workshop was on financial control and government budgeting and it was attended by 13 accounting officials drawn from various ministries and departments of the Government of Zambia.

216. From 28 August to 9 September 1989, in co-operation with the Higher Economic Courses of the USSR Government, the secretariat held a subregional seminar on improvement in expenditure in Moscow.

217. From 16 through 27 November 1989, at the request of the Income Tax Department of the Government of Zimbabwe, a national training course on reforming of taxation policies, systems and administration was held for tax administrators of the Government of Zimbabwe.

218. From 26 through 29 March 1990, a regional workshop on improvement in taxation policies, systems and administration was organized in Addis Ababa. It was attended by 31 participants.

219. From 16 through 27 April 1990, a national training course on public financial management was organized in collaboration with the Lesotho Institute of Public Administration in Maseru for 25 Lesotho Government financial management officials.

Science and technology

220. During the period under review, the science and technology programme continued to focus on three main areas, viz: strengthening policies and institutions for science and technology; development of manpower for science and technology; and the promotion of co-operation among member States in scientific and technological activities.

221. The establishment of adequate institutional infrastructure for science and technology in member States is an area in which the secretariat places considerable attention. At the request of the Government of Morocco, the secretariat undertook an advisory mission to the National Centre for the Co-ordination and Planning of Scientific Research and Technology and its affiliate bodies from 1 to 10 May 1989. The mission advised on the creation of a national research and development corporation which will ensure the commercialization of the research results coming out of the national research institutions thereby making the research results contribute to the socio-economic development of the nation.

222. The secretariat also undertook advisory missions to the African Regional Centre for Technology (ARCT), Dakar, Senegal, from 27 September to 11 October 1989 and from 15 to 23 November 1989 to assist in the technical planning of its activities for promoting technical innovation in the African region, and the monitoring of the implementation of the UNDP project RAF/87/068 and in the elaboration of programmes by the legislative organs. A related activity on project monitoring was undertaken from 26 to 31 October 1989 at the demonstration units being set up in Ghana and Kenya. The secretariat also participated in a tripartite review meeting for the UNDP project RAF/87/065 from 29 November to 1 December 1989 and in a joint steering committee meeting for the UNDP projects RAF/87/067 and RAF/89/068 held at Ibadan, Nigeria, on 30 and 31 January 1990.

223. With regard to servicing of the subsidiary organs of the Commission, the secretariat, in collaboration with the OAU, provided support to the organization of the second meeting of the Eastern African Working Group of the Intergovernmental Committee of Experts for Science and Technology Development (IGCESTD) which met in Addis Ababa from 19 to 21 April 1989. Similar support was given to the second meeting of the Southern Africa Working Group which met in Lusaka on 11 and 12 October 1989. Each meeting considered and approved three projects in science and technology for implementation in its respective subregion. The secretariat has begun a process of seeking funds for the implementation of these projects.

224. Another major activity in this regard was the organization and servicing of the sixth meeting of the Intergovernmental Committee of Experts for Science and Technology Development, held in Addis Ababa from 6 to 9 November 1989. The meeting reviewed the activities of the Working Groups of the IGCESTD since its fifth meeting, and the implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action on Science and Technology for Development (VPA) over the last ten years since the programme came into being and made a number of recommendations towards a reactivation of effort so as to realize the aspirations of the VPA which were still valid for the 1990s.

225. In the sectoral aspects of science and technology policy, the secretariat completed two studies: one on the popularization and application of available and suitable technologies to increase food production in Africa and the other on a review of laws which govern patents in Africa. Both studies were presented to and considered by the IGCESTD at its sixth meeting. The secretariat completed a study, with the financial sponsorship of the International Development Research Centre (IDRC), on the review of science and technology policy institutions in Kenya, the United Republic of Tanzania, Ghana, Nigeria and Guinea and work is under way to reproduce the synthesis report based on the five country reports. In a related development, the secretariat convened a planning meeting at Addis Ababa, on 24 and 25 April 1990 for researchers from selected African countries who will carry out reviews of the science and technology policy-making organs in their respective

countries. The meeting prepared guidelines for the collection and analysis of the data and information obtained during the study. This exercise is being carried out under the financial sponsorship of the Carnegie Corporation of New York.

226. With regard to the development of manpower for science and technology, the secretariat completed a technical publication on a study of facilities in Ghana, Ethiopia and the United Republic of Tanzania for training engineers. The study spelt out the physical requirements of a few institutions which could be upgraded to serve as regional institutions for the practical training of engineers in mechanical, electrical, civil and chemical engineering.

227. The secretariat provided support to a training workshop organized by ARCT, UNIDO and the Federal Institute of Industrial Research, Oshodi (FIRO), Nigeria, from 24 to 28 July 1989 on the development of capabilities in the handling of scientific and technological information and presented a paper on the establishment of an African science and technology information system.

228. In collaboration with the German Foundation for International Development, the secretariat organized a training Workshop on cultural prerequisites and the role of women in the application and development of science and technology in Africa, at Addis Ababa, from 28 to 30 March 1990. The meeting explored the cultural factors relevant to the diffusion and popularization of science and technology, paying special attention to the role of women in this regard. It also recommended a number of activities which need to be followed up at the regional and national levels to develop further the theme of the workshop and promote the cultural practices which could enhance endogenous science and technology development in the African region.

229. The secretariat participated in the work of the Intergovernmental Committee on Science and Technology for Development which met in New York from 29 August to 1 September 1989. Among the main issues considered was the end-of-decade review of the implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action. It also participated in the second Congress of the Pan-African Union for Science and Technology (PUST) which met in Accra, Ghana, from 29 January to 1 February 1990. The meeting approved a minimum programme of work for the organization to which the secretariat made significant contribution. PUST is expected to galvanize the various national, subregional and regional unions towards greater contribution to the socio-economic development of the region.

230. The secretariat produced a technical publication on the large-scale production of school science equipment with guidelines for joint ventures and distributed it to the educational agencies concerned with the provision of school materials in the various countries.

231. The secretariat participated in consultations on the management of science for development in Africa organized by the African Academy of Sciences (AAS) in conjunction with the International Centre of Insect Physiology and Ecology (ICIPE) in Nairobi from 21 to 24 November 1989. The consultations which brought together policy-makers, administrators, research scientists, development bankers, industrialists and entrepreneurs focused on issues and mechanisms for sponsoring and sustaining the processes for managing science and technology, and also considered plans for a Presidential Forum foreseen for September 1990.

Social development

232. In the social policy, planning and research area, the secretariat, in preparation for the meeting of the fifth Conference of African Ministers of Social Affairs, prepared two working documents, namely ECA report on social development activities during the period between April 1985 and September 1989, and summary of social trends and major social development problems in Africa. The document on ECA's social development activities dealt with four main issues: social policy, planning and research; integrated rural development; women; and youth and social welfare. It highlighted the major preoccupations in these areas and ECA's priorities in its attempt to make an impact in social development. The second document summarized what characterizes the decade of the 1980s within the socio-economic framework. It pointed out how the gains of the 1960s and 1970s had been eroded in the 1980s by economic recession, natural disasters, civil and political strife as well as structural

imbalances that were exacerbated by orthodox structural adjustment programmes. Among the most affected by the situation were women and children, youth, the poor, the disabled, refugees and displaced persons. The document appealed for sincere commitment to the social aspects and dimensions of development as recommended in AAF-SAP.

233. The secretariat, in collaboration with the OAU secretariat, serviced the fifth Conference of African Ministers of Social Affairs and its Intergovernmental Expert Group meeting. Both meetings were held in Arusha from 23 to 28 October 1989. Twelve resolutions were adopted by the Conference and submitted to the ECA Conference of Ministers in Tripoli in May 1990.

234. In preparation for the sixth meeting of the Conference of African Ministers of Social Affairs, the secretariat has prepared a document on the implications of social conditions, trends and problems particularly in the rural areas of selected African countries affected by drought, desertification and the refugee situation. The document first examines the issue of environmental protection as a policy issue, a social issue as well as the level of general awareness. It then undertakes a brief assessment of the state of drought, desertification and the refugee situation and analyses their major causes. Finally, measures taken by African States to contain the situation are examined and some recommendations suggested.

235. The secretariat also prepared a technical publication entitled *Guidelines and strategies for enhancing popular participation particularly of rural women and youth, in the Development Process in Africa*. The publication examines popular participation in its various forms with the indigenous pre-colonial communities of Africa. The new interest in harnessing what is left of the concept and practice of popular participation today is analysed with specific attention on community-based improvement schemes, co-operatives, political organizations, etc. Participation of youth and women, especially in the rural areas, is also focused on as well as the obstacles encountered in the process. The publication highlights governments' efforts at mobilizing the rural populace and finally concludes that while these groups remain the cornerstone of rural participation in development, much needs to be done in the way of policies, institutional frameworks and reorientation of those assisting the groups.

236. In the Economic Report on Africa, 1990, as well as the Survey of Economic and Social Conditions in Africa, 1989-1990, the secretariat reviewed the social situation in the continent throughout the 1980s in the sections entitled social issues and a review of selected social issues respectively. The social consequences of the socio-economic crisis that has pervaded Africa are examined in the health, education, employment and social services sectors. Endemic and epidemic diseases, malnutrition, higher infant, child and maternal mortality, starvation and general human misery which became characteristic of the 1980s are highlighted. The severely hungry and undernourished rose from 80 million in the mid-1970s to well over 150 million in the 1980s even as the growth enrolment ratio at primary school level decreased from 80 per cent to 76 per cent. The review reiterates the need for more rigorous implementation of the guidelines and strategies for sustainable development with a fully integrated social dimension as expressed in the Lagos Plan of Action, APPER, the UN-PAAERD and AAF-SAP.

Youth and social welfare

237. During the period under review the secretariat undertook activities in the fields of youth, crime prevention and the treatment of offenders, the disabled and elderly persons.

238. With regard to youth, the secretariat presented to the fifth Conference of African Ministers of Social Affairs, held from 23 to 30 October 1989, in Arusha, United Republic of Tanzania, a report on "the impact of rural youth employment programmes on rural development". This report attempted to analyse the impact of rural development on increased productivity, the living standards of the rural population, rural youth employment programmes initiated by African countries during the past decades and enabled policy-makers to reorientate rural development policies. The secretariat is presently preparing another report for the next Conference of African Ministers of Social Affairs on "the economic and social situation of city youth". This report will attempt to shed more light on the situation of city youth, how they live, the type of traumas suffered and will chart out a new approach to youth policies.

239. In the area of prevention of crime and the treatment of offenders, the secretariat prepared and provided technical support to the inaugural meeting of the Governing Council of the United Nations African Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders UNAFRI held in Kampala, Uganda, on 14 and 15 June 1989. During this meeting, various regulations relating to the staff and finances, were adopted; the secretariat also serviced the first extraordinary meeting of the Governing Council of UNAFRI which was held in Addis Ababa on 13 and 14 August 1989, to recruit the Director and Deputy Director of the Institute.

240. The secretariat is continuing its efforts towards the establishment of UNAFRI by negotiating with UNDP the required amount and the conditions of its participation in the budget of the Institute and by endeavouring to obtain more signatures from the various countries. So far, the following 26 African countries have signed the statutes: Burundi, the Congo, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, the Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malawi, Morocco, Mozambique, the Niger, Nigeria, Rwanda, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Somalia, the Sudan, Togo, Tunisia, Uganda, the United Republic of Tanzania, Zaire, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

241. Still under the prevention of crime, the secretariat presented to the fifth Conference of African Ministers of Social Affairs held in Arusha, from 23 to 30 October 1989, a report on "juvenile delinquency, crime and justice in the light of socio-economic conditions in Africa". This report underscored the links that exist between economic and social conditions and delinquency rates as well as measures necessary for better justice, and the social reintegration of offenders.

242. Concerning the recommendations of the United Nations Decade of Disabled Persons, the secretariat undertook several activities in this area the most important of which are:

(a) Publication of the review *Equal Time* which is meant to establish contacts with the various organizations for disabled persons in Africa for an exchange of experience; and

(b) For the fifth Conference of African Ministers of Social Affairs a report on the causes, types and prevalences of impairment and disability in African countries, in the light of adverse socio-economic conditions. The report analyzed the various causes and types of alteration and incapacitation and their prevalence in African countries. It attempted to show the efforts made by African countries towards the implementation of the world action plan for disabled persons during the United Nations Decade of Disabled Persons. Still under the follow-up of the Decade, the secretariat participated in the United Nations inter-agency meeting on the Decade of Disabled Persons held in Vienna from 6 to 8 December 1989. It is expected to participate in the expert meeting on alternative ways to mark the end of the United Nations Decade of Disabled Persons to be held in Helsinki in May 1990.

243. The secretariat is also conducting a series of case studies on the situation of the elderly in Africa.

African Training and Research Centre for Women (ATRCW)

244. The secretariat continued its efforts to enhance the inclusion of women in the mainstream of development. To this end, a guide on incorporation of women's concerns in national development plans was developed for planners and decision-makers. It also published "the Abuja Declaration on Participatory Development: The Role of Women in Africa in the 1990s", a document which highlights the extent to which the Arusha Strategies have been implemented, sets specific targets in all sectors of activities and shows relevant measures to be taken at national, subregional, regional and international levels for the achievement of those targets. The Declaration was an outcome of the fourth Regional Conference on the Integration of Women in Development and on the Implementation of the Arusha Strategies held in Abuja, Federal Republic of Nigeria, from 6 to 10 November 1989 and was attended by representatives of 41 member States and a great number of observers representing donor agencies, intergovernmental, non-governmental and United Nations organizations. The Declaration calls for more emphasis on such sectors as education, participation of women in scientific and technical fields, agriculture and food production, planning and decision-making, and provision of decent and durable shelter.

245. Similarly, a report on the implementation of the Arusha Strategies for the Advancement of Women, a regional perspective was presented to the fifth Conference of African Ministers of Social Affairs. After a review of the situation of women in the region, the Conference urged that efforts to promote the advancement of women be intensified. The plight of refugees and displaced women as well as women under apartheid was singled out for priority consideration. The participation of women in decision-making and in the political life of their countries as well as health and population issues were considered as areas of utmost importance.

246. Apart from the above, a number of studies were undertaken during the period under review. These included a study on access of rural women to appropriate technology which reviewed appropriate technology programmes addressed to rural women in the region and their limited impact. The study recommended some measures that could enhance these programmes and ensure that women get most benefits from them; a study on women under apartheid which analyzed the socio-economic, legal and political constraints under which black African women live and suggested actions to improve their conditions; a comparative study on national legislations and the status of women in Africa which provided up-to-date information on existing legislations with a view to improving them; a study on resource allocation to women in the context of debt and food crisis which highlighted various types of resources invested in programmes and activities related to women. The study discussed the general concern for better distribution and utilization of resources allocated to women.

247. Efforts were also deployed to promote women entrepreneurship. In this regard, a manual on the establishment of small-scale enterprises especially agro-industries was prepared. The manual provides valuable information for women who want to enter the business sector and profiles selected small-scale enterprises which offer better potentials for growth. In addition, two major documents have been produced under the operational project entitled 'Increasing women's access to credit through training in management and credit techniques' with financial assistance from the Swedish International Development Authority (SIDA). The documents were a 'Guide on promotion and development of entrepreneurship for women' and 'Increasing access of women to credit - an integrated approach'. An expert meeting organized to review these two documents took place from 2 to 5 April 1990 in Addis Ababa. The experts confirmed the importance of the two documents for training as well as for any programme aimed at promoting entrepreneurship for women and accessing women to credit. The experts emphasized that target groups of the two documents should be pre-entrepreneurs, small, medium and large entrepreneurs. Pilot projects are being set up in Ethiopia, Rwanda and Uganda for experimentation of the training programmes.

248. Another major operational project consisting of improving African women's role in informal sector - production and management was implemented in four countries, namely Burkina Faso, the Congo, the Gambia and Zambia in which case studies were carried out under the project. The studies enabled the secretariat to examine the legal and political conditions under which women operate and to identify measures such as credit facilities, easy access to licenses, access to land, etc., which would create an enabling environment for women in the informal sector. It is planned to organize national and subregional seminars during which strategies for improvement of working conditions in the informal sector will be developed.

249. For the future, the secretariat will continue to pursue its efforts of strengthening machineries for the advancement of women and enhancing skills and opportunities for them through research, advisory services and training programmes. Special emphasis will be put on promotion of women's activities in scientific fields, trade, agriculture, informal and credit sectors. Efforts will also be made to ensure the implementation of the Abuja Declaration and to monitor changes in socio-economic conditions of women in the region.

Statistics

250. During the period under review, the work programme of the secretariat continued to address the statistical problems in the African region and the measures taken to improve the collection, processing, analysis and dissemination of demographic, social, economic and environment statistical data at the national level. Efforts continued to be made in the development of the regional statistical information service.

251. The major projects of the secretariat responding to the needs of National Statistical Services continued to include the Statistical Development Programme for Africa (SDPA) and the Regional Advisory Service in Demographic Statistics (RASDS). Under the SDPA 42 missions were undertaken: 23 missions to 14 African countries in the field of household surveys; 12 missions to 11 African countries in the field of statistical training; 6 missions to 3 African countries in the field of national accounts and one mission in the field of statistical data base development. As regards the RASDS, 65 missions were undertaken to 33 African countries in the fields of census organization, census cartography, data processing, civil registration and vital statistics collection and sampling for censuses and demographic surveys. Some of the missions undertaken under the RASDS project involved training as part of the census training programme for sub-Saharan Africa which is financed by the Canadian Government through UNFPA.

252. During the period, six missions on the assessment of national statistical capabilities were undertaken within the framework of the UNDP/IBRD/ECA project on "Data collection related to development programmes and aid flows in Africa". In addition, pre-filled tables on population, health, education, environment and income were completed by national professionals in 21 African countries. These tables will form part of the report on "Demographic, social and environment statistics and indicators of African countries" which was under preparation.

253. In the area of economic statistics, a limited number of advisory missions were undertaken in the fields of industrial statistics, international trade statistics and national accounts and basic economic statistics. Concerning work on the revision of the United Nations System of National Accounts (SNA), the secretariat participated at expert group meetings which were convened for this purpose by the United Nations Statistical Office.

254. In the area of the development of environment statistics in member States, one mission was undertaken to strengthen co-operation between the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and the secretariat regarding the convening of future workshops on environment statistics.

255. The secretariat produced the following publications:

- (a) STPA News, nos. 17 and 18;
- (b) Statistical Newsletter, nos. 71 and 72;
- (c) Directory of statistical training centres and associate centres participating in the Statistical Training Programme for Africa; and
- (d) Directory of centres not participating in the Statistical Training Programme for Africa.

256. Computer print-outs on demographic and social statistics, environment statistics, foreign trade statistics, national accounts and other economic statistics as well as integrated demographic social and economic statistics were produced and sent to the African national statistical offices.

257. Other publications, namely the 1987 African Statistical Yearbook, the 1987 Socio-economic Indicators, Foreign Trade Statistics for Africa (Direction of Trade), Series A, nos. 31 and 32 and the Statistical Information Bulletin, No. 20 were finalized and sent for printing. Two other publications, the African Compendium on Environment Statistics and the Demographic, Social and Environment Statistics and Indicators of African Countries were under preparation.

258. During the period under review, the following meetings were held:

- (a) Subregional workshop on census cartography for English-speaking East and Southern African countries, Nairobi, Kenya, 8-19 May 1989;
- (b) Working group on household surveys, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, 16-20 October 1989;

- (c) Bilingual working group on migration statistics in Africa, Addis Ababa, 6-10 November 1989;
- (d) Sixth meeting of Directors of Centres participating in the Statistical Training Programme for Africa (STPA), Addis Ababa, 4-8 December 1989;
- (e) Training workshop on economic activity topics in population censuses, Addis Ababa, 11-15 December 1989; and
- (f) Sixth session of the Joint Conference of African Planners, Statisticians and Demographers, Addis Ababa, 15-20 January 1990.

Transport, communications and tourism

General and multimodal transport

259. In the field of general and multimodal transport, a technical publication on guidelines for the design and implementation of manpower development policies and programmes was prepared and submitted to government ministries responsible for the development of manpower programmes in multimodal transport. The document stressed the need for the development of indigenous multimodal transport operations in Africa since multimodal transport operations in the region are predominated by foreign-based organizations. With the rapid development of container transport in the region, it has become necessary for governments to support the manpower development activities in multimodal transport, especially the through movement of containers. The document, therefore, presented the stages to be followed in manpower development, the type of institutions to be used for training including approaches for curricula design. It recommended that the best training approach should begin with the training of trainers in the field of freight forwarding.

260. Three reports to follow-up committees of the MULPOCS had been prepared on:

- (a) The strategy and work programme of the second Transport and Communications Decade in Africa (UNTACDA II);
- (b) Planning and elaboration of projects within UNTACDA II;
- (c) Strategy for mobilization of resources for the implementation of the programme of UNTACDA II.

261. A report on "Road accidents in Africa and their main causes" was submitted to the second African Road Safety Congress jointly organized by the OECD and ECA. The paper drew attention to the rise in road accidents and their impact on socio-economic development. The Congress itself recommended that road safety should be a priority item for UNTACDA II.

262. The secretariat collaborated with the Eastern and Southern African Management Institute (ESAMI) in the development of training documents and the delivery of lectures to workshops for transport policy-makers from Eastern and Southern African countries on policy measures to be taken for the promotion of multimodal transport in the subregion. The objective of the workshops was to create awareness of the benefits of multimodal transport and the need for policy-makers to have foresight in judging the lack of preparedness the subregion is subjected to with regard to promotion of multimodal transport. Participants in the workshops resolved to establish national task forces, as may be appropriate, to monitor the development of multimodal transport in their respective countries. A follow-up workshop to monitor the progress achieved by the individual countries has been conducted in collaboration with the Intergovernmental Standing Committee on Shipping (ISCOS) and ESAMI. The secretariat also collaborated with UNCTAD in conducting a similar workshop at national level for potential multimodal transport organizations in Ethiopia. The participating organizations resolved to carry out an in-depth study on the existing legislation and their impact on multimodal transport. They also agreed to examine the issue of becoming a contracting party to the United Nations Conventions on the International Multimodal Transport and the Carriage of Goods by Sea (The Hamburg Rules). Similar national workshops are

planned in future in collaboration with specialized agencies and training institutions dealing with multimodal transport.

263. The secretariat is collaborating with various United Nations specialized agencies in developing an approach to problems of human resources and institutional development in transport and communications in Africa. As a consequence, the agencies (UNCTAD, ILO, World Bank, ICAO, IMO and ITU) have been contracted by UNDP and are preparing case studies and training materials that focus on enterprise management and organization, and particularly on factors that assist or constrain human resources performance and manpower performance covering all modes of transport and telecommunications. The secretariat plans to use the case studies to organize subregional and regional workshops to promote improved understanding and disseminate information about identified bottle-necks to sub-Saharan African government officials and managers.

264. Furthermore, in the framework of ECA collaboration with the World Bank, a series of seminars on road maintenance policy in sub-Saharan Africa were organized, the latest ones for French-speaking African countries taking place in Dakar, Libreville and Antananarivo (January and February 1990). The objectives of those seminars were, among other things, to increase awareness of, and reach a common assessment with, government policy-makers on the magnitude of road deterioration problems; to identify appropriate operational, financial, organizational or other policy options relevant and applicable to addressing and redressing road deterioration, and to give government policy-makers the opportunity to discuss and explore the relevance and applicability of these policy options to their particular circumstances.

Maritime transport, ports and inland water transport

265. Under this subprogramme, the secretariat completed the following studies and technical publications:

(a) Guidelines on evaluation and harmonization of African international maritime transport services, practices and policies (TRANSCOM/226);

(b) Guidelines for design and implementation of manpower development in the field of maritime transport (TRANSCOM/337);

(c) Guidelines on design and implementation of manpower development policies and programmes for inland water transport in Africa (TRANSCOM/269);

(d) Evaluation and harmonization of port services, practices, regulations and policies in African countries, including guidelines for facilitation of international traffic in the field of ports, for senior port officials. The publication reviewed the obstacles which hamper traffic flows in ports, including complex port documentation, low cargo handling rates, etc.;

(e) Guidelines in designing and implementation of manpower development policies and programmes for port operations in Africa for senior port officials. The publication discussed the shortage of skilled manpower in ports and lack of planned manpower development which has become endemic in Africa. The study is intended to provide guidelines to port officials on principles of manpower planning and development taking into consideration the specific requirements of sea ports;

(f) Mechanization and automation of cargo handling operations in sea ports. The publication addresses the lack of proper cargo handling equipment in African ports and describes modern cargo handling methods and equipment so as to provide guidance to African port managers in taking decisions relating to cargo handling requirements. Activities directly linked with this publication and which have been planned for implementation during 1990 include efficient utilization of cargo handling equipment, improving performance, commercialization of port activities and co-operation among African ports.

266. During the period, the secretariat serviced the inaugural meeting of the North African Transport Committee (November 1989) and the intergovernmental meeting of African port experts and senior officials on ways and

means to improve port performance (January 1990). The latter meeting also considered the issues of co-operation and commercialization of port activities and agreed on modalities to enhance co-operation among African ports.

267. In the area of operational activities, the secretariat provided advisory services to Ethiopia on the implications of the entry into force of the United Nations Convention on the Carriage of Goods by Sea; technical support to the Transport Committee of the Preferential Trade Area of Eastern and Southern African States on the restructuring of the Intergovernmental Standing Committee on Shipping (October 1989); technical support to the fifteenth council meeting of the Port Management Association for West/Central Africa. A paper on the objectives, strategies and guidelines of UNTACDA II was presented with a view to attracting active participation of intergovernmental organizations in the preparations for UNTACDA II; technical support to a regional seminar on port organization and management for senior port officials (Leningrad, USSR, 7-10 August 1989). Twenty-seven senior and middle-level managers from 23 African countries participated in the seminar.

Roads and road transport

268. In an effort to increase awareness of the importance of road maintenance, the secretariat, jointly with the World Bank, organized a series of road maintenance policy seminars for English-speaking sub-Saharan African countries. The secretariat also, jointly with OECD, organized the second African Road Safety Congress in Addis Ababa. Thirty African member States participated in the Congress. European and international organizations were also represented. The Congress focused on the ever-increasing accident rates in Africa and recommended road safety measures to alleviate the problem.

269. The second Combined Meeting of the Trans-African Highway Authorities was held during the seventh meeting of the Conference of African Ministers of Transport, Communications and Planning which took place in Tangier, Morocco in November 1989. Reports on the liquidation of the secretariat of the Lagos-Mombasa Trans-African Highway Authority and the reactivation of a centralized Trans-African Highway Bureau at ECA headquarters were presented.

270. As part of the effort to manufacture transport equipment, the secretariat submitted two reports to the Combined Meeting of the Trans-African Highway Authorities on review of policies, plans and projects designed to promote an African industry in support of roads and road transport. The coverage of the reports was limited to the East and Southern African subregion for which information was available, and focused on rationalization of the manufacture of commercial and low-cost transport vehicles, components and ancillary industries.

271. Attention was given also to manpower and training for development of road transport. A technical publication was prepared for senior officials responsible for roads and road transport on guidelines, design and implementation of manpower development policies and programmes, taking into account increased participation of women.

272. The secretariat also gave lectures on facilitation of international traffic and road transport of containers during a seminar organized by the Eastern and Southern African Management Institute (ESAMI). Two papers were presented during the seminar on road transport of containers and facilitation of international traffic in the field of road transport with special emphasis on the use of the TIR Convention.

Railways and rail transport

273. In the railways subsector, the secretariat prepared and submitted to all African railways a document on commercial aspects for development and management of door-to-door techniques in railway transport services. The thrust of the publication was to advise national railway networks on how to retain their share of traffic through proper co-ordination of operations and improvements of the quality of services they offer through application of door-to-door techniques which is now available to them with the rapid expansion of container services in the region. The publication was also submitted to the Union of African Railways (UAR) and the secretariat will in future work closely with UAR's Committee on Commercial Activities in Railway Transport to

assist in drawing up action plans for proper co-ordination of operations and improvement of the quality of services provided.

274. The secretariat also prepared and submitted to African railways another publication on guidelines for design and implementation of manpower development policies in railways with the objective of enabling railways to prepare integrated plans for manpower development. It called upon African railways to overcome their overstaffing problems by correlating their forecasts of traffic to be carried with their manpower requirements. As most African railways are overstaffed, the guidelines will assist them to tailor the size of their networks to the volume of traffic to be carried and reach the optimum required staff for efficient operation of their networks. It was also recommended to them that after the manpower plan is prepared, they should carry out a training needs survey for all categories of staff in their plan and emphasis be given to informal training including twinning arrangements, where necessary.

275. Following a request from UAR, the secretariat reviewed the recommendations prepared by the Transport, Commercial and Economic Committee of UAR over the past ten years and submitted a report to UAR highlighting recommendations that were out of date and those that should still be implemented.

276. Regarding the promotion of the railway industry in Africa, the secretariat prepared reports to the seventeenth General Assembly of the Union of African Railways on the identification of existing railway industrial establishments and workshops, and another on the promotion of the railway industry in Africa. The secretariat also provided assistance to Djibouti-Ethiopia railways on improving the efficiency and productivity of maintenance and repair workshops for railway rolling stock and to UAR on evaluation of the activities from 1976 to 1989 of the Equipment and Materials Committee and the Track-interconnection Signalling and Telecommunications Committee.

277. These activities made it possible to establish contact with UAR and national railway networks and to create a proper environment for the sharing of inter-network activities with a view to expanding South-South co-operation in the development, maintenance and management of railway infrastructure and the promotion of rail transport in Africa.

278. Within the same context, the level of development of railway industrial establishments and workshops in the various subregions was assessed and their roles reassigned in order to make for a better use of existing capacity and for improved investment planning with regard to railway facilities.

279. These activities are expected to have an impact on the proposed inter-connection of African railway lines through the modernization, standardization and normalization of railway rolling stock, fixtures and ancillary facilities.

Air transport

280. During the period under review, the secretariat published a technical publication on guidelines, design and implementation of manpower development policies. The recommendations contained in the publication should help civil aviation authorities and airlines to formulate better manpower training policies and make for better planning.

281. As the lead agency for the implementation of the Yamoussoukro Declaration, ECA in co-operation with the OAU, the African Civil Aviation Commission (AFCAC) and the African Airlines Association (AFRAA) assisted countries and organizations to formulate joint policies in the field of air transport and in identifying the type of co-operation to be initiated with regard to aircraft noise; commercial and technical activities; traffic rights; and training.

282. The secretariat also prepared a report on the status of implementation of the Yamoussoukro Declaration in each subregion. The document contained a set of recommendations for harmonizing air transport policies.

283. In November 1989 and April 1990, the secretariat organized two meetings of the five ministers responsible for co-ordinating the implementation of the Yamoussoukro Declaration at subregional level. Organizations such as the OAU, AFCAC, AFRAA and ADB also participated in the meetings. The purpose of these meetings was to consider the implementation strategies and to adopt guidelines for implementation of the Declaration as well as future action to be taken.

284. The secretariat also conducted three subregional studies focusing on the West, Eastern and Southern African subregions. Those studies dealt with the strengthening of air transport co-operation and contributed to the implementation of the first phase of the Yamoussoukro Declaration.

285. Regarding co-operation with other organizations, ECA assisted AFCAC and AFRAA in the identification of impediments to the development of African air transport services. The secretariat provided technical assistance to the General Assembly of AFRAA and the meeting of the AFCAC Bureau. Also, in close co-operation with AFCAC and AFRAA, the secretariat assisted African member States to prepare and submit to the twenty-seventh General Assembly of the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) a common position on aircraft noise and on the computerized booking system. The documents prepared for and technical support provided to member States during the twenty-seventh session of the ICAO General Assembly enabled that body to take decisions which took into account the economic situation in Africa and safeguarded the interests of African airlines.

Tourism

286. During the period under review, the secretariat serviced the meetings of the Conference of African Ministers of Tourism from 20 to 25 November 1989 in Addis Ababa. The Conference focused on intra-African co-operation, the tourism product and management. Highlights of the deliberations included, *inter alia*, the establishment of mechanisms for concerted action among African intergovernmental organizations, the strengthening of the capability of African tourism enterprises and the establishment of inter-State tourism circuits.

287. In accordance with the working arrangements between ECA and the World Tourism Organization (WTO), the secretariat provided support to the following meetings organized by WTO:

(a) Meeting of the WTO Commission for Africa held on 26 August 1989 in Paris, France. During this meeting, the secretariat reported on its activities particularly with regard to resolutions adopted by the Conference of African Ministers of Tourism held from 18 to 22 November 1987 in Kinshasa, Zaire;

(b) The first meeting of the Ad hoc Committee for the preparation of the programme for celebrating 1991 as African Tourism Year (25 August 1989 in Paris);

(c) A joint seminar of national tourism administrations and the operational sector on 26 August 1989 which enabled the necessary dialogue between national tourism administrations and operators, particularly the private operators; and

(d) The General Assembly of WTO, organized from 28 August to 2 September 1989 in Paris, which adopted the WTO Commission for Africa programme in whose formulation the secretariat was involved.

288. The secretariat also provided assistance to:

(a) The Economic Community of West African States (CEAO) on preparation of a draft protocol for the institution of a tourism programme within CEAO and terms of reference for a feasibility study on inter-State tourism circuits in the subregion; and

(b) In a workshop module on tourism in a course organized by the Eastern and Southern African Management Institute (ESAMI) on transport economics and management for tourism.

289. Missions were undertaken to the Preferential Trade Area for Eastern and Southern African States (PTA), the Southern African Development Co-ordination Conference (SADCC), the Organization for the Development of the Senegal River (OMVS), the African Development Bank (ADB) and West and Southern Africa for the purpose of strengthening co-operation and subsequently an inter-agency co-ordinating committee for tourism development in Africa was established in November 1989.

290. The secretariat participated actively in the preparations for the second United Nations Transport and Communications Decade in Africa (UNTACDA II), particularly concerning the problems relating to the movement of persons, facilitation of the travel and stay of tourists in Africa and both the preservation and development of the natural and human environment.

291. A seminar on hotel management and the participation of African women in tourism development was organized from 18 to 25 September 1989 in Addis Ababa. The seminar was attended by high-ranking officials in national tourism administrations. The outcome was the preparation of a manual on guidelines for the management of small- and medium-scale hotel businesses and for working out a common African position on the contractual relations that should exist between African hotel owners and the transnational hotel management chains. Activities were also undertaken to improve the role of African tourism in national development. Technical publications will be prepared using inputs from the seminar on hotel management. A programme of follow-up activities is being prepared in the form of seminars and workshops.

Communications

292. In the subsector of communications, the secretariat provided advisory services to prepare strategies and plans for the development of rural telecommunications for the Uganda Posts and Telecommunications Corporation.

293. As a member of the Inter-Agency Co-ordinating Committee (IACC) for the implementation of the feasibility study of the African Regional Satellite Communication System (RASCOM), the secretariat continued to assist with the work of the supervising agencies and the technical committee in the completion of the regional level studies and the preparation of the final report.

294. As a member of the PANAFTTEL Co-ordinating Committee, the other members being OAU, ADB, ITU and PATU, the secretariat provided technical support to the activities connected with the review of progress in implementing the missing links of the Pan-African Telecommunications Network (PANAFTTEL), including the formulation of strategies and policy for the operations and maintenance as well as the utilization of existing facilities. In that connection, the Committee organized a special meeting in Central Africa to carry out an in-depth examination of the actual situation of the PANAFTTEL network in the subregion and determine the steps which should be taken by each member country or organization in order to accelerate the development of the network. The Committee's findings and recommendations were reported to the seventh meeting of the Conference of African Ministers of Transport, Communications and Planning which was held from 7 to 16 November 1989 in Tangier, Morocco.

295. Under the bilateral technical co-operation arrangements with the Federal Republic of Germany, the secretariat organized in January/February 1990 in Nairobi, Kenya, a seminar on "Economic aspects of expansion and modernization of national telecommunication networks" for English-speaking countries. The immediate objective of the seminar was to provide a short training course designed to upgrade knowledge and improve the professional competence of senior officials concerned with policy, planning and operations of their national telecommunication networks. In planning of telecommunication facilities and services in Africa, the economic aspects for the introduction of modern technology in the overall network development was stressed.

296. The following technical publications were prepared and despatched to all Ministries of Posts and Telecommunications, national telecommunications organizations, relevant United Nations and regional organizations:

(a) Guidelines for monitoring performance of mail and parcel routing networks in Africa (E/ECA/CMU/34);

(b) Existing rural telecommunication systems in Africa (E/ECA/CMU/35);

(c) Analysis of the evaluation of seminars on rural telecommunication by participants and administrations (E/ECA/CMU/37).

297. The following reports were prepared and presented to inter-governmental meetings:

(a) Report to the twenty-third Annual Regional Telecommunications Conference (ARTC/PANAFTEL) of the Eastern and Southern African countries on activities undertaken for the development of the Pan-African Telecommunications Network (PANAFTEL) (E/ECA/CMU/33);

(b) Report to the Pan-African Postal Union (PAPU) on measures to be taken for facilitation of mail transport by air (E/ECA/CMU/32);

(c) Progress report to the seventh meeting of the Conference of African Ministers of Transport, Communications and Planning on the RASCOM feasibility study (DEC/TRANSCOM/EXP/VII/12), which was prepared in collaboration with the IACC-RASCOM.

298. The various activities highlighted above have no doubt helped member States to a large degree to achieve their objectives by improving the utilization of existing circuits at the national and regional levels, the interconnectivity of African countries on a subregional basis using the regional network as well as the human resources developments necessary to efficiently manage basic facilities and services and the critical role of communication services in the development process of a nation.

299. Apart from the preparation of the UNTACDA II programme to address some of the outstanding issues, such as the development, utilization and management of PANAFTEL, the secretariat will continue its technical support towards completing the RASCOM feasibility study. Other areas of activities will be the provision of technical assistance, preparatory activities for the establishment of a rural telecommunication pilot project and the collection and analysis of data and preparation of reports and studies with a view to addressing problems related to the management and maintenance of existing communication facilities as well as their modernization.

Preparation of the second United Nations Transport and Communications Decade in Africa (UNTACDA II) programme for 1991-2000

300. On the basis of recommendations made in the global evaluation report of UNTACDA (E/ECA/TCD/55), the Conference of African Ministers of Transport, Communications and Planning, at their sixth meeting held in 1988, adopted resolution ECA/UNTACDA/Res.88/73 requesting that a second decade be proclaimed. That resolution was subsequently endorsed by General Assembly resolution 43/179 on the Transport and Communications Decade in Africa.

301. ECA is the lead agency for the implementation of the programme and the IACC, composed of African intergovernmental organizations and United Nations agencies concerned with the development of transport and communications in Africa, is the technical advisory body.

302. The thirteenth meeting of the IACC was held in June 1989 to continue more work on the objectives, strategies and guidelines for UNTACDA II. The outcome of this meeting included the revised objectives, strategies and guidelines which incorporated the terms of reference for the Resource Mobilization Committee (RMC), the criteria for selection of projects as well as the draft agenda for the seventh Intergovernmental Meeting of Experts. The meeting decided to hold one more meeting prior to the seventh meeting of the Conference of Ministers.

303. The IACC subsequently held its fourteenth meeting in November 1989 in Tangier, Morocco. At this meeting, the Committee considered, *inter alia*, the establishment of subsectoral and subregional working groups and their composition; terms of reference of the Resource Mobilization Committee; co-ordination of the activities of the RMC and its financing; establishment of the criteria for the selection of projects; and creation of national co-ordinating committees (NCCs).

Workshop of High-Level Experts on UNTACDA II

304. A workshop of experts on transport and communications development was organized by the secretariat from 25 to 28 September 1989 in order to solicit independent views on the issues of transport and communications in Africa in general, and on the UNTACDA II programme in particular, as proposed by the IACC. A total of 22 experts from within and outside Africa took part in this workshop. Various aspects of macro-economic development and their likely impact on the development of transport and communications in Africa during the Decade programme were analyzed and recommendations made as to the overall orientation of the Decade programme. Some of these recommendations have been incorporated into the approved document on objectives, strategies and guidelines.

Definition of criteria for project selection

305. A special *ad hoc* committee was established by the IACC to develop criteria for the selection of projects to be included in the programme. These criteria were reviewed and endorsed by the Ministers and form part of the guidelines which will be distributed to all the participants for the preparation of the programme.

Mobilization of resources

306. One of the new approaches to the Decade programme which did not exist in the first Decade is the establishment of a special committee to assist the member States in the mobilization of resources to implement the programme. Composed of the African Development Bank (Chairman), the Organization of African Unity, the World Bank, the European Economic Community, the United Nations Development Programme and the Economic Commission for Africa (secretariat), the Resource Mobilization Committee is expected to strengthen co-operation among its members and ensure the collaboration and participation of other financial institutions in the financing of projects that fall within the global objectives of the Decade.

307. Subsequent to its formal creation, the RMC has held two meetings: the first in June and the second in November 1989. At these meetings the RMC drew up its work programme which was approved by the Conference of Ministers; in November 1989.

Preparatory meetings

308. The Conference of African Ministers of Transport, Communications and Planning reviewed the progress in the preparation of the programme in Tangier, in November 1989. Among other things, the Conference approved the objectives and strategies for the programme as well as the guidelines and institutional framework for its preparation. In particular, the Conference endorsed the creation of national co-ordinating committees as well as their terms of reference and adopted the timetable indicating a broad timeframe for completing the preparation of the programme.

309. The first meeting of co-ordinators of the NCCs was held in Addis Ababa, from 6 to 8 February 1990 and was attended by representatives of 24 ECA member States as well as by the OAU, ADB and UNDP. The main objective of the meeting was to brief the co-ordinators on the strategy for the preparation of the UNTACDA II programme and to design guidelines to facilitate the work of the NCCs.

310. The first meeting of African subregional organizations, which constitute the Subregional Working Groups for the UNTACDA II programme, was held in Addis Ababa from 19 to 24 March 1990. It was attended by African intergovernmental organizations as well as the members of the RMC, namely the OAU, ADB, UNDP and ECA.

Some individual countries including Egypt, the Sudan and Tunisia also participated. The meeting was organized in order to formally institute the four subregional working groups and to agree on their functions and programme of work.

C. Relations with other United Nations programmes

311. As in the past, and already discussed under the various programmes of activity particularly under transport, communications and tourism, the secretariat continued to maintain close relationships with other agencies of the United Nations system.

312. In implementing resolution 32/162 of the United Nations General Assembly, ECA participated in the deliberations of the twelfth session of the Human Settlements Committee which was held in Cartagena, Colombia in May 1989.

313. Pursuant to UNDP's approval of a project for "Selective Managerial Training for STO Personnel for the Development and Management of STOs in Africa, South of Sahara", the secretariat in collaboration with ASTRO organized two seminars, one each for English- and French-speaking African countries. The seminars were held at the headquarters of ASTRO in Ljubljana, Yugoslavia, in June 1989. Similarly, a joint ECA/ASTRO second Regional Symposium on African State Trading Organizations was held in Port Louis, Mauritius, in October 1989.

314. The secretariat collaborated with UNCTAD in executing the UNDP-funded project RAF/87/157 on support to Africa in the context of the Uruguay Round of Multilateral Trade Negotiations that aimed at providing African countries with the necessary negotiating capabilities through the organization of regional, subregional and national seminars and dissemination of background information. More specifically, a number of national seminars are envisaged for Lesotho, the Central African Republic, Madagascar and Malawi.

315. The secretariat is collaborating with UNCTAD and UNITAR in a UNDP-funded project RAF/88/046 on African external debt and resource management.

316. The Joint Unit, on an ongoing basis, has collaborated with the UNCTC in collecting data and information on foreign direct investment, transnational corporations' foreign affiliates and legal instruments affecting the activities of TNCs in the ECA region.

317. It also assisted the Intergovernmental Working Group of Experts on International Standards of Accounting and Reporting, on behalf of the UNCTC, the World Bank and ILO, by undertaking a "Survey of accounting needs in Africa" where the Unit was responsible for Ethiopia.

318. The secretariat co-operated with the Population Division at Headquarters in New York in the preparation of the 1990 revision of population estimates and projections for ECA member States. There was also collaboration and co-ordination on software procurement of data on population policies with the Population Division in New York. The secretariat collaborated with UNFPA in preparation of a paper on Assessment of African population policies based on the Kilimanjaro Programme of Action and the UN-PAAERD and participated at the UNFPA Inter-Agency Consultative Meeting to draw some lessons from the Amsterdam Declaration on future activities.

319. The secretariat collaborated with UNESCO in planning the first meeting of Heads of African Science and Technology Policy Institutions and participated in the meeting from 19 to 21 July 1989 and presented a paper on the harmonization of science and technology programmes in Africa. It also collaborated with the other United Nations agencies through its participation in a meeting of the ACC Task Force on Science and Technology, on 26 and 27 March 1990 at which the various agencies considered measures for co-operation and harmonization of their programmes and activities in science and technology. The secretariat also collaborated with UNIDO in the ARCT/UNIDO/FIIR workshop already referred to above.

320. In the area of co-operation with other United Nations agencies and organizations, the secretariat provided support to the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs in organizing the regional preparatory meeting for the eighth United Nations Conference on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders (Addis Ababa, 5 to 6 June 1989). The secretariat worked closely with the crime prevention and juvenile justice units for the youth, the elderly and disabled persons of the United Nations Office in Vienna in the co-ordination and execution of the various social development activities.

321. The secretariat took part in seminars and meetings organized by UNICEF, INSTRAW and the Commission on the Status of Women where it contributed its experience.

322. With regard to statistics, the secretariat has had active collaboration in the area of workshops/seminars, joint missions to tackle specific problems and, to some extent, joint execution of projects.

323. With respect to workshops and seminars organized by the secretariat this collaboration has included the preparation and presentation of documents by other agencies and organizations such as the United Nations Statistical Office, FAO and the World Bank. The secretariat has equally responded to requests from these and other agencies and organizations.

324. The secretariat has had joint missions with the United Nations Statistical Office, FAO, etc., in the areas of household surveys and project formulation and evaluation. Joint execution of a project took place when ECA was subcontracted by the World Bank to undertake specific activities under the project "Africa".

325. In preparing the programme for UNTACDA II, the secretariat held consultative meetings with OECD to identify areas of future co-operation on road safety research and with the World Bank in the preparation of the rural travel and transport project, a component of the WB/ECA Sub-Saharan African Transport Programme.

326. Tourism co-operation between ECA and the United Nations Centre on Transnational Corporations (CTC) has been developing positively. After having contributed to the work of the second meeting of African Ministers of Tourism organized jointly in May 1990, the Centre will be organizing a high-level workshop on contractual relations between African hotel owners and the transnational hotel management chains in November 1990 as a follow-up to the September 1989 workshop on hotel management and the participation of women in African tourism development.

CHAPTER III

TWENTY-FIFTH SESSION OF THE COMMISSION AND SIXTEENTH MEETING OF THE CONFERENCE OF MINISTERS

A. Attendance and organization of work

327. The twenty-fifth session of the Commission/sixteenth meeting of the Conference of Ministers was held in Tripoli, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, from 15 to 19 May 1990. The meeting was formally opened by His Excellency Staff Major Abdu Salam Jaloud, Member of the historical leadership of the Great First September Revolution. Statements were also delivered at the opening ceremony by Mr. Adebayo Adedeji, Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa, Ambassador B.N. Dede, Assistant Secretary-General of the Organization of African Unity and Comrade Mersie Ejigu, Minister of Planning of Ethiopia, outgoing Chairman of the twenty-fourth session of the Commission. A message from H.E. Mr. Javier Perez de Cuellar, Secretary-General of the United Nations, was read by Mr. A. Blanca, Director-General for Development and International Economic Co-operation. H.E. Mr. Rasheed El Gazawi, Minister of Planning of Morocco, moved a vote of thanks on behalf of all participants.

328. The meeting was attended by representatives of the following States members of the Commission: Algeria, Angola, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Chad, the Congo, Djibouti, Egypt, Ethiopia, Gabon, the Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Kenya, the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mauritania, Morocco, Mozambique, the Niger, Nigeria, Rwanda, Senegal, Somalia, the Sudan, Togo, Tunisia, Uganda, the United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia and Zaire.

329. Observers from the following States Members of the United Nations, not members of the Commission, were present: Argentina, Austria, Bulgaria, China, Cuba, Czechoslovakia, Finland, France, the German Democratic Republic, Germany (Federal Republic of), Greece, India, Iran, Japan, Malaysia, Philippines, Romania, South Korea, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, Venezuela and Viet Nam. The Holy See, not a Member of the United Nations, was represented by an observer.

330. The following United Nations bodies and specialized agencies were represented: United Nations Regional Commissions New York Office (RCNYO), United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), International Trade Centre (ITC), World Food Programme (WFP), United Nations Information Centre (UNIC), International Labour Organisation (ILO), Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), World Health Organization (WHO), World Bank, International Monetary Fund (IMF), International Telecommunication Union (ITU), World Meteorological Organization (WMO), International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) and United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO).

331. The Organization of African Unity (OAU) was represented.

332. Observers were present from the following intergovernmental organizations: Africa Regional Co-ordinating Committee for the Integration of Women in Development (ARCC), African Centre for Applied Research and Training in Social Development (ACARTSOD), African Development Bank (ADB), African Institute for Economic Development and Planning (IDEP), African Regional Centre for Engineering, Design and Manufacturing (ARCEDEM), African Regional Organization for Standardization (ARSO), Afro-Asian People's Solidarity Organization (AAPSO), Arab Bank for Economic Development in Africa (BADEA), Association of African Trade Promotion Organizations (AATPO), Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS), Economic Community of the Great Lakes Countries (CEPGL), International Hydrographic Organization (IHO), Islamic Development Bank (IDB), Pan-African Postal Union (PAPU), Pan-African Telecommunications Union (PATU), Regional Centre for Services in Surveying, Mapping and Remote Sensing (RCSSMRS), Regional Centre for Training in Aerospace Surveys (RECTAS), Regional Institute for Population Studies (RIPS) and Institut de formation et de recherche démographiques (IFORD).

333. Observers were also present from the following non-governmental organizations: Commonwealth Secretariat, Imo State University, Lutheran World Federation (LWF), University of Ibadan and University of Zambia.

334. The Conference unanimously elected the following officers:

Chairman: Dr. Mohamed Lufti Farhat (Libyan Arab Jamahiriya)
 First Vice-Chairman: Mr. D.N. Magang (Botswana)
 Second Vice-Chairman: Mr. Ndanga Badel (Cameroon)
 Rapporteur: Mr. Michel Kamano (Guinea)

B. Agenda

335. On 15 May 1990, the Commission adopted the following agenda:

1. Opening of the meeting.
2. Minute of silent prayer or meditation.
3. Election of officers.
4. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work.
5. General debate on Transformation, Recovery and Adjustment:
 - (a) Biennial report of the Executive Secretary on ECA activities 1988-1989;
 - (b) Progress in the implementation of the United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development, 1986-1990 (UN-PAAERD) and Africa's Priority Programme for Economic Recovery, 1986-1990 (APPER) and their impact on African economies:
 - (i) Economic Report on Africa, 1990;
 - (ii) Progress report on the implementation of UN-PAAERD;
 - (iii) Preparation for the final review and evaluation of UN-PAAERD, 1991;
 - (iv) Effectiveness of technical assistance programmes in Africa.
 - (c) Beyond Recovery, Towards Transformation: African Alternative Framework to Structural Adjustment Programmes for Socio-economic Recovery and Transformation (AAF-SAP):
 - (i) Progress report on follow-up on AAF-SAP;
 - (ii) Issues in the operationalization of AAF-SAP: Multiple exchange rate systems, differential interest rate policy, and production subsidies;
 - (iii) Report of the International Conference on Popular Participation in the Recovery and Development Process in Africa.

6. Report and recommendations of the eleventh meeting of the Technical Preparatory Committee of the Whole for consideration by the twenty-fifth session of the Commission/sixteenth meeting of the Conference of Ministers on:

- (a) Report of the evaluation mission to review the achievements of the MULPOCs with a view to strengthening them and making them more effective;
- (b) The situation of food and agriculture in Africa:
 - (i) Multinational co-operation in coastal, marine and inland fisheries development;
 - (ii) The contribution of stabilization funds and commodity export marketing boards to the development of rural marketing infrastructure;
- (c) Industrial development in Africa:

Joint ECA/OAU/UNIDO progress report on the Industrial Development Decade for Africa and the preparations for the second Decade;
- (d) Natural resources and environment in Africa:
 - (i) The status of river and lake basin development in Africa;
 - (ii) Report of the meeting of plenipotentiaries on the establishment of the African Nuclear Energy Commission;
 - (iii) African Regional Conference on Environment and Sustainable Development;
 - (iv) Report on progress in making the African Centre of Meteorological Applications for Development (ACMAD) operational;
- (e) International trade and development finance:
 - (i) The fourth ACP-EEC Convention: Principal features and their relevance to African development;
 - (ii) International co-operation for trade facilitation;
- (f) Transport and communications in Africa:

Progress report on the preparation of the programme for the second United Nations Transport and Communications Decade in Africa;
- (g) Population:

Population issues for ECA member States in the 1990s;
- (h) Economic co-operation and integration:

Progress report on the establishment of the African Economic Community;
- (i) "Priority Africa" (item proposed by UNESCO);
- (j) Operational activities;

- (i) Report on ECA-executed technical co-operation projects;
 - (ii) Progress in TCDC/ECDC activities in Africa;
 - (iii) Activities, work programmes and budgets of the ECA-sponsored regional and subregional institutions;
- (k) Recommendations from the subsidiary organs and sectoral bodies of the Commission:
- (i) Ninth meeting of the Conference of African Ministers of Industry;
 - (ii) Seventh United Nations Regional Cartographic Conference for Africa;
 - (iii) Fifth meeting of the Conference of African Ministers of Social Affairs;
 - (iv) Seventh meeting of the Conference of African Ministers of Transport, Communications and Planning;
 - (v) Sixth meeting of the Intergovernmental Committee of Experts on Science and Technology Development;
 - (vi) Fourth Regional Conference on the Integration of Women in Development;
 - (vii) Tenth meeting of the Conference of African Ministers of Trade;
 - (viii) Second meeting of the Conference of African Ministers of Tourism;
 - (ix) Sixth meeting of the Joint Conference of African Planners, Statisticians and Demographers;
 - (x) Report of the meeting of Chief Executives of African intergovernmental organizations;
 - (xi) Eleventh meeting of the Africa Regional Co-ordinating Committee for the Integration of Women in Development;
 - (xii) Ninth meeting of the Intergovernmental Committee of Experts of African Least Developed Countries;
 - (xiii) Report of the meeting of the Conference of Chief Executives of ECA-sponsored Regional and Subregional Institutions;

(1) Statutory issues:

Follow-up action on relevant resolutions adopted by the twenty-fourth session of the Commission and decisions adopted by the General Assembly and ECOSOC that are of interest to Africa:

- (i) Follow-up action on other relevant resolutions adopted by the twenty-fourth session of the Commission/fifteenth meeting of the Conference of Ministers;
- (ii) Resolutions adopted by ECOSOC at its second regular session of 1989 and by the General Assembly at its forty-fourth session in the economic and social sectors that are of interest to Africa;

- (m) United Nations African Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders:
 - (i) UNDP funding;
 - (ii) Staff rules;
 - (n) Status and prospects of the African Institute for Higher Technical Training and Research;
 - (o) Programme of work and priorities of the Commission:
 - (i) Proposals for updating the 1990-1991 programme budget;
 - (ii) Report of the Ad hoc Committee on the Medium-term Plan 1992-1997;
 - (iii) Self-evaluation of programmes in ECA.
7. Report of the tenth meeting of the Conference of Ministers of African Least Developed Countries.
 8. Report of the fifth meeting of the Ministerial Follow-up Committee of Ten of the Conference of African Ministers Responsible for Human Resources Planning, Development and Utilization.
 9. Any other business.
 10. Date and venue and other matters related to the twenty-sixth session of the Commission/seventeenth meeting of the Conference of Ministers.
 11. Consideration and adoption of the report and resolutions of the meeting.
 12. Closure of the meeting.

C. Account of proceedings

Opening addresses

336. In opening the meeting, His Excellency Staff Major Abdul Salam Jaloud, Member of the historical leadership of the First September Revolution, welcomed the participants. He noted that the theme of the Conference was particularly appropriate. If it were translated into concrete and effective programmes and actions, that theme would help lay the foundations for the emancipation of the Continent both politically and economically. However, he felt that Africa would not be allowed to translate the theme into reality as the Western countries would not want to see any serious development taking place in the continent. Nevertheless, to march forward, African Governments had to have the political will to produce concrete actions and programmes. The establishment of an enabling environment, including the institution of democracy, the establishment of popular regimes, the strengthening of co-operation, the development of transport and communications and of genuine relations with the rest of the world were important elements in the march forward. The African Economic Community had also to be established and the potential for South-South co-operation fully exploited.

337. He recognized the need for Africa to be open to the outside world, as no country and no continent could evolve without co-operating with others. However, in this interdependent world, Africa had been the loser, despite its huge potential. It was impossible for the African countries to derive any meaningful benefit from North-South co-operation as the North had always tried to prevent political independence and hinder the efforts of African countries to unite behind common goals and objectives. For instance, after the success of the oil revolution led by Libya during which the price of oil was controlled by the producers, the North had organized itself to ensure that such a revolution would not be repeated for other products, notably those of agricultural

origin. The North, in particular, had been struggling to produce synthetic substitutes for many of the products in which Africa had a comparative advantage. It was not surprising, therefore, that Africa had 28 of the world's least developed countries. The situation was critical and would become more so with the decline of Marxism in the Soviet Union and the Eastern bloc. This would further marginalize the African countries as their allies would be more and more busy with their internal problems. That situation had been created by the West in the guise of bringing democracy to the people of the Eastern bloc.

338. He said that the North, for fear that African and Arab countries would join forces following the formation of the Maghreb Union, had orchestrated the conflict between Mauritania and Senegal, two sister Muslim countries. The media of the North, he noted, had rushed to attribute the dispute to the use of the river and to differences between African and Arab Muslims. Those actions were part of the conspiracy of the North to divide and rule Africa. He requested citizens of the two sister countries to be aware of that and to not allow that plot to lead them and Africa as a whole into error.

339. He pointed out that the IMF and the World Bank were contributing to this conspiracy. They provided financial assistance with one hand to a country but ensured that as much as ten times that amount was taken out of that particular country.

340. He appealed to the Commission to analyze all these issues and find radical solutions to stop the conspiracy of the North against Africa. Africa was not responsible for the debt crisis as the loans were contracted on the advice of the North, and were spent under their supervision on activities that had not contributed to development. Finally, he urged participants to be nationalist in their approach to problems.

341. The Executive Secretary of ECA expressed to His Excellency Colonel Muammar Al-Qaddafi, Leader of the Great and Glorious Al-Fatah Revolution and to the valiant people of Libya, ECA's profound gratitude and appreciation. The Jamahiriya had distinguished itself as the first country ever, since ECA was established, to host two sessions of the Commission within a decade.

342. The Decade of the 1990s was one during which Africa must answer a few basic questions: what would be the plight of its people; would Africa succeed in abandoning the process and policies that marginalized its people, and instead, pursue vigorously a human-centred development strategy and programmes that put the people first? Would Africa begin to recapture the lost ground in the international economy relative to other regions and lay the foundation for becoming a true partner rather than a perpetual dependent in the world economy? What would be its response to the phenomenon of growing regionalism that will be the hallmark of the 1990s with the North American Free Trade Area, Europe 1992, the Pacific Rim, and other developments? Would Africa, in response, revitalize and reinvigorate its regional economic groupings such as the PTA for Eastern and Southern Africa, ECOWAS for West Africa, ECCAS for Central Africa and MU for the Maghreb countries and advance in the implementation of the Final Act of Lagos which called for the establishment of an African Economic Community by the year 2000?

343. Africa's development partners should avoid the unforgivable mistake of continuing to try to fit development into the adjustment process. The perception that adjustment programmes should continue to evolve or that there should be developed a new generation of structural adjustment programmes (SAPs) must be dropped.

344. With the publication of its recent long-term perspective study Sub-Saharan Africa: From Crisis to Sustainable Growth, the World Bank had moved closer to AAF-SAP. It was to be hoped that once the World Bank had begun to translate the perspective study into operational programmes, it would follow the path of logic and abandon totally and completely the current and the so-called new generation of SAPs. The time had come for the Bretton Woods institutions, particularly the World Bank, to go back full steam to development and transformation, fitting adjustment within their framework, not the other way round. The African Governments and people and their leaders must recognize that the consensus-building effort around AAF-SAP was going to be a long process. They must therefore continue to put pressure on the international community in all fora.

345. There were six basic thrusts in the forward march to transformation. First, Africa needed to take a hard look at and act decisively on the critical and vital issues of democracy, accountability and full involvement of the African population in the process of their development. Secondly, each country must develop and adopt a national policy framework consistent with AAF-SAP and medium-term plans. Thirdly, AAF-SAP must become a household word, and a widely accessible blueprint and guideline. Fourthly, a subregional approach to AAF-SAP must be adopted. The fifth lay in getting policy instruments right by designing, formulating and applying only those policy instruments that were appropriate to specific economic and social milieux; and the sixth was the creation of a favourable and more conducive international economic environment that facilitated policy reforms for socio-economic recovery and transformation.

346. In spite of the odds, Africa must continue to pursue all available avenues and strategies for resolving such critical issues. While it was important to recognize the danger of borrowing on short term for long-term projects or at floating interest rates for largely unproductive projects, it was equally important, to insist on a review of the economic and financial power currently exercised by the Bretton Woods institutions on the African economies with a view to reducing their dominance of Africa's economic destiny. The donor countries must be made to see the futility of an arrangement that had done so much to considerably diminish and narrow independent policy-making and national economic management and - by the same token - the Bretton Woods institutions, particularly the World Bank, should revert to development and transformation. Part of the solution to the problem of the multilateral debts must be to write off or reschedule them. The world must, in the 1990s, move away from effort directed at refinancing debt to a significant and substantial reduction of the stock of debt. Urgent action was also needed to increase resource flows to Africa on a concessional basis for long-term development.

347. The main question was whether the people of Africa, their Governments and leaders could muster enough political will to ensure the emergence of the new Africa during this decade.

348. The Assistant Secretary-General of the OAU stated that the hosting by Libya for a second time of the ECA Conference of Ministers demonstrated that country's commitment to the ideals of African co-operation and integration. He underlined the co-operation and collaboration between the OAU and ECA. The issues which the latter considered were often used as inputs for the meetings of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the OAU.

349. He reviewed the major developments taking place throughout the world including the emergence of economic or trading blocs, and the political and socio-economic developments in Eastern Europe, and pointed to their possible consequences on Africa. He considered the independence of Namibia on 21 March 1990 and the release of Nelson Mandela on 11 February 1990 to be welcome signs for the decade of the 1990s.

350. The beginning of the 1990s was also an opportune time to review the 1980s and map out future strategies. While the 1980s were a "lost decade", due recognition should be given to the major development strategies of the period, such as the Lagos Plan of Action and the Final Act of Lagos, APPER, the UN-PAAERD, Africa's Common Position on the External Debt Crisis and the adoption of AAF-SAP. He drew attention to the devastating drought, the plague of locusts, famine and mass starvation of that decade, and the response of the international community with massive food aid. The period also witnessed major policy prescriptions, strategies, and statements of development objectives by various agencies, including the World Bank.

351. The question now before the meeting was therefore what Africa wanted for itself and its people during the 1990s. An assessment of actions taken at the national level to implement the various regional and global programmes, and of the constraining factors such as internal conflicts and disputes was essential, and he hoped member States would address themselves to those issues.

352. He stressed the need to create an enabling environment for accelerated socio-economic development and enumerated popular participation and the redefinition of the purpose and objectives of government vis-à-vis the governed as some of the factors for consideration. The debt crisis and the uncertain level of export prices and earnings also required to be addressed.

353. Finally, he reviewed the intra-African co-operation and integration efforts of the 1980s in the establishment of economic groupings and institutions. Those institutions were too many, duplicative in nature and lacked effective financial support and had to be restructured and re-oriented to facilitate the achievement of the African Economic Community.

354. Comrade Mersie Ejigu, Minister of Planning of Ethiopia and outgoing Chairman of the Conference, stated that there was a danger that the attention of the international community might be focused on the coming together of the East and West in a new political alignment and thus shift away from its age-old concerns with Africa. Africa might be further marginalized and left to deal, alone, with the uphill task of achieving economic development against the backdrop of explosive population growth and environmental degradation. African countries must do their utmost to keep African problems on the economic agenda of the major donor countries. In the fourth United Nations Development Decade, they must continue to exert pressure on the world community to honour its commitment to Africa and, as a minimum, double official development assistance (ODA) flows to African LDCs by the mid-1990s. They must also continue to press for easier access of their exports to developed country markets; for an inclusion of agricultural commodities in the GATT scheme; for the removal of policy conditionalities on multilateral loans; for the untying of bilateral aid from sources of supply; and for a sustained transfer of appropriate technologies through the United Nations system to Africa.

355. One aspect of the economic trends of the 1980s was that sub-Saharan Africa had emerged as the economically least developed and most vulnerable part of the globe. The recent events in Europe should not divert Africans from undertaking a more comprehensive examination and evaluation of the economic policies adopted in the last decade, nor from analyzing broader trends in the world economy which had, despite growing intra-developing country disparities, generated problems which were common to African and non-African countries alike. Africa had to seek common ground with other developing countries on such issues as debt rescheduling or compensatory schemes to stabilize export revenue and import volumes, transfer of technology and technical co-operation.

356. It was significant to note that governments and donor agencies alike had begun to appreciate the urgency of according special priority to removing long-term structural constraints such as high population growth, environmental degradation and food insecurity. It was now widely agreed that devaluation plus deflation was unsustainable unless accompanied by special provisions to safeguard the welfare of the more vulnerable segments of society. The issues of economic management, human resources development and the appropriate "enabling environment" within which diverse types of business might flourish were increasingly coming to the fore in the policy reform agenda for the 1990s. The recent convergence of views and the effort put into the preparation and articulation of views contained in AAF-SAP had, in large measure, contributed to the changing attitudes to African development problems. A major contribution of AAF-SAP had been to show precisely that economic adjustment programmes had to be both nationally conceived and led in order to have any chance of success. The question had not been whether economic transformation was necessary but what type of structural transformation was appropriate to African conditions. Together with the Khartoum Declaration, AAF-SAP had succeeded in demonstrating that economic transformation programmes must be so organized as not to diminish the already dismal levels of social welfare expenditure in Africa. It provided a vehicle through which African dissatisfaction with orthodox SAPs could be voiced.

357. As they entered the final decade of the century, development partners must build upon the convergence they had so steadily reached. Four important principles should govern the formulation of economic policy in the coming decade. First, the rate of growth of total production had to be accelerated and placed on a self-sustaining basis. Second, increases in the rate of economic growth had to be accompanied by considerations of economic justice, both in the conduct of international economic policy and organization of international institutions, as well as in the domestic sphere. Third, all should share a common concern for the environment; and fourth, Africa must have its fair share of the technological revolution which was rapidly transforming production methods. It had to change from being a mere onlooker or an innocent victim of labour-displacing technologies and product substitution, and become an interested participant in the transfer and adaptation of existing technologies to its development needs.

358. His own country had instituted a series of measures designed to raise investment levels significantly. Compulsory marketing quotas for farm households had been abandoned; movement of grain and labour across regions had been liberalized; permanent usufruct rights to land had been granted and private property rights to urban land and property recognized. All enterprises were expected to operate on the principles of competitiveness and profitability. The series of national initiatives designed to overcome long-term structural constraints included a number of special national programmes on food security, disaster preparedness, employment generation, conservation and population control.

359. The single most important lesson to be learnt from the foregoing experiences was that Africa need not be diffident about putting forward its reservations and concerns on economic policy questions. It must welcome the convergence in development thinking and the spirit of dialogue beginning to permeate the international arena. All must learn to abandon favourite, but currently defunct, theories. In the course of the fourth United Nations Development Decade, sustained economic growth and the provision of basic human needs must be pursued as moral imperatives which would lead to the realization of the dream, long cherished in the United Nations family, of one world.

360. In his message to the Conference, the Secretary-General of the United Nations described the very positive events that had taken place on the African political scene. Namibia had achieved nationhood, Nelson Mandela had been freed, the ban on political activities in South Africa had been lifted and a national dialogue instituted. Those were the first signs of the peace and genuine stability so long expected in Africa.

361. In spite of those encouraging signs, it was clear that peace and stability in Africa depended on the resolution of its economic and social problems. During the 1980s, the situation in Africa had seriously deteriorated. The United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development (UN-PAAERD) had been adopted at an opportune moment to serve as a framework for involving the international community.

362. He informed the Conference that in 1991 the General Assembly would be reviewing the achievements of the Programme. It was already more than evident that some of the important initiatives that it had given rise to could be used as the basis for achieving the long-term objective of Africa's development.

363. The food situation had improved somewhat in recent years and a growing number of countries had recorded food surpluses. There still existed, however, pockets of famine and food deficit in areas of Africa, which were due to recurrent drought and civil strife.

364. The problem of refugees and displaced persons was becoming more acute in Africa. In spite of the traditional hospitality of local communities and neighbouring countries, the inflow of such people constituted a danger for the stability of host countries and threatened their prospects for economic and social development.

365. It was important to arrest the de-industrialization which had marked the 1980s, and to take effective measures to modernize and transform the industrial sector, so that it could act as the engine for growth and development in the African economy.

366. Environmental problems had continued to constrain development efforts in Africa. That was why special importance should be attached to the recommendations and agenda for action adopted by the African Regional Conference on Environment and Sustainable Development held in Kampala, Uganda, in June 1989.

367. The debt overhang remained the most critical obstacle to growth and development in the region. The stock of debt should be reduced if Africa was to achieve lasting economic recovery. It was encouraging to note that the major creditor countries had come to terms with this reality.

368. In conclusion, the Secretary-General referred to the reports on three major general policy instruments to be used within the context of AAF-SAP, namely multiple exchange rates, differential interest rate policies and production subsidies. The controversy recently created by the poor results of orthodox SAPs showed that the

efficacy of such programmes was being questioned. Attitudes were changing and a new approach was being adopted to take into account the imperative need for socio-economic transformation in Africa.

369. Speaking on behalf of participants, H.E. Mr. Rasheed El Gazawi, Minister of Planning of Morocco, moved a vote of thanks to the people, Government and particularly to the Leader of the Glorious First September Revolution of the Great Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya for the warm and fraternal hospitality offered to all participants and for the facilities placed at the disposal of the Conference.

370. He stated that the statement delivered by Staff Major Jaloud should be considered as a comprehensive review of African problems particularly in terms of the challenges faced by African countries which would have to act out their commitment to translating AAF-SAP into genuine development and transformation.

General debate on Transformation, Recovery and Adjustment (agenda item 5):

- (a) Biennial report of the Executive Secretary on ECA activities 1988-1989;
- (b) Progress in the implementation of the United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development, 1986-1990 (UN-PAAERD) and Africa's Priority Programme for Economic Recovery, 1986-1990 (APPER) and their impact on African economies:
 - (i) Economic Report on Africa, 1990;
 - (ii) Progress report on the implementation of UN-PAAERD;
 - (iii) Preparation for the final review and evaluation of UN-PAAERD, 1991;
 - (iv) Effectiveness of technical assistance programmes in Africa.
- (c) Beyond Recovery, Towards Transformation: African Alternative Framework to Structural Adjustment Programmes for Socio-economic Recovery and Transformation (AAF-SAP):
 - (i) Progress report on follow-up on AAF-SAP;
 - (ii) Issues in the operationalization of AAF-SAP: Multiple exchange rate systems, differential interest rate policy, and production subsidies;
 - (iii) Report of the International Conference on Popular Participation in the Recovery and Development Process in Africa.

371. The representative of Morocco stated that the TEPCOW report, and a number of documents prepared under the supervision of the Executive Secretary of ECA, constituted important inputs to the meeting of the Conference of Ministers, whose task it was to define the priority framework for African development. He underscored the urgent need to develop long-term strategies for coping with the patterns of co-operation evolving in the Mediterranean basin and Europe.

372. South-South co-operation called, *inter alia*, for the strengthening of Afro-Arab co-operation, particularly between African-Arab countries and African countries south of the Sahara. With a view to giving substance to its decisions, the Conference might consider setting up an African planning advisory council to work out long-term strategies for tackling major development issues in Africa such as runaway population growth, unemployment and other problems. That council would advise on and monitor the implementation of resolutions adopted by the Conference. He stressed the need to set up an African economic data bank.

373. Programme management capabilities had to be strengthened through a better selection of concrete projects in order to facilitate economic recovery. In that regard, his country had acquired considerable

experience of which sister African countries may avail themselves. He stressed that AFF-SAP was a programme vital to Africa and should be implemented gradually and flexibly in concert with Africa's multilateral development partners, especially the Bretton Woods institutions. He proposed that Africa might strengthen its co-operation with the Department of International Economic Co-operation for Development with a view to exerting pressure on those institutions in order to make them take into account the basic needs of people and development and the attainment of a modicum of growth. He commended ECA for its effectiveness in promoting development and co-operation in Africa and singled out the untiring and laudable efforts made by the Executive Secretary on behalf of the continent.

374. The representative of Botswana stated that the documents before the Conference were of high quality and identified the major issues requiring attention.

375. He stressed that there was much to learn from the dismal performance of the 1980s, and particularly from the numerous policy guidelines and prescriptions formulated during that period.

376. The report of the Team set up to review the structure, operations and organization of the MULPOCs had done its work ably. The need for the MULPOCs was beyond question, and he welcomed the attempt to rationalize and harmonize the activities of the MULPOCs with those of the intergovernmental organizations in the region. He pointed out, however, that resources, both human and financial, were required if the MULPOCs were to be given a new lease of life.

377. He reviewed Botswana's economic performance during the 1980s, the country's development concerns, and the challenges and prospects for the next decade. Performance during the 1980s had been substantially better than forecast, mainly because of the resurgence of the international market for diamonds, the principal export, and favourable exchange rate movements. However, Botswana's natural resources were fragile and vulnerable to the international economic environment. The country had become highly dependent on diamonds. The longer-term prospects, he observed, would depend on the extent to which the production base was expanded, and measures in that direction were already in progress.

378. In spite of the progress made, poverty was still prevalent, especially in the rural areas. He briefly reviewed employment issues in his country, the shortage of skilled manpower, and the need to widen the country's technological base.

379. In conclusion, he stated that his country's next national development plan would offer an opportunity, where appropriate, to choose from the various policies and strategies evolved by ECA over the years.

380. The representative of the United Republic of Tanzania stressed the importance of the theme of the Conference. The 1980s had been virtually a lost decade for African nations attempting to better the living standards of their people. Despite the implementation of economic recovery and structural adjustment programmes, economic and social conditions in Africa had deteriorated.

381. For Tanzania, the 1990s posed the greatest challenge for initiating and implementing policy actions which would provide the necessary conditions for the "take-off" of the economy.

382. Recognizing the need for the support of the international community, he drew the attention of the Conference to the dismal performance of that community in the implementation of the UN-PAAERD, especially the inadequate provision of required external resources and the conditionalities and cross-conditionalities of the present international monetary system.

383. The democratization of socio-economic systems in Africa should be complemented by the removal of the economic injustice meted out to Africa through high interest rates on loans and uneven terms of trade. They had caused a real transfer of resources from the developing world to the richer developed world of the West. He stressed that Africa was now mature enough to know what it wanted. That was economic growth, and particularly economic development without destruction, since that was essential for a better quality of life for the

people of the African continent. Africa itself should assume the leadership role in diagnosing and articulating the real socio-economic plight of its economies as well as, initiating and implementing the development strategies it found to be most appropriate.

384. The representative of Zambia listed the measures being taken by his Government to diversify its economy. These included the gradual devaluation of the kwacha; introduction of a new window for foreign exchange transactions at market rate; removal of price controls on all commodities except maize; implementation of a tight money supply policy; reduction of subsidies on maize meal and fertilizer which had led to a 450 per cent price rise to K374 per 50 kg bag; and broadening of the tax base to cover more goods and transfer of resources from consumption to agriculture and industry. Those measures had reduced the budget deficit and increased export earnings. The country's investment code was being improved to attract more local and foreign investors.

385. He referred to the various regional strategy documents such as the Monrovia Strategy, the UN-PAAERD and APPER and said that in spite of these, economic recovery in Africa continued to be a mirage. It was to be wondered what had gone wrong. He underlined the fact that the programmes had been coherent and realistic, and were a clear reflection of Africa's innovative approach and response to its economic problems. There had, however, been a missing dimension, namely the lack of political will, confidence and commitment. African countries had failed to incorporate into their respective national development plans and budgets those strategies that had been adopted at continental fora. This was especially obvious in the current disinterest that member States had for the African regional and subregional institutions which they themselves had established. He called for the strengthening of the MULPOCs. Their deployment in the effective operationalization of the AAF-SAP initiative must succeed if Africa was to avoid another lost decade in the 1990s.

386. The representative of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya stressed the need for intensifying co-operation among African countries in implementing development strategies and added that Africa had reached the crossroads in its development endeavour and had to decide between promoting subregional and regional co-operation on the one hand and imitating foreign development models on the other. He emphasized the need to promote food self-sufficiency and to promote and co-ordinate activities with other developing countries.

387. He stressed that AAF-SAP, which provided long-term strategies for Africa's development, should not be lost sight of. In that connection, he reviewed his country's experience after the Great Al Fatah Revolution and noted, in particular, the country's social and economic development. Libya had, over the past 20 years, spent vast amounts (over \$US 80 billion) on the implementation of projects within the framework of the country's new development plan. The Great Man-Made River project aimed at the development of water resources and food self-sufficiency was in the final stage of the first phase of the plan. The project would not only enable the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya to develop its water resources and combat desertification and drought but also promote agricultural and industrial development and food security as well as the export of surplus food to neighbouring countries.

388. The representative of Tunisia stated that, in the face of current structural and technological changes, it was necessary to close ranks and take joint action. The prospects of Europe 1992, the unification of Germany and other ongoing changes must also lead to unity and the strengthening of co-operation among African States. The impact of biotechnologies on agriculture constituted a real challenge to Africa. That was why the continent must co-operate in the area of research and development aimed at achieving greater productivity.

389. The debt burden continued to be a real problem despite the enormous repayment efforts made and would have far-reaching effects on investment and development. Again, there was a need for concerted action by all parties concerned and for the identification of profitable and productive projects.

390. He highlighted the structural reforms made by his country to streamline its financial and economic situation. The establishment of the Maghreb Union was proof of the value of pooling efforts when working for the integration of the North African subregion.

391. The representative of Algeria stated that the twenty-fifth session of the Commission corresponded to the end of a particularly difficult decade for the continent in both economic and social terms. That was underscored by the ECA Economic Report on Africa, 1990. The drop in per capita income during the decade was a reflection of the deterioration of economic conditions within the African continent and an extremely adverse international economic environment.

392. Africa was endowed with enormous human resources and skills but it had continued to turn to experts from other regions of the world because of its lack of organization and appropriate policies. Africa's water resources were among the most significant in the world, but it had continued, due to the lack of management, to suffer from drought and desertification, and had failed to make up for its food shortages.

393. There was a need for self-reliance. In this respect, the establishment of subregional entities on the African continent was meant to strengthen Africa's negotiating power and to start the integration process among its economies.

394. With regard to Africa's debt, he stated that this was a real burden which obstructed development efforts and constituted a threat to its social and political stability. The international community should review its stand on this crisis and define the broad outline of a solution which should no longer be geared towards the exclusive interests of creditors, but rather to the development needs of debtor countries. He reaffirmed the attachment of Algeria to Africa's common position on debt that had been adopted by the OAU. Three essential areas, namely debt, the transfer of resources and trade constituted the key areas which should be underlined in the approach of African countries to discussions with industrialized countries on North-South relations. With regard to the experience of his country, he provided a brief review of the economic reforms undertaken by Algeria during the past years. Emphasis had mainly been laid on restructuring public enterprises and decentralizing authority in order to empower them to take decisions and initiatives; measures leading to curb State monopoly of foreign trade; restructuring of the monetary system in order to give the central bank a decisive role in monetary and credit matters, the idea being to make the national currency convertible eventually and to pave the way for diversified forms of co-operation.

395. The representative of Egypt underlined the cordial and close relations existing between his country and the Great Libyan Arab Jamahiriya. He noted that the world was witnessing rapid political and socio-economic changes brought about by, among other things, the scientific and technological revolution and the realignment of international economic relations through the consolidation of regional trading blocs. Every effort should be made to ensure that the region secured its rightful place in the evolving international order of things. Africa's interests could be guaranteed through its active participation in ongoing global negotiations such as the Uruguay Round, the elaboration of the International Development Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade, and the forthcoming World Conference on the Environment.

396. He found the analysis contained in ECA's Economic Report on Africa, 1990 to be a realistic presentation of the current difficult economic and social conditions in the region. He highlighted the protectionist policies of certain industrialized countries and the drastic falls in the prices of commodities of export interest to Africa as being among the most serious constraining factors to Africa's socio-economic transformation. Through the effective application of AAF-SAP, the region had a good chance to solve its recovery and transformation problems.

397. He stressed the need to mobilize the potential in all fields for economic co-operation and integration. The MULPOCs, as well as the ECA-sponsored regional and subregional institutions, had a vital role to play in this regard. Every effort therefore, should be made to rationalize the structures, financial resources and management of these institutions. He referred to the formation of the Maghreb Arab Union which was complementary to all other subregional economic groupings in Africa including the proposed North African Preferential Trade Area. These groupings were the essential precursors for the establishment of the African Economic Community.

398. He finally highlighted the efforts being made by his country to restructure its economy. Emphasis was being placed on support to infrastructure, redressing of demographic imbalances, enhancement of linkages

between agriculture and industry, reduction of subsidies on certain commodities, and the privatization of some inefficient public companies.

399. The representative of the Sudan recalled the opening speech of Staff Major Jaloud, and agreed that the lack of political will was the main issue which the Conference had to address.

400. Unlike the previous decade, that of the 1990s would be critical for Africa's survival, especially as Africa could not isolate itself from the events taking place around it. The problem of African countries was a structural one. Countries had to implement AAF-SAP, and also link development with measures to ensure popular participation and the dignity of man as enshrined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

401. He expressed alarm at the increasing number of least developed countries in Africa, and their deteriorating economic conditions. He commended the preparations for the Conference on LDCs in September 1990.

402. Regarding the debt crisis, he indicated that there had to be, first, a link between debt and the improvement in the prices of commodities and second, a transfer of technology to African countries. He added that the alleviation of the debt burden was the responsibility of creditors and debtors.

403. Finally, he urged that Africa should move towards the establishment of the African Economic Community, since the building blocks for that community already existed.

404. The representative of Ghana welcomed the main tenets of the theme of the Conference and proceeded to share his country's experience from the previous decade. He reiterated Ghana's call for a new, just and more equitable international order.

405. Ghana had had the opportunity of applying a large number of the wide-ranging policy instruments for tackling African economic problems. For Ghana, the lost decade had been the 1970s and not the 1980s. His country had implemented a package of structural adjustment measures since 1983 and experiences in that area were already being shared with sister African countries. He mentioned, in that regard, the management of the foreign exchange market and the careful sequencing of resource allocations.

406. Further, he hoped that the MULPOCs would be restructured to assist, at the country level, in the design of a satisfactory mix of adjustment policies which integrated basic social concerns in national development strategies for the 1990s. He then urged the secretariat to effectively monitor and co-ordinate the activities of the MULPOCs.

407. Finally, he underscored the need for speeding up the establishment of the African Economic Community.

408. The representative of Zaire stated that the session was being held at a time when the economic and social situation of the continent was becoming increasingly worrisome, in spite of the adoption of stabilization and structural adjustment programmes by most African countries. That concern had led to the formulation and adoption of AAF-SAP. It was, however, not enough to launch development programmes; there should also be the express political will to implement them. There was also a need to ensure a more responsible management of Africa's resources in the light of the constraints imposed on Africa by the international environment.

409. Another factor which needed to be emphasized during the new decade was the consolidation of regional economic groupings. By 1993, Africa would have to compete against the European common market. Africa should follow the example of the countries of North America, Western Europe, Asia, etc., and strengthen its subregional groupings, as a prelude to the creation of the single African community that was recommended in the Lagos Plan of Action. In that regard, the Government of Zaire considered that the experience and performance of the Gisenyi-based MULPOC confirmed its singular ability, as an institution of the Economic Commission for Africa, to implement subregional economic integration projects. The efficient performance of that MULPOC had been undermined by the inadequate human, technical and financial resources made available to it for executing the subregional economic integration projects of the Great Lakes countries. For that reason, the

Government of Zaire, in addition to asserting its attachment to the MULPOCs, was also advocating their maintenance and strengthening through the provision of those resources necessary for implementing the projects assigned to them by member States.

410. Regarding co-operation between the MULPOCs, UNDP and other United Nations specialized agencies, the Government of Zaire was proposing consultation on a permanent basis among those of the same subregion, under the joint auspices of ECA and UNDP, in order to prevent overlapping of national or economic integration projects. Such consultation meetings should be organized each time during the preparation of the biennial programmes of the MULPOCs and the UNDP programming cycles, so as to enable the parties concerned to harmonize technical assistance programmes.

411. Zaire had launched its first Five-Year Plan in 1986 and had also embarked upon the process of structural adjustment with the assistance of the IMF and the World Bank. However, the results had been less than optimal and economic growth had lagged behind population growth. Zaire would take account of the provisions of AAF-SAP in preparing its next development plan. The first Industrial Development Decade for Africa had failed to yield the expected results, mainly because of inadequate financial resources. Special emphasis should, therefore, be placed on the mobilization of resources for financing the second Decade.

412. The representative of Uganda, noting that the Great Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya was a bridge between the African and Arab subregions, stated that the enormous natural resources of Africa should be linked to the financial resources of the Arab countries to accelerate the process of economic transformation of the entire region. African and Arab countries should in particular look to each other for markets as well as for sources of what they did not themselves produce, and awake to the opportunities of a fast-changing world.

413. He noted with concern the secretariat's assessment of the performance of the African economy during 1988-1989. He drew attention to wars and conflicts in and among African countries as an additional factor behind the poor performance of African economies. With regard to the mechanisms for the final review of the UN-PAAERD and APPER, those would be very crucial to Africa since they would influence the conclusions that would be reached on programmes and actions for 1991. It was important that ECA should launch the proposed missions in good time and that data gathered be accurate and up to date. With reference to AAF-SAP, he felt that the time had come to test its viability and acceptability by using its provisions as the basis for national negotiations with financial institutions that funded African development programmes.

414. He commended the African Charter for Popular Participation in Development and Transformation to the Conference and highlighted Uganda's efforts for achieving population participation. Uganda had also hosted the OAU Seminar on the Development of Nuclear Energy for Development and the African Regional Conference on Environment and Sustainable Development. In that regard, he brought the Kampala Declaration on Sustainable Development to the attention of the Conference. He called on ECA and the OAU to co-operate in implementing the recommendations adopted by those meetings.

415. With regard to ECA- and OAU-sponsored institutions, he felt that radical means should be devised to ensure automatic membership which would spread the financial burden over a larger number of countries. He hoped that the low rate of implementation of the United Nations Transport and Communications Decade in Africa (UNTACDA)I would not be repeated in the case of UNTACDA II.

416. The creation of the proposed African Economic Community was imperative if Africa was to develop into a viable economic region in an aggressively competitive world and he was happy to note that ECA, the OAU and ADB were working together to promote that worthwhile endeavour. In that connection, ECA's MULPOCs should be maintained and should continue promoting the economic integration of Africa. However, in order for them to perform that task effectively, serious consideration had to be given to their mandate and administration, and to ensuring that their staff were effectively deployed. In his country's view, the recommendations of the Review Team had not been adequately dealt with in the memorandum addressed to the General Assembly. He expressed satisfaction with the secretariat's report on UNAFRI, and called upon all those countries which had

not signed the Statute to do so and forward their assessed contributions to the Institute so that it could embark on its assigned task.

417. He finally stressed the need for Africa to develop and internalize its own technology to enhance research and development and thus ensure self-sustaining development. It needed a system that allowed for the introduction of technical subjects at an early stage of formal education and that enabled Africans to comprehend the environment in which they lived. It was only thus that problems could be tackled in a rational and realistic manner.

418. The representative of Cameroon stated that, from the beginning of the economic crisis, his country had established a number of mechanisms that sought to stop the deterioration of the economy, and had carried out a reformulation of its development priorities and strategies to take the social dimension of development into account. Cameroon's industrialization programme also fell within the effort to accord priority to the development of national resources as a means of ensuring food security. The country was, above all, striving through various activities, including plant and animal research, to sustain its current food self-sufficiency. All that effort, however, would become a waste of energy if there were no proper control of environmental problems. Accordingly, Cameroon was making special efforts in its campaign against the effects of drought and the prevention of climatological and seismic disasters.

419. Cameroon was aware that it could not overcome the current crisis singlehandedly, and that regional integration and South-South co-operation were indeed necessary. In that regard, he stated that countries of the Central African subregion were convinced of the need to harmonize their customs, trade and transport policies. Cameroon was accordingly carrying out huge community investments, among which were the development of the UDEAC Zone at the port of Douala, whose operation was expected to reduce considerably transport costs on imports of land-locked countries of the Central African MULPOC; the construction of the section of the Lagos-Mombasa highway towards Gabon and Equatorial Guinea; and the construction of transport corridors for the land-locked countries of the subregion. It was in this context that should be considered the recent adoption of the UDEAC highway code and the signing of the new conventions on the redistribution of freight, as well as mapping out routes between Cameroon on the one hand, and Chad and the Central African Republic on the other.

420. Finally, he underscored the outstanding role played by Cameroonian women in business and in the penetration of regional and overseas markets. He expressed the wish that the second Transport and Communications Decade in Africa might lead to the linking up of past and ongoing projects, and that the pursuit of the PANAFTEL programme objectives might be fully supported.

421. The representative of Kenya said that AAF-SAP was a framework within which African Governments could formulate individual country policies to bring about economic recovery and development. He noted the preparations that were underway for the final review of the UN-PAAERD and called for the maximum co-operation of member States with ECA in that exercise. Kenya welcomed the report of the evaluation mission to review the achievements of the MULPOCs. He pointed out that members of the Lusaka MULPOC had foreseen the need for such a review, and had appointed a Ministerial Committee of five countries to look into the question of co-ordination of the activities of the MULPOC. He hoped that in accepting the recommendations of the review mission in general, the Conference would not overlook the need for a mechanism for further reviews of the MULPOC structures and membership in the light of the changing circumstances within the subregional groupings.

422. He referred to Kenya's development plan, 1989-1993, which had the theme "participation for progress". The plan had put the people at the centre of the development process, particularly in terms of determining priorities and implementing them at the district level. Accordingly, Kenya fully endorsed the recommendations of the International Conference on Popular Participation held in Arusha. From its limited experience in structural adjustment policies, Kenya had realized that a careful monetary policy was vital for recovery and progress and had managed to keep inflation within reasonable limits, ensuring money supply through flexible interest rates and domestic credit management. At the same time, prices of agricultural commodities had been progressively

increased to remunerative levels and those efforts had resulted in economic growth at the rate of 5.4 per cent per annum.

423. He was convinced that ECA-sponsored institutions were established to serve special needs for Africa and failed to understand why African Governments lost interest in them as soon as they were established. A case in point was the African Institute for Higher Technical Training and Research (AIHTTR) which had been established in Nairobi in 1980 and had gone through many difficulties over the years through lack of financial support. He urged member States to pay their contributions to the institutes to enable them to achieve the objectives for which they were established.

424. The representative of Nigeria expressed his appreciation to the ECA secretariat for the indefatigable efforts in producing the various documents that would enable Africa to undertake appropriate measures aimed at achieving the objective of socio-economic recovery and transformation in the 1990s.

425. The 1980s was a lost decade for the African continent. African countries had therefore an uphill task in the 1990s if they were to achieve the required transformation. Nigeria had been pursuing economic policies in line with the Conference theme with the launching in 1986 of the National Recovery Programme. This programme was supported by Nigeria's home-made policy reforms that included the gradual removal of subsidies on agricultural inputs, the introduction of effective price support distribution systems of fertilizers and pesticides, the liberalization of access to farm credit, the ban on some commodities so as to protect locally produced ones and the privatization of some public enterprises.

426. He underlined the need for Africa to resolve the debt crisis by working towards an acceptable formula so that the issue would not slow down efforts to achieve socio-economic recovery and transformation. He appealed to African Governments to co-operate so as to face the challenges that lay ahead with the formation of economic blocs, the changes in Eastern Europe and the envisaged politico-economic unification of Western Europe.

427. He urged member States to draw lessons from the international political scene in the 1980s, which had witnessed a dramatic shift towards peaceful resolution of conflict by most countries in the world except Africa. He called upon member States to seriously reflect on that drawback and to opt for dialogue rather than the use of force which had costly consequences.

428. The ineffectiveness of ECA-sponsored subregional and regional institutions to discharge their responsibilities had been due, among other things, to the lack of general support including the inadequacy of membership and the failure of members to pay their assessed contributions.

429. The representative of Madagascar indicated that since 1980 his country had been implementing a difficult structural adjustment programme which had only begun to yield results in 1989. The economic growth rate had reached 4 per cent in 1989, surpassing that of population growth for the first time since 1980. The problem at hand was not one of choosing between structural programmes but of making sure that genuine and lasting economic growth was achieved within the context of environmentally sound management.

430. He indicated that developmental and environmental problems had not been adequately underscored in the documents submitted to the Conference. There were no ready-made solutions; each country should choose its own way. In that connection, he informed the Conference that his country had embarked upon a 15-year environmental plan of action. The first phase of the plan had been submitted to donors in Paris in 1990. It was aimed at safeguarding the wildlife of the country and was to be implemented in two stages, which were the training of local experts in developmental and environmental management techniques, and assistance to rural people to enable them to formulate and to implement their own development programmes.

431. The observer for the USSR highlighted the conviction of his country that global problems could not be solved without considering the African component. The fact that issues concerning Africa were persistently before all the major fora of the United Nations system during the last decade reflected the growing gravity of African problems and the entire international community must endeavour to find appropriate solutions. He

lauded the efforts of the African countries in designing their own path of development, particularly by adopting AAF-SAP and indicated that the document presented harmoniously the ways of reaching the goals set in the Lagos Plan of Action as well as in the UN-PAAERD. AAF-SAP could well serve as a solid basis for a constructive international dialogue and for modelling national programmes for structural change. The viability of AAF-SAP depended both on the behaviour of the international community and on internal factors.

432. He noted that the enormous physical and human resources of the third world were being sapped by regional conflicts and armament. Indeed, Africa's current spending on armaments exceeded its combined expenses on education, health and other social needs. The third world itself, taken as a whole, had spent an amount equal if not more than the aggregate external debt of African countries in purchasing armaments.

433. He acknowledged the efforts of ECA and that of its Executive Secretary in preparing in-depth scientific studies which provided member States with adequate policy instruments for stimulating economic development. The socio-economic development of the third world was impeded by a vicious circle of debt and debt repayments, a lack of financial resources and fresh borrowing. He declared his country's stand on the internationalization of approaches to the solution of the problem of indebtedness. The Soviet Union could start consultations, at the international level in order to reach political consensus and work out general principles for third world debt settlement. He recalled that during the period 1986-1989, the USSR had cut down the debt of developing countries by 14 billion roubles and was considering suggestions for further reduction of the debt of the LDCs, most of which were in Africa.

434. third world indebtedness was further worsened by the fluctuation of prices of raw materials, the fluctuation of exchange rates and of interest rates as well as by growing protectionism in trade. All these factors were beyond the control of the developing countries.

435. He saw the economic renovation of Eastern Europe as an integral component of the transformation of the world economy and stressed that an economically strong Eastern Europe was better for developing countries as it could provide ground for dynamic trade, and a source of additional financial resources and technology. Although the USSR was going through structural changes, it would maintain its technical assistance to the third world.

436. The observer for the Federal Republic of Germany noted that while the region had experienced an average of 3 per cent in economic growth in 1989, population had expanded at the same rate. Such an unprecedented increase in population would increase poverty and pose a serious threat to the environment, the growth-oriented restructuring, promotion of agriculture, and dismantling of bureaucracy which were all vital to development.

437. Africa remained the principal focus of the Federal Republic's development co-operation with 1.2 billion deutschmarks flowing into the region through multilateral channels. Some of that was used to support the African Development Bank, whose regional projects were followed with particular interest by his country. Africa's debt problems were also at the forefront of the Federal Republic's efforts. His Government had already canceled the debts of 29 African countries and believed that appropriate solutions to the problem should be pursued on a case-by-case basis. In that regard, the exchange of goods was important. The Federal Republic currently had a trade deficit with Africa but welcomed more imports from the region. On the other hand, while many African countries were open to foreign investment, much could be done to improve the investment climate in the region and to encourage repatriation of African capital.

438. He referred to the possibility of German reunification in the near future, and reassured the Conference that this would not be achieved at the expense of others. He was encouraged by the political progress made in some African countries, particularly with respect to Namibia and South Africa. In the latter case, his country continued to call for the complete lifting of the state of emergency, the release of all political prisoners, and an amnesty for representatives of the anti-apartheid movements who were still abroad. Southern Africa was one of the wealthiest regions of the continent, and only the removal of political barriers would produce peace, economic development, and the elimination of hunger.

439. His Government supported the intensive work programme of ECA, which was the only pan-African economic organization. He wished the Commission continued success in its beneficial work.

440. The observer for France underlined the commitment of France to the development of the least developed countries. His country would do its utmost to contribute to improving their situation. As host for the second Conference on LDCs, which was scheduled to take place in Paris in September 1990, his country wished the present Conference every success in adopting a specific and concrete plan based on the mutual commitment of all partners, including the non-governmental organizations.

441. African countries should not be worried by the ongoing changes in the Eastern European countries. Those changes would in no way undermine the assistance and solidarity accorded Africa by its European partners over the years. Aid to the Eastern European countries would be in addition to that given to Africa and would not be drawn from aid meant for Africa. Europe in 1992 should not be perceived as an impenetrable fortress of protectionist barriers. It would rather afford Africa the opportunity to operate within a unified regulatory system. The single Europe would be an open market with a higher consumption of African products than was currently the case.

442. He felt that many changes taking place in Africa were quite promising. He laid particular emphasis on the African Charter for Popular Participation in Development and Transformation. The role of the State had been clearly specified as that of a social regulator, which left private enterprise some leeway. AAF-SAP had been useful and contributed to a better understanding of African realities by the international community. A consensus was emerging on the main aid and co-operation options and his impression was that the 1990s would be more positive for Africa than the previous decade.

443. The observer for Iran welcomed the independence of Namibia and the release of Nelson Mandela. Those were encouraging events in the struggle for the total elimination of apartheid. The Commission was meeting at a time of increasing disparity between North and South. The terms of trade of raw materials against industrial goods had changed more to the detriment of third world countries. The concept of growth and development had turned into mere slogans in many areas; and the debt crisis had hampered the interests of future generations.

444. He highlighted events which had occurred since his country's revolution. Despite such impediments as economic blockades, ethnic unrest, the oil price slump and a devastating war, Iran had provided 66 per cent of its rural population with electricity and 64 per cent with fresh and hygienic water. It had increased its aid to developing countries in general and African countries in particular. Iran was assisting a number of African countries in the development and extension of mechanized and semi-mechanized agriculture to increase the yield of strategic agricultural crops such as rice and corn.

445. The observer for the Holy See stated that since the theme of the Conference was Africa in the 1990s: marching forward with the transformation of the African economy; since desertification was a major hindrance to development and to the cultural and human growth of people in Africa; since the Sahel was of concern to Africa, he would recall some of the key ideas contained in the solemn appeal that Pope John Paul II had made on behalf of the countries of the Sahel. In 1980, the Pope had added his voice to those calling for a demonstration of generous and effective solidarity. Since then, considerable efforts had been made in response to the appeal by way of major and fresh demonstrations of solidarity. The Catholic church had established the John Paul II Foundation for the Sahel. The Foundation had been serving eight countries and had its offices established in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso.

446. Those in charge of shaping political, economic, social and cultural policy were discharging their responsibility both in the countries of the North and in the countries of Africa to provide authentic service and to renew hope for those who counted on the wisdom of their leaders. It was for that reason that there must be no fear of frank and open dialogue.

447. One good fount of competence, tenacity, organizational ability and precision together with goodwill was needed to make good the inadequacy of public services and infrastructure, to improve employment and to

develop resources. There was no shortage of ideas. By listing these aspects of development and the urgency for action to be taken to arrest desertification and to promote wholesome development and adjustment, the Pope was reminding people of their duty to demonstrate their solidarity and to further the cause of development which should be done by sharing their skills and wealth. On behalf, therefore, of mankind, the head of the church had addressed his solemn appeal to the human family to assist the Sahel.

448. It was more necessary than ever to heed public opinion. Solidarity meant that people everywhere must resolutely work together and persevere in securing the common good with their resources. That call on the privileged to offer their technology and experience to their brothers in Africa had been made because the Pope was convinced that Africans reciprocated with the beauty of their sterling qualities, their love of life, their dignity, their sense of mutual assistance and solidarity and their openness to transcendence. It was only thus that mankind could achieve wholesome development in harmony with its surroundings and environment.

449. The Deputy Administrator of UNDP and Director of the Regional Bureau for Africa (RBA) observed that the economic situation in Africa remained alarming. The efforts of ECA had done much to impress upon the world the seriousness of the current crisis afflicting the continent. The old order of political regimes was faced with a more demanding new generation. Yet such a crisis was somehow welcome because it could form the basis for working out more appropriate ways of helping Africa to emerge from its current impasse and for dealing with the challenges it had to meet. He commended the Executive Secretary of ECA for the remarkable efforts he had made to ensure that African solutions were found to resolve the African crisis. Examples were the AAF-SAP initiative which looked at development from the long-term perspective, the MULPOCs which decentralized ECA activities and brought them closer to member States and the structures for integration and co-operation such as the Preferential Trade Area for Eastern and Southern Africa (PTA) and the Africa Regional Co-ordinating Committee for the Integration of Women in Development (ARCC).

450. Libya had demonstrated courage in reminding African countries that they were now in an era where productivity and competitiveness counted and in urging them to adapt themselves to that new era.

451. He recalled the conclusions and recommendations of the joint meeting that UNDP Resident Representatives had held with the ECA Ministers of Economic Development and Planning and the Ministers of Finance in April 1989. UNDP and the Executive Secretary of ECA had agreed that such meetings should be held every two or three years. UNDP would support every effort to further the long-term development of Africa. It attached particular importance to the co-ordination of development efforts and the use of indicative planning figures to assist countries in designing their technical co-operation programmes. He also stressed the catalyzing role that UNDP played in approaching funding agencies that operated in Africa. He finally singled out the harmonious relationship existing between UNDP and ECA, between UNDP and the OAU and, more recently, between UNDP and ADB, and described the main activities that UNDP intended to conduct in future with those institutions.

452. The Assistant Administrator of UNDP and Director for Arab States and European Programmes (RBASEP) informed the meeting of the series of meetings organized for Arab African Ministers of Planning in Tunis in May 1989. The recommendations of the Arab African Ministers of Planning had been very much in line with those adopted by the earlier African Planning Ministers' meetings and the conclusions similar regarding the structural adjustment process and its social impact on the African continent.

453. The Arab African Planning Ministers had stressed the importance of adopting a comprehensive approach to development and planning that would take economic, social, cultural and institutional dimensions into account. Although RBASEP had few projects executed by ECA, it had established the grounds for a very constructive dialogue, beginning with the important issue of trade.

454. Another initiative in which RBASEP was collaborating with ECA and RBA was the development of the Nile river basin. Since water was a strategic commodity for Arab and African nations alike and might become a source of conflict and discord, UNDP was assisting Governments to meet that challenge. RBASEP was fully supportive of the Undugu initiative for which it had been providing valuable technical assistance to promote links

between Africa and the Arab States. RBASEP was working closely with RBA in the joint sponsorship of many projects.

455. One such example was the Pan-African Development Information System. Other joint projects included UNDP's initiative to provide structural adjustment advisory teams for Africa. The idea was designed to provide strategic advice to African Governments in the formulation of policy reform programmes and the mobilization of related external financing; improve the policy analysis capacity and negotiating ability of national task forces; provide for academic and on-the-job training of national economists; and to assist in the development of national macro-economic analysis capability.

456. There were also projects which should involve African-Arab co-operation to eradicate the screwworm fly. He hoped that the meeting would adopt a recommendation on joint action to eradicate the scourge, and said that the Africa Bureau would join in the fight against drought and desertification.

457. Since many environmental matters were of shared concern, a Regional Centre for Environment and Development had been established to monitor the environment in the Arab region. There were plans to establish a data bank, early warning and remote sensing systems.

458. In conclusion, he joined other speakers to call for Afro-Arab co-operation which should make it possible to ensure not only the survival but also the progress and development of Africa.

459. The observer for FAO underscored the importance that FAO attached to co-operation with ECA. The Joint ECA/FAO Agriculture Division received support worth about \$US 2 million biennially from FAO.

460. He recalled that the Regional Conference of African Ministers of Agriculture held in Yamoussoukro, Côte d'Ivoire, in 1986 had approved a plan of action for African agriculture based on a detailed study conducted by FAO in co-operation with African Ministries of Agriculture. That plan covered the development of African agriculture at the national, subregional and regional levels for the subsequent 25 years. It basically called for a fundamental change in the structure of national policies, priorities and plans for the development of the food and agriculture sector; substantial improvement in inputs, incentives, institutions and infrastructures; strategies for the rehabilitation and preservation of African land; and strong support to African Governments and farmers by the international community. He pointed out that the African Charter for Popular Participation and Development reflected the Programme of Action of the World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development (WCARRD) that African Governments and mass organizations had implemented for more than ten years with assistance from institutions of the United Nations system, and which FAO was responsible for co-ordinating. He noted that FAO was working constantly towards the integration of women in development, and had acquired considerable experience in the area that it would like to share with ECA and other specialized agencies.

461. In conclusion, he recalled that even with its resources were drastically reduced in recent years, FAO continued to give priority to Africa which would receive about 45 per cent of the 1990-1991.

462. The observer for WFP said that his organization's food aid to Africa, which had amounted to \$US 2 billion since 1986, had been used for various APPER and UN-PAAERD related activities such as agricultural development, food security, environmental protection, human resources development, rural infrastructure and emergencies. He said that WFP stressed the importance of developing storage and distribution facilities, training for food management staff, quick disbursement of funds, monitoring and evaluation of food aid at national and other levels, co-ordination of technical assistance and appropriate land policies. In order to facilitate the Programme's strategy of transferring surplus food from excess-producing countries to deficit countries, governments should remove all bureaucratic and fiscal obstacles. Twenty per cent of the current ODA to sub-Saharan Africa was for food aid, and that figure would further increase in the 1990s. He called upon African countries to increase food production and thus end their dependence on such aid.

463. The observer for UNFPA stated that if the rate of growth of population continued, Africa's population would double in the next 23 years. Furthermore, Africa's population was characterized by very high fertility levels, very high infant and maternal mortality rates and very low life expectancy at birth. These characteristics were severely affecting the development process and needed to be moderated through adequate population policies and implementation of effective programmes. UNFPA had accordingly been assisting ECA member States through its country programme mechanism as well as through regional and subregional programmes in co-operation with ECA and the OAU. The Fund had been supporting regional training and research centres and providing advisory services in population activities and demography. It had almost doubled its resources to African countries during the last four years, and planned to increase them even further in the coming years. The major thrust of the Fund's assistance had been in: population information education and communication programmes; maternal and child health/family planning (MCH/FP) programmes; basic data collection; population research and studies; formulation, implementation and evaluation of population policies; and special programmes, such as the integration of women in development.

464. The observer for ARCC expressed gratitude to all who had assisted in the work of ARCC including the Executive Secretary and staff of ECA, and to all intergovernmental organizations and member States which assisted in the integration of women in development. She noted, however, that in spite of all efforts, women in a large number of countries still lived in abject poverty, and their situation was made worse by the mounting debt crisis and orthodox structural adjustment programmes.

465. She appealed to member States to popularize the Abuja Declaration, and to UNDP to ensure that programmes and activities in favour of women were strengthened.

466. The observer for UNESCO stated that important new programmes such as AAF-SAP, UNTACDA II, IDDA II and the World Decade for Cultural Development were crucial to Africa's development.

467. UNESCO's own "Priority Africa" programme covered the period 1990-1995, and sought to make a constructive and identifiable contribution to the UN-PAAERD, within UNESCO's fields of competence. The closest co-operation with other agencies of the United Nations system would be needed for conducting activities commonly overlooked by the general run of international aid, and to promote support from member States and multilateral and bilateral sources of development financing. It was essential that the whole focus of Priority Africa should be on the development of human resource potential through a multisectoral and multidisciplinary approach to the key areas of education, the social and human sciences, the natural sciences, culture and communication. UNESCO's mission for promoting peace and solidarity and combatting all forms of discrimination, especially apartheid, could only be achieved through the sustained use of communication: using media broadcasting (in local languages), rural press, news agencies, television and other such tools that enabled people to participate in development.

468. Through co-operation between member States and their partners, the implementation of Priority Africa in 1990-1991 would confirm to the international community the seriousness with which Africa was taking the Programme and thereby ensure the flow of resources for the implementation of the second and third phases in 1992-1995.

469. The observer for UNIDO stated that the poor performance of the African economy had led to the adoption of numerous plans and programmes in past years, including the programme for the Industrial Development Decade for Africa which was aimed at promoting autonomous and indigenous industrialization. Unfortunately, that first Decade programme had not yielded the expected results because of ineffective structural adjustment policies; the use of imported factors of production by the majority of existing import-substitution industries, which resulted in high production costs; reduction in investments; and the use of a high percentage of export earnings for debt servicing.

470. The failure of the first Decade had led to the proclamation of a second Decade covering the 1990s. He highlighted the preparatory activities as envisaged by the Conference of African Ministers of Industry.

471. The programme for the second Decade would include national and subregional components and the three secretariats had already drawn up and submitted to African Governments and organizations guidelines for the preparation of those components. He stressed that close co-operation between ministers of planning and those of industry was indispensable if the Decade programme was to be integrated more effectively in national development plans. UNIDO would organize a consultative meeting shortly with relevant organizations and institutions with a view to co-ordinating activities and rationalizing the use of the resources available for the Decade.

472. With regard to Africa Industrialization Day, which would fall on 20 November of every year, he indicated that his organization intended to sensitize African and international public opinion to the important role of industry in the development process, mobilize the support of the international community for industrialization in Africa, and draw attention to the need to allocate increasing financial resources to the industrial sector in Africa. For the celebration of the first Industrialization Day, UNIDO had undertaken several activities focusing on the theme "links between agriculture and industry" and had produced and distributed a film to local television networks in Africa to promote increased production for better nourishment.

473. The observer for WHO considered that the adoption of the Lagos Plan of Action had not led to concrete action and that, instead, economic crisis had intensified, with disastrous consequences to the vulnerable African economies. Some countries had sought to remedy their situation by adopting orthodox structural adjustment programmes with disappointing results. In response to that situation, UNICEF and WHO had conceived the idea of "adjustment with a human face" at the Bamako Conference. That had led to the Bamako Initiative, but its operationalization was still in the infancy stage.

474. In view of the particularly dismal health status of African people, the WHO African Ministers had embarked upon a micro-economic health initiative in 1985 to strengthen national health systems and develop community-based health facilities. That action had been catalyzed by the Declaration of the Heads of State and government of the OAU on Health as a Foundation for Development in July 1987, and the book by the Regional Director of WHO/AFRO entitled "Accelerating the achievement of health for all Africans: The three-phase health development scenario". Those efforts had been useful in preventing the health situation within the continent from worsening.

475. He stated that AAF-SAP constituted a bold and revolutionary initiative which needed to be recognized as such and supported by all of Africa to ensure its full operationalization.

476. In conclusion, he emphasized the need to pursue a three-stage action involving consensus-building, capacity strengthening and institutionalization to transform Africa's hopes into reality by 1999.

477. The observer for WMO noted that Conference participants and documents had discussed the state of African economies for the 1990s in terms of weather and weather-related events. The role of meteorology and operational hydrology in the transformation and recovery process had been explicitly recognized both in the UN-PAAERD and at the Kampala Conference on Environment and Sustainable Development. These had led to the creation of ACMAD. In planning for the future, meteorology could be harnessed to assist Africa in all weather and environmental matters. Already, several regional projects like the AGRHYMET and the drought monitoring centres of Eastern and Southern Africa were geared to address the issues of weather and climate in the respective subregions.

478. He stressed the importance attached to climate change arising from greenhouse gases. The world community had considered its impact on agriculture, water resources, energy, transport, environment and all forms of human activities. He urged participants to include climate change in their planning processes and to prepare for negotiations on the possible framework of a convention on the climate as outlined by United Nations General Assembly resolution 44/207 on the prospect of the global climate for the present and future generations of mankind.

479. The observer for ITU informed the Conference of the increasing role of telecommunications in the world. He added that measures for economic transformation had to take into account advances in telecommunications

technology since efficient and dynamic telecommunications were vital for Africa's transformation. It was essential therefore for national plans and policies to include telecommunications and he urged countries to take advantage of the technical assistance offered by his organization in order to develop their telecommunications and broadcasting systems. He informed the Conference that 17 May 1990 was World Telecommunications Day and it would mark the one hundred and twenty-fifth anniversary of ITU.

480. The observer for ILO informed the Conference that his organization had been involved with the issues related to Africa's future transformation and recovery since the mid-1980s. ILO had continued to assist member States with a wide range of programmes in the areas of human resources development, employment promotion, rural development, special public works programmes and other infrastructural development. ILO had organized a tripartite symposium on "Structural adjustment and employment in Africa" in October 1989. He outlined the conclusions of the symposium which, *inter alia*, emphasized that there was no escaping the need for adjustment and that consultation and participation in the development process were essential at all levels.

481. The observer for UNCTAD, in a statement distributed to participants, detailed his organization's contribution to the UN-PAAERD and the activities undertaken in that respect. Activities in other areas included close co-operation with ECA in the preparation of inputs to the work of the Secretary-General's Expert Group on African Commodity Problems and the servicing of meetings of that Group, research in the mineral sector and the servicing of workshops on agricultural commodities.

482. In the area of trade, UNCTAD collaborated with ECA in the implementation of the project on support to Africa in the Uruguay Round of Multilateral Trade Negotiations and to the external sector of Africa countries. UNCTAD also provided comprehensive support to existing and newly emerging economic co-operation and integration groupings. Finally, he briefed the Conference on his organization's activities in the area of external debt and maritime transport.

Report and recommendations of the eleventh meeting of the Technical Preparatory Committee of the Whole for consideration by the twenty-fifth session of the Commission/sixteenth meeting of the Conference of Ministers (agenda item 6)

483. The Chairman of eleventh meeting of the Technical Preparatory Committee of Whole introduced document E/ECA/CM.16/40 which contained the report of that meeting. The meeting had conducted its proceedings both in plenary and in three sub-committees. In terms of consensus on agenda items, there had been no serious divergence of views needing to be brought to the attention of Ministers.

484. The meeting had spent a great deal of its time considering the policy instruments pertaining to the operationalization of AAF-SAP. That had been done against the background of its review and appraisal of current economic and social conditions in Africa. The report of the Review Team set up to evaluate the structure, organization and operations of the MULPOCs was another item that had been extensively examined and the Committee had prepared a draft memorandum and adopted a draft resolution on the subject for the consideration by the Ministers. The financial and operational difficulties of ECA-sponsored institutions were also among the issues extensively debated. In all, the Committee was submitting 25 draft resolutions for consideration by the Conference of Ministers.

485. In the ensuing discussion, participants considered the report and recommendations presented by the Chairman and submitted corrections. The Conference directed the secretariat to incorporate in the report and annexes all revisions as submitted.

486. The representative of Algeria reiterated that the Ad hoc Committee established under Commission resolution 477 (XVIII) on evaluation and harmonization of the activities of African multinational institutions sponsored by ECA and OAU should be reconvened with the same terms of reference, to review the problems faced by those institutions.

487. The Conference endorsed document E/ECA/CM.16/40 and adopted the draft resolutions and the memorandum on the report of the Review Team on the structure, organization and operations of the Multinational Programming and Operational Centres, with the necessary amendments. The Conference further endorsed the proposal to re-convene under the same terms of reference, the Ad hoc Committee established under its resolution 477 (XVII) of 2 May 1983.

Report of the tenth meeting of the Conference of Ministers of African Least Developed Countries (agenda item 7)

488. The Chairman of the tenth meeting of the Conference of Ministers of African Least Developed Countries introduced document E/ECA/CM.16/35.

489. The Conference reviewed the plight of the African LDCs and noted that the Substantial New Programme of Action (SNPA) had not been effective. The Conference also took note of matters relating to commodity prices and debt alleviation which had not been resolved by the meeting of experts. The Chairman then drew the attention of the Conference to annex I entitled "Statement by the tenth meeting of the Conference of Ministers of African Least Developed Countries on the Draft Programme of Action for the LDCs in the 1990s", which had been prepared for the second United Nations Conference on Least Developed Countries due to be held in September 1990, and the four principles contained therein which would constitute the basis for negotiation.

490. After discussion, the Conference decided to delete the words "and disappointing" and "very" in paragraphs 20 and 21 respectively.

491. One representative proposed deletion of the last two sentences of paragraph 25, and another proposed revising "financial institutions" on page 2 of annex I to "multilateral financial institutions".

492. The Conference took note of the document as amended.

Report of the fifth meeting of the Ministerial Follow-up Committee of Ten of the Conference of African Ministers Responsible for Human Resources Planning, Development and Utilization (agenda item 8)

493. The Chairman of the fifth meeting of the Ministerial Follow-up Committee of Ten introduced document E/ECA/CM.16/12, the report of the Committee. Eight of the ten members of the Committee, namely Botswana, Egypt, Ethiopia, the Gambia, Morocco, the Sudan, Togo and Uganda had attended the meeting which had been held from 14 to 16 May 1990 in Tripoli. Five observers had also attended, namely ILO, WFP, UNFPA, UNESCO and UNDP.

494. The meeting had reviewed the activities of the United Nations Inter-agency Task Force on Human Resources Development and Utilization, a regional framework for the development and utilization of human resources, and a status report on human resources planning, development and utilization in Africa.

495. The Conference took note of the report.

Any other business (agenda item 9)

496. The representative of the United Republic of Tanzania, host country for the OAU Liberation Committee, proposed that a resolution be prepared not only to congratulate Namibia on the occasion of its independence but also to appeal for assistance. He added that Namibia's independence had come at a time of global economic crisis and the country was destroyed by the war, and the vulnerable population groups - women and children - had been the most affected. The resolution should therefore also address the plight of women and children.

497. The Conference endorsed the proposal.

498. The representative of Togo, while commending the secretariat for the quality of its work, appealed to it to make every effort to ensure that documents reached member States in time to enable inter-departmental consultations for the purpose of arriving at national positions on the issues before participants departed for meetings.

499. The Executive Secretary informed the Conference that a meeting between the Conference and Honourable Mr. Pronk, Minister of Economic Co-operation of the Royal Netherlands Government, had been arranged for 19 May 1990 in the light of the emergent global consensus on AAF-SAP. Another meeting had also been arranged between the Conference and Honourable Mr. Saby, Chairman of the Commission on International Co-operation of the European Parliament on the same day for consultations on the Lome IV Convention.

Place and venue and other matters related to the twenty-sixth session of the Commission/seventeenth meeting of the Conference of Ministers (agenda item 10)

500. The Executive Secretary referred to paragraph 298 of the report of the Technical Preparatory Committee of the Whole and to the dates indicated in that paragraph. He stated that the Conference would meet in April 1991 in Addis Ababa in accordance with the rules of procedure of the Commission. The actual Conference dates would be established following consultation with the Chairman.

Meeting with Mr. Nelson Mandela, Deputy President of the African National Congress

501. On 19 May the Conference welcomed Mr. Nelson Mandela, Deputy President of the African National Congress and to its twenty-fifth session/sixteenth meeting of the Conference of Ministers.

502. In his address, Mr. Nelson Mandela underscored the importance of the meeting of the Conference of African Ministers responsible for Economic Development and Planning and stated that such meetings provided an opportunity where both developed and developing countries could work together for the benefit of their peoples. He stressed that while the political aspirations of the people were paramount, it was nevertheless imperative to address economic problems as these could erode all political rights. The Economic Commission for Africa, whose prime objective was to address those problems, therefore deserved to be congratulated.

503. Mr. Mandela then briefed the Conference on recent developments in his country. These included the preliminary face-to-face discussions he had held with President F.W. de Klerk and the subsequent meetings held on 2, 3 and 4 May 1990 between the African National Congress and the Government of the Republic of South Africa. The objective of those discussions was to remove certain obstacles to negotiations. The ANC's strategy all through, aimed at dismantling apartheid completely.

504. He explained that the ANC's position during those talks was first, the return of all political exiles under a general amnesty; second, the release of all political prisoners including those under the death sentence; third, the end of all political detentions; fourth, the removal of all troops from the cities and fifth the lifting of the state of emergency. The Government's position, on the other hand, was for an end to the armed struggle conducted by the ANC and for an end to the violence in the cities, especially in Natal.

505. The compromise that emerged was that if the Government removed the obstacles to negotiations, then the ANC would be prepared to consider a truce during which time it would negotiate for the dismantling of apartheid. To that end, a working group with equal representation from the ANC and the Government had been appointed to work out the practical details of removing apartheid and report back no later than 21 May 1990.

506. Mr. Mandela stressed the ANC's commitment to peace. If the ANC had resorted to armed struggle that was because the Government had set the climate for violence, leaving the ANC with no other alternative. For the record, it should be known that the talks had taken place entirely at the initiative and request of the ANC.

507. Further, the talks with the Government had become possible both because of the armed operations of the ANC and the mass pressure of the international community. That pressure, exerted through the application of sanctions, had become an effective instrument for peace in South Africa and also helped the armed struggle.

508. There was a danger, none the less, of lifting sanctions on the basis of hopes raised by President de Klerk's personal honesty. While he himself acknowledged that honesty, he would still maintain that the shaping of ANC policy was determined not in opposition to one man but to the systemic evil of apartheid.

509. In conclusion, he said that subsequent issues to be addressed during the discussions would be the new constitution and who would participate in the negotiations. The ANC maintained its position as a major participator and would have that fact recognized. Also, participants in the discussions would have to have been democratically elected. He then allayed the fears among some whites that the advent of majority rule would lead to domination by one race.

510. On behalf of the Conference, the representative of Cameroon, in his capacity as Second Vice-Chairman, moved a vote of thanks to Mr. Nelson Mandela. It had been to the delightful surprise of participants to hear both his address and the report on developments in South Africa.

511. The Conference congratulated Mr. Mandela and his party for their work and assured them of its continuing support.

Meeting with Mr. Saby, Chairman of the Commission on International Co-operation of the European Parliament

512. Mr. Saby, Chairman of the Commission on International Co-operation of the European Parliament, stated that the genuine solidarity developing between Western and Eastern Europe should occasion no anxiety in the developing countries. This was because the European Parliament has just ratified the Lome IV EEC/ACP Convention which took into account such issues as the deteriorating terms of trade and declining trade flows in the countries of the developing countries. Additionally, the budget voted for Lome IV was \$US 12 billion as compared to \$US 8 billion for Lome III.

513. He indicated that the objective of the European Economic Community was to create an open rather than a fortress Europe. Thus, the coming of 1992 would see the creation of a new economic and trading space which would further the interests both of Europe and of the developing countries.

514. He recalled that the constituent assembly of EEC and ACP country representatives which reviewed the Lome agreements had introduced new instruments covering issues such as the environment, the role of women and human development into Lome IV. In that regard, the preservation of plant and animal life everywhere in the world should be everybody's concern because mankind held the earth in trust and should bequeath a livable earth to succeeding generations. It was unthinkable that developing and particularly African countries should become the dumping grounds for industrial waste from the developed countries.

515. Women needed to be placed at the centre of all development projects because they played an important role in agriculture and national economic development. Similarly, the human dimension of economic development should be linked to the issue of human rights. While this was a difficult approach, it had been recognized in the Lome IV Convention. Concerning the United States dollar, he wondered whether it genuinely fulfilled the technical requirements of an international currency and stated that the emergence of a European currency might bring a degree of monetary stability.

516. He also stressed his conviction that only global agreements by commodity could arrest the deterioration of the terms of trade and that the Bretton Woods institutions should take the human dimension into account when preparing structural adjustment programmes. He then appealed to developing countries to set up large economic groupings within which capital, manpower, goods and services could move freely, unhindered by monetary barriers.

517. In conclusion, he emphasized that no economic development could take place without a modicum of democracy. That was why any action within the new partnership should be based on the people, their development and improvement.

Consideration and adoption of the reports and resolutions of the meeting (agenda item 11)

518. At its two hundred and sixty-seventh meeting, on 19 May, the Commission adopted the present report and the resolutions contained in the present document.

Closing of the meeting (agenda item 12)

519. The representative of Niger, in his capacity as Rapporteur, read out the final communiqué of the Conference which reviewed the series of meetings leading to the Conference, the attendance, proceedings, the preoccupations, concerns and resolve of the Conference.

520. The Executive Secretary thanked the Rapporteur for ably summarizing the outcome of the twenty-fifth session of the Commission. He expressed appreciation to the Chairman and the Bureau for their leadership in guiding the Conference to a successful conclusion and to the secretariat for actively supporting the meeting.

521. He recalled the prophetic and historic 1982 session of the Commission which had also been held in the Great Libyan Arab Jamahiriya and added that the 1990 session was equally historic in that it marked a turning point in the history of the continent.

522. Africa was not poor and did not lack resources. What was required, was for Africa to pull together and take control of its destiny. Otherwise, the process of its marginalization would continue. He then called upon member States to act together and use AAF-SAP as an instrument for promoting Africa's economic development and transformation. He urged them to build development around the people and to use the African Charter for Popular Participation in Development and Transformation as an instrument to that end.

523. The representative of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, in his capacity as Chairman, lauded the outcome of the Conference and underscored the imperative of collective self-reliance. While Africa had become better aware of its potential, Africans could benefit from it only if all worked together. He thanked the Executive Secretary for his remarkable efforts for Africa and for ECA and expressed his gratitude to TEPCOW for having facilitated the work of the Conference through its usual serious and detailed review of the issues before it. He also extended his gratitude to the experts, technicians and other service personnel for their contribution to the success of the meeting.

524. In a vote of thanks moved by the representative of Cameroon, in his capacity as Second Vice-Chairman, the Conference expressed its deep gratitude to His Excellency Colonel Muammar Al-Qaddafi, Leader of the Great and Glorious Al-Fatah Revolution of the Great Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya and to the courageous and militant people of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya for their hospitality, warm and brotherly welcome accorded to all delegations who took part in the various meetings held in Tripoli from 2 to 19 May 1990 as well as for the full co-operation given to the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa which enabled it to hold those meetings successfully. The Conference also noted, with deep appreciation, the eloquent and inspiring address of His Excellency Staff Major Abdu Salam Jaloud.

525. The Chairman once again thanked the Conference and declared the meeting closed.

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CORRIGENDUM

The page numbers of the List of Resolutions (pages 86-87) should read as follows:

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CHAPTER IV

RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED BY THE CONFERENCE OF MINISTERS AT ITS SIXTEENTH MEETING

678 (XXV). United Nations Trust Fund for African Development accumulated interest

The Conference of Ministers,

Recalling resolution 288 (XII) of the ECA Conference of Ministers reaffirming the determination of Member States of the Commission to establish conditions and machinery for self-sustaining growth and self-reliance development policies for Africa through pledging contributions to the United Nations Trust Fund for African Development (UNTFAD),

Recalling subsequent resolution 37/139 of the General Assembly of the United Nations inviting all its member States as well as international organizations to contribute generously to UNTFAD,

Having examined the report on extrabudgetary activities undertaken by ECA during 1989 and the appended information related to interest accrued on UNTFAD Specific Fund contributions,

Considering the provisions of the United Nations Secretary-General's bulletin ST/SGB/188 on the management of trust funds,

Further considering the need to complement the resources of the UNTFAD General Fund for operational activities within the framework of ECA's programme of work and priorities,

1. Authorizes the Executive Secretary of ECA to use the interest accrued on the UNTFAD Specific Fund contributions for the implementation of projects consistent with the purposes of UNTFAD;
2. Requests the Executive Secretary to report on the utilization of these funds.

267th meeting,
19 May 1990.

679 (XXV). Improving information flows in the African region

The Conference of Ministers,

Recalling its resolution 498 (XIX) of 26 May 1984 on the Pan-African Documentation and Information System in Africa,

Recalling also its resolution 600 (XXII) of 24 April 1987 on information systems development in Africa,

Bearing in mind its resolution 658 (XXIV) of 7 April 1989 on strengthening information systems in Africa,

Noting with satisfaction the performance of PADIS in the delivery of technical assistance to member States in the period since 1988,

Appreciative of efforts made by PADIS in creating an information system to assist member States in their development,

Noting with concern the precarious situation of the bulk of PADIS funding for technical assistance which is presently scheduled to end on 31 December 1990,

Recognizing Africa's need for adequate training in current information technology,

Concerned by the small number of up-to-date computer equipment at ECA to be used to service African member States,

1. Commends member States which have already designated national participating centres in the PADIS network and calls upon those that have not done so to designate their participating centres;
2. Reminds participating centres of their role in the network, including the contribution of information;
3. Urges member States hosting subregional centres to accelerate the process of their establishment;
4. Strongly urges the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) to ensure the continuation of PADIS technical assistance activities on behalf of member States by implementing its allocation to project RAF/86/053 to permit the continuation of professional and administrative staff through the UNDP Fifth Programming Cycle;
5. Exhorts African member States to include PADIS in their pledges to the United Nations Trust Fund for African Development;
6. Appeals to bilateral and multilateral donors to continue and upgrade their support to PADIS;
7. Requests the Executive Secretary to explore further ways and means of securing regular budget posts for PADIS;
8. Urges the Secretary-General of the United Nations to provide PADIS with the necessary computer equipment to ensure its effective functioning.

267th meeting,
19 May 1990.

680 (XXV). Future of the African Institute for Economic Development and

Planning (IDEP)

The Conference of Ministers,

Recalling its resolution 669 (XXIV) on the future funding of the activities of the African Institute for Economic Development and Planning (IDEP),

Recalling the Special Memorandum of the Governing Council of IDEP,

Considering the outstanding record of IDEP in the training of African planners and development specialists,

Further considering the continuing and growing need of African Governments for the services of IDEP in the fields of training, research and advisory services,

Considering also the possibility that the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) will withdraw its financing of IDEP at the end of 1990 and that IDEP is the only regional institute able to provide training and research services to all the member States of the Commission in the area of economic development and planning,

Noting with great distress that the persistent and substantial shortfall in member State contributions to IDEP will inevitably force its closure this year if no remedial action is taken,

1. Urgently appeals to the member States of the African Institute to:

- (a) Immediately pay to IDEP their contribution for 1990 and their arrears for 1989;
 - (b) Pay to IDEP all their remaining arrears in accordance with a schedule to be arranged with the management of IDEP;
 - (c) Pay their regular annual contribution to IDEP in a timely manner under arrangements to be determined with the management of IDEP;
2. Calls upon the United Nations General Assembly, as a matter of urgency, to approve the inclusion of four key posts for IDEP in the United Nations regular budget, namely the Director, the Chief of Administration and Finance and two senior lecturers, in line with the recommendation of the Economic and Social Council in its resolution 1985/62 of 26 July 1985, to enable IDEP to carry out its approved work programme and functions on a continued and sustained basis as stipulated in its Statute;
3. Appeals to UNDP to help the Institute to survive its present financial crisis and in particular to:
- (a) Quickly set up the evaluation mission announced in October 1989;
 - (b) Give its full backing to the short-term training programme and to the research and advisory activities of IDEP;
 - (c) Continue its support to the activities of IDEP in 1990 and beyond;
4. Commends the Governing Council of IDEP for the decisions taken to rationalize the use of resources and urges the management of the Institute to persevere in that endeavour.

267th meeting,
19 May 1990.

681 (XXV). Future of the African demographic training institutes

The Conference of Ministers,

Recalling General Assembly decision 37/44 of 21 December 1982 which approved the statutes of the two African demographic training institutes: the Regional Institute for Population Studies (RIPs) and the Institut de formation et de recherche démographiques (IFORD),

Recalling also its resolution 489 (XIX) of 26 May 1984 which took note of the precarious financial state of the institutes due to the insufficiency and irregularity of contributions received from their member States,

Considering the intention of the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) to progressively reduce its financing of the institutes as approved by resolution 84/21 of the Fund's Governing Council,

Recalling further its resolution 625 (XXIII) of 15 April 1988, which urged African Governments to continue their support of the institutes and to strengthen this by paying their arrears as well as paying their future annual contributions regularly,

Fully convinced that the idea of restructuring RIPs and IFORD as required by resolution 577 (XXI) of 19 April 1986 is highly contingent on the payment of contributions by member States;

- 1. Calls the attention of African Governments to the fact that failure to pay contributions to the institutes might compel them to close down;
- 2. Urges African Governments to assume full responsibility for the future survival of the institutes;

3. Appeals to all African Governments to provide adequate financial support to the institutes for their proper functioning;

4. Expresses its deep appreciation to the Executive Director of the United Nations Population Fund for the valuable support being extended to the institutes;

5. Expresses also its profound gratitude to host countries, African and other governments and international organizations who have been supporting the institutes administratively and financially and calls upon them to continue their support.

267th meeting,
19 May 1990.

682 (XXV). Improving technical facilities at the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA)

The Conference of Ministers,

Recognizing the need for providing adequate equipment and training in the region in current information technology,

Concerned about the paucity of up-to-date automation and computing equipment at the secretariat of the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA),

Further concerned about the constraints that such a situation imposes on ECA to properly assist African member States in enhancing their planning and monitoring capacities,

Urges the Secretary-General of the United Nations to provide the ECA secretariat with the necessary office automation and computing equipment for its optimal functioning and for better service to member States.

267th meeting,
19 May 1990.

683 (XXV). The Addis Ababa Plan of Action for Statistical Development in Africa in the 1990s

The Conference of Ministers,

Recalling its resolution 469 (XVIII) of 2 May 1983 entitled "African Statistical Services",

Considering the importance of the role of statistics in formulating, monitoring and evaluating ongoing programmes on economic policy reforms,

Considering further that the strategy for the provision of relevant and timely statistical information should receive serious attention,

Noting that a number of African statistical services are not yet able to supply this information in a satisfactory and timely manner because of significant interrelated constraints which had been identified during the assessment of statistical capacities of member States carried out within the framework of the project on "Data collection related to development programmes and aid-flows in Africa",

Reaffirming that ECA is the key regional institution for the development and promotion of statistics in Africa,

Considering the work of the sixth session of the Joint Conference of African Planners, Statisticians and Demographers,

1. Adopts the report of the sixth session of the Joint Conference of African Planners, Statisticians and Demographers;
2. Adopts the Addis Ababa Plan of Action for Statistical Development in Africa in the 1990s;
3. Exhorts member States to use the Plan of Action as a framework for statistical development in their respective countries, to take necessary measures to strengthen their national institutional capabilities in the statistical field and to promote dialogue between producers and users;
4. Recommends that the United Nations and its specialized agencies should continue their efforts to ensure co-ordination of technical co-operation activities in all aspects of quantitative information;
5. Appeals to intergovernmental agencies, multilateral and bilateral donor institutions to continue and further strengthen their assistance in the statistical field in the region, in the context of the Addis Ababa Plan of Action for Statistical Development in Africa in the 1990s;
6. Requests the Executive Secretary of the Commission to take necessary action to assist member States in the implementation of the Plan of Action annexed to the present resolution.

267th meeting,
19 May 1990.

ANNEX TO RESOLUTION 683
ADDIS ABABA PLAN OF ACTION FOR STATISTICAL
DEVELOPMENT IN AFRICA IN THE 1990s

PREAMBLE

The Conference of Ministers,

Reviewing the development of statistics in Africa over the last 30 years,

Reviewing the current statistical capacities in African countries,

Reviewing major factors governing success and failure of the performance of national statistical services,

Stressing the strategic role of quantitative analysis for improving decision-making for sustainable development,

Mindful that data demands to formulate, monitor and evaluate policy reforms and development plans are increasing,

Noting with great concern the continuing low profile accorded to national statistical services and deteriorating conditions of service,

Concerned about a lack of consideration of national plans and priorities as well as some duplication in internationally sponsored statistical development programmes,

Reaffirming the collective commitment of African planners, statisticians and demographers to accelerate self-reliant social and economic development for the well-being of African peoples,

Adopts the following Plan of Action for Statistical Development in Africa in the 1990s.

PRINCIPLES AND OBJECTIVES

Principles

1. Statistics is a vital tool in national development planning.
2. African statistical services need to become fully self-reliant.
3. Statistical programmes should respond to African Governments commitment to self-reliant development.
4. International co-operation and support in the field of statistics should respond to priorities and programmes of national statistical services (NSS).
5. Adequate and reliable statistics are a prerequisite for designing, monitoring and evaluating projects.
6. Increased communication at all times between users and producers of statistics is an important resource in itself which, once started, would generate additional resources through the attractiveness of its product.
7. Any improvement of the statistical system constitutes an integral part of economic and social development.
8. ECA should be recognized as the key regional institution responsible for the development and promotion of statistics in Africa.

Objectives

1. To achieve self-sufficiency in statistical production, including the creation of a comprehensive national statistical data base by the end of the century.
2. To improve the reliability and relevance of data produced in African countries.
3. To undertake production of data required for formulating, monitoring and evaluating programmes designed to restructure and transform African economies.
4. To improve the timeliness in the production and dissemination of statistical information.
5. To increase awareness among users of statistical information.
6. To strengthen and sustain statistical training programmes at various levels and institutions.
7. To promote contact and dialogue among African statisticians.
8. To encourage improvement in the organizational set-up of the national statistical service (NSS) and assure its autonomy.
9. To improve co-ordination of all statistical development programmes at both national and international levels.

RECOMMENDATIONS

A. TO GOVERNMENTS OF MEMBER STATES OF ECA

1. A higher priority should be accorded to statistical activities and statistics should be seen as central to the formulation of plans and strategies.

2. Adequate funding should be provided for statistical activities.
3. Assistance should be provided in the establishment of a Statistical Development Fund with contributions from the public as well as the private sector.
4. Governments should ensure that the legislation governing the statistical services in their countries assures their utmost effectiveness.
5. ECOWAS's 18 November should be adopted as African Statistics Day in order to increase public awareness for the important role which statistics play in all aspects of social and economic life.
6. African Governments are urged to continue to give support to the African Statistical Association (AFSA).

Organization of statistical services

7. The organizational structure of the national statistical services should be examined carefully and, where necessary, restructured in order to meet the various data needs.
8. In order to attract and retain suitable manpower Governments are urged to develop attractive schemes of service for statisticians.

Work programme

9. The national statistical services should prepare longer-term statistical development programmes (e.g., 5 or 10 years) in the context of national development plans. Such programmes should serve as a guide and framework for annual or biennial national statistical work programmes.
10. A budget document showing details of inputs and final outputs to be delivered by the national statistical services should be prepared for each financial year.

Statistical committees

11. Countries are requested to set up national statistical councils composed of senior civil servants, representatives of universities, NGOs and the private sector. Such a council should act as an advisory board on policy matters relating to statistical matters.
12. User/producer and producer/producer committees should be reactivated in countries where they exist or should be initiated in countries where they do not exist. These committees enable exchange of views regarding development of statistics, uses of available statistics and the setting up of priorities for the country's statistical activities.

Establishment of statistical priorities

13. In accordance with the Lagos Plan of Action and the Final Act of Lagos, national statistical services should consider the following as priority areas in future statistical programmes: food and agriculture, industry, human resources; transport and communications, trade and finance, environment, energy, women and development, population and development and the informal sector.

Statistical training

14. National statistical services and statistical training institutions at the national level should organize specialized short-term training courses in statistics.

15. National statistical offices are urged to prepare and implement statistical development programmes which would help them to fully utilize available training facilities.
16. The linkage of national statistical services with statistical and other training institutions should be encouraged, where absent, and strengthened, where it exists.
17. All governments should give support to centres participating in the Statistical Training Programme for Africa (STPA).

Seminars

18. National seminars covering specific or broad areas with participation drawn from government as well as research and training institutions should be organized on a regular basis and should be included in the programme of work.

Data quality and dissemination

19. In order to improve the quality of information collected, national statistical services are requested to consider setting up in their offices an organizational unit on methods and standards.
20. National statistical services are urged to ascertain that data are published with minimum delay.
21. As research is a vital element in statistical development, national statistical services are encouraged to include research as an integral part of their statistical activities.

B. TO INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

22. UNDP and other multilateral and bilateral agencies are urged to enhance the scope and implementation of the ongoing Statistical Development Programme for Africa (SDPA) and other programmes, respectively.
23. More effective use should be made of the Joint Conference of African Planners, Statisticians and Demographers, of the United Nations ACC Sub-Committee on Statistical Activities and the Statistical Commission as institutional arrangements to improve co-ordination among international agencies.
24. ECA should take the initiative to convene a working group meeting to further review and elaborate on the principles, objectives and recommendations of this Plan of Action and formulate detailed strategies for its implementation.

267th meeting,
19 May 1990.

684 (XXV). The Abuja Declaration on Participatory Development: The Role of Women in Africa in the 1990s

The Conference of Ministers.

Having considered in depth the Abuja Declaration on Participatory Development: The role of Women in Africa in the 1990s as adopted by the Conference on the Integration of Women in Development at its fourth meeting held in Abuja, Nigeria, from 6 to 10 November 1989,

Having noted that the issues raised and concerns expressed by the Conference with regard to the implementation of the Arusha Strategies for the Advancement of Women in Africa are consistent with the aforementioned Declaration and reinforce the mandate of this Conference,

Mindful of the need for accelerating the pace of implementation of the Arusha Strategies and to take concerted action to mobilize support from every quarter to promote women's participation and integration in the development process,

Mindful of the need for a socio-economic strategy for the 1990s enabling women to fully play their roles and assume their responsibilities with regard to the conceptualization, planning, design and implementation of programmes conducive to long-term sustainable socio-economic transformation,

Concerned by the devastating impact of Africa's socio-economic crisis and the short-term structural adjustment measures which have aggravated the social degradation and lack of economic opportunities for women,

Appreciative of the initiative taken by the Conference which represents an essential contribution to national, regional and international efforts to improve the human condition in Africa,

1. Congratulates the organizers of the Conference for their commendable initiative to assess the progress made in the implementation of the Arusha Strategies for the Advancement of Women in Africa, to identify problems impeding its overall impact and to recommend comprehensive measures whose implementation at the national, subregional, regional and international levels would accelerate the integration of women in the development process;
2. Expresses its appreciation to the Government of the Federal Republic of Nigeria for its generosity in hosting the Conference and, in particular, to His Excellency the President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria and Mrs. Maryam Babangida for their leadership role in ensuring the success of the Conference;
3. Further expresses its deep appreciation to the participating Governments for ensuring high-level and fully motivated representation at the Conference, and to the United Nations, in particular the United Nations Development Programme, (UNDP), non-governmental and intergovernmental organizations, and other multilateral and bilateral donors who contributed generously to the organization of the Conference which resulted in the Abuja Declaration;
4. Endorses the findings, conclusions and recommendations of the Conference as set forth in the Abuja Declaration concerning participatory development of African women in the 1990s;
5. Urges member States to fully implement the recommendations of the Abuja Declaration by integrating women as an essential part of their recovery and long-term development programmes;
6. Further urges international financial institutions, bilateral and multilateral donors, organizations of the United Nations system, non-governmental organizations and African intergovernmental organizations to implement, as a matter of urgency, the recommendations contained in the Abuja Declaration;
7. Requests the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly of the United Nations to ensure that speedy and appropriate follow-up action is taken to implement the recommendations contained in the Abuja Declaration;
8. Requests the Executive Secretary of ECA to disseminate the Abuja Declaration as widely as possible, particularly to member States, all United Nations agencies and organizations, donor countries and organizations, regional and subregional organizations, institutions of higher learning and manpower development establishments in Africa;

9. Further requests the Executive Secretary of ECA to co-ordinate and monitor the implementation of the recommendations of the Abuja Declaration and to present comprehensive reports thereon to the ECA Conference of Ministers.

267th meeting,
19 May 1990.

685 (XXV). Women and apartheid

The Conference of Ministers,

Considering that the apartheid regime in South Africa has been principally responsible for the economic, social and political destabilization of the countries in Southern Africa, thereby causing thousands of people to become displaced, refugees, mutilated, orphans and abandoned,

Considering further that over 70 per cent of the people most affected are women and children living under extremely difficult conditions,

Conscious that apartheid in South Africa is a major obstacle to the advancement of women and to equality and peace in Southern Africa,

Aware of the fact that without peace there can be no development and no integration of women into the social and economic development of Africa,

1. Supports the activities carried out by South African women in their country for the total elimination of apartheid;

2. Appeals to member States to press for continued mandatory and comprehensive sanctions against South Africa;

3. Supports all measures aimed at checking the destabilization perpetrated by the apartheid regime against the Front-line States and other neighbouring States;

4. Requests the Economic Commission for Africa to institute mechanisms that would strengthen the Southern African Development Co-ordination Conference and sustain activities in favour of women of the subregion directly or indirectly.

267th meeting,
19 May 1990.

686 (XXV). Women in global and regional strategies

The Conference of Ministers,

Considering the importance of including gender issues in global strategies and regional development programmes,

Mindful of the need for African women to work out strategies for surviving harsh structural adjustment programmes,

Recognizing the invaluable services rendered by governments, governmental organizations, non-governmental and international organizations and funding agencies in furthering the cause of African women,

Considering also the need to harmonize and co-ordinate the efforts that the various regional and subregional organizations in Africa are making to implement their programmes for the advancement of African women;

1. Requests that during the negotiations with development agencies, ECA and member States take into account the conclusions of the Abuja Conference and ensure that women's needs are taken into account in the provisions of those agreements;

2. Strongly urges ECA to organize a briefing session on the African Alternative Framework to Structural Adjustment Programmes (AAF-SAP) during which a committee of experts would consider some strategies aimed at minimizing the adverse effects of ongoing structural adjustment programmes on women;

3. Requests ECA to institute three citations at subsequent regional conferences on the integration of women in development. Such awards should help promote the integration of women in development;

4. Appreciates the gesture of the West African subregion in placing at the disposal of the Commission and the Africa Regional Co-ordinating Committee (ARCC) the services of the West African Women's Association.

267th meeting,
19 May 1990.

687 (XXV). Africa Regional Co-ordinating Committee for the Integration of Women in Development

The Conference of Ministers.

Considering the important role played by the Africa Regional Co-ordinating Committee for the Integration of Women in Development (ARCC) in the co-ordination and follow-up of actions for the integration of women in development in Africa,

Considering also the need to adapt to current trends in activities for the integration of women,

1. Urges member States to create a focal point to deal with matters relating to women activities;

2. Requests the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) to strengthen the human resources of its Africa Training and Research Centre for Women (ATRCW) in order to enhance its capacity to serve ARCC.

267th meeting,
19 May 1990.

688 (XXV). Establishment of the Technical Advisory Committee for the development of nuclear science and technology in Africa

The conference of Ministers.

Recalling the Lagos Plan of Action for the economic development of Africa Section XI para. 294(c) which called upon African member States to promote the establishment of an African Nuclear Energy Agency, with a view to following up developments in nuclear technology, formulating and harmonizing nuclear energy development programmes in Africa and providing manpower training in the nuclear field,

Recalling further its resolution 572 (XXI) which requested the Executive Secretary of ECA, in collaboration with heads of relevant bodies and agencies of the United Nations system, to assist African countries in mastering nuclear science and technology and involve them in nuclear science research and development from the outset,

Conscious of the vast potentialities for social, economic and technological improvement which nuclear energy offers in its many and varied applications that could be utilized, together with other available technologies, for the benefit of Africa and its peoples,

Conscious of the necessity to develop regional organizations framework needed to promote nuclear science and technology and their application to the solution of the socio-economic development problems of the continent,

1. Decides to establish a Technical Advisory Committee for the development of nuclear science and technology in Africa to provide a system for acquisition and transfer of technology in the field of nuclear science and technology in Africa, making it possible to achieve a steady development of African capabilities in nuclear science and technology;

2. Requests the Executive Secretary of ECA, in collaboration with the Director-General of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) and executive heads of other relevant international organizations, to provide technical and financial assistance to African programmes and projects aimed at the development of African capabilities in nuclear science and technology;

3. Requests the international community, in particular the developed countries, to fully co-operate and assist in the development of nuclear capabilities in Africa in the spirit of the recommendations of the United Nations Conference for the Promotion of International Co-operation in the Peaceful Uses of Nuclear Energy.

267th meeting,
19 May 1990.

689 (XV). Strengthening of capacities in Africa for the development and application of science and technology in the 1990s

The Conference of Ministers.

Recalling its resolution 386 (XV) of 12 April 1980 on strengthening Africa's capability to use science and technology for development,

Stressing the increasing importance of science and technology for development in Africa in the context of the rapidly changing international economic environment,

Convinced of the central role that science and technology plays as a vital instrument for the improvement of the quality of life and the eradication of poverty in the context of the promotion of economic growth and sustained development in Africa,

Emphasizing the need to enhance human resources development and utilization in order to promote the endogenous capacity in science and technology of African countries, in particular to face the challenges of development and accelerated technological change posed by the present scientific and technological revolution,

Noting that science and technology information through industrial property is of vital importance for technology transfer and development in Africa,

Noting that the ECA-secretariat is required to undertake further responsibilities in the promotion of science and technology in Africa in the future,

Concerned at the continued low level of resources devoted to the development and application of science and technology in the member States,

1. Considers that science and technology should be one of the major components in the national, subregional and regional programmes of socio-economic development in Africa;
2. Urges ECA member States to allocate additional resources to the development and application of science and technology and strive towards the attainment of the target of one per cent of GNP recommended in the Lagos Plan of Action adopted by African Heads of State and Government in 1980;
3. Requests the member States to increase their financial support to the activities of the Working Groups in the implementation of subregional projects;
4. Further urges each member State to set up a fund for science and technology for development;
5. Requests that the human and financial resources of the science and technology programme at the ECA secretariat should be increased to enable the programme to deal effectively with its increasing responsibilities in the region;
6. Urges ECA member States to fully utilize the technological information facilities available from the African Regional Industrial Property Organization (ARIPO), the African Intellectual Property Organization (OAPI) and the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) and to support those organizations;
7. Also urges the relevant organs and organizations of the United Nations system such as United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), Food Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) and United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), to allocate adequate financial resources to strengthen Africa's science and technology capabilities.

267th meeting,
19 May 1990.

690 (XXV). Making the African Centre of Meteorological Applications for Development Operational

The Conference of Ministers.

Recalling its resolution 621 (XXII) on establishment of the African Centre of Meteorological Applications for Development (ACMAD),

Considering the expected contribution of the Centre to sustainable development and assistance in understanding issues and developing policies related to environment and climate change which affect the daily life of the African people,

Noting with appreciation the resources already made available and the commitment expressed by the donor community,

Noting further the facilities and resources placed by the host country at the disposal of the Centre,

Concerned by the limited number of African countries which have ratified the Constitution of the Centre and still fewer countries which have paid their contribution,

Further concerned that still fewer countries have paid their contribution,

1. Expresses its conviction of the need for the Centre and for it to become operational by October 1990 as planned;

2. Expresses its appreciation to those member States which have already ratified the Constitution and paid their contribution, and to the secretariats of the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) and the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) for the effective manner in which they have implemented the previous decisions of the Conference of Ministers;

3. Strongly urges those member States which have not done so to take urgent steps to ratify the Constitution and pay their contribution so that the Centre can become operational;

4. Requests the Executive Secretary of ECA and Secretary-General of WMO to continue, in co-operation with the executive heads of other institutes and agencies concerned, their efforts in mobilizing the member States, the donor community, regional and international organizations and financial institutions to take appropriate actions to ensure the early launching of the Centre.

267th meeting,
19 May 1990.

691 (XXV). The African Charter for Popular Participation in Development and Transformation

The Conference of Ministers.

Recalling United Nations General Assembly resolution S-13/2 on the United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development, 1986-1990 (UN-PAAERD),

Recalling also resolution 664 (XXIV) of the twenty-fourth session of the Commission and fifteenth meeting of the conference of Ministers on the International Conference on Popular Participation in the Recovery and Development Process in Africa,

Aware of the fact that people have a fundamental right to participate fully in the making of policy decisions which affect their lives at all levels,

Noting with interest the decisions and recommendations arrived at by the International Conference on Popular Participation in the Recovery and Development Process in Africa, held from 12 to 16 February 1990 in Arusha, United Republic of Tanzania, and in particular resolution 2 of the same name whose operative paragraphs resolve, inter alia, that the eleventh day of February each year should be proclaimed Popular Participation Day in Africa,

1. Expresses its appreciation to the Government of the United Republic of Tanzania for generously hosting the Conference;

2. Adopts the African Charter for Popular Participation in Development and Transformation (Arusha 1990) as a statement of the strategy that should be incorporated in development policies adopted by African Governments with a view to promoting popular participation in development and by encouraging people and their organizations to undertake self-reliant development initiatives;

3. Recommends that the Government of the United Republic of Tanzania should submit the present Charter to the forty-fifth regular session of the General Assembly of the United Nations and the fifty-second session of the Council of Ministers of the OAU and twenty-sixth session of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the OAU;

4. Requests the Executive Secretary of ECA and the Secretary-General of the Organization of African Unity to disseminate the contents of the Charter widely, and to set up a mechanism for implementing and monitoring the follow up of activities contained in the Charter at subregional and

regional levels and submit regular annual reports to the ECA Conference of Ministers and the appropriate organs of the Organization of African Unity.

267th meeting,
19 May 1990.

692 (XXV). Hydrographic surveying and nautical charting services

The Conference of Ministers,

Recognizing that large areas of continental shelves, exclusive economic zones and island lakes and rivers remain inadequately or are not at all surveyed and that many nautical charts are obsolete or inadequate,

Also recognizing that the lack of adequate surveys and nautical information seriously retard the economic development of African maritime countries not only in respect of the safety of shipping but also in the protection of the marine environment and coastal ecology, the improvement of port facilities, the development of fishery industries and the exploitation and management of offshore living and non-renewable marine resources, the delimitation of offshore maritime boundaries and the growth of tourism and recreational maritime activities,

Noting that, in the African region, there is a lack of data on the available hydrographic resources and only few maritime countries have the capability to conduct their own surveying and charting,

Considering that modern hydrographic surveying and charting requires the use of relatively expensive vessels and specialized equipment by trained specialists, hydrographic surveyors and nautical cartographers,

Aware that the International Hydrographic Organization is willing to provide expert advice on the development of national and regional hydrographic services, upon request by developing countries and taking into account the requirements and the existing resources in each developing country or region,

Taking note of the technical capabilities available within the International Hydrographic Organization for initiating activities in hydrography and nautical charting,

1. Draws the attention of African countries to the availability within the International Hydrographic Organization (IHO) of technical capabilities that can be profitably used in their marine hydrographic and nautical charting activities and in the establishment of national hydrographic and nautical charting committees;

2. Urges the Economic Commission for Africa, in conjunction with appropriate African specialized institutions and the International Hydrographic Organization, to explore the possibility of preparing a project to develop existing regional centres for the maintenance of hydrographic equipment and for training in nautical cartography;

3. Requests the International Hydrographic Organization to assist in the appointment and sponsoring of regional advisers at the Regional Centre for the Development of Hydrography in Africa.

267th meeting,
19 May 1990.

693 (XXV). Proposal for interregional co-operation in the area of trade facilitation, and in particular the phased application of EDIFACT whenever appropriate

The Conference of Ministers,

Recalling resolution 1989/118 of the United Nations Economic and Social Council on interregional co-operation for facilitation of international trade which called upon regional commissions and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) to jointly prepare a project proposal in this field,

Recognizing that African countries need to effectively co-operate with the rest of the world and to participate in international trade facilitation, including the use of electronic data interchange for transmission of trade documentation,

Conscious of the urgent need in Africa to build up, strengthen and upgrade capacities to identify problems and requirements for facilitation for international and intra-African trade, including the analysis of practices, procedures, laws, regulations, policies and documentation governing international trade and that such capacity building would benefit government ministries/departments concerned with planning, trade, transport, customs administration, statistics and data processing,

1. Decides to fully support the project proposal on interregional co-operation for facilitation of international trade prepared jointly by the regional commissions and UNCTAD;
2. Recommends that the United Nations Economic and Social Council endorse this proposal and recommend it for funding by donors;
3. Invites all Member States of the United Nations to support this project proposal;
4. Requests the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the World Bank, the regional development banks and bilateral donors to provide adequate financing to ensure the full realization of this project;
5. Requests the Executive Secretary of ECA to report to the twenty-sixth session of the Commission on the implementation of this resolution.

267th meeting,
19 May 1990.

694 (XXV). Co-operation in fisheries in Africa

The Conference of Ministers,

Aware of the abundant fishery and aquacultural resource endowment of the African continent, particularly with the extension of national jurisdictions into the exclusive economic zones (EEZs),

Considering the need for African countries to develop inter-State co-operation in order to promote the development of the fishery sector,

Convinced of the determination of African countries to overcome the difficulties they encounter in the development and acquisition of new fishery resource exploitation technologies,

Recognizing the significant contribution that fishing can make to food self-sufficiency, the improvement of nutritional requirements and the diversification of exports,

Considering the dynamism that exists among the member States of the Indian Ocean Commission (IOC) and the concern they share with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) and member States regarding multinational co-operation for the development of fishery resources,

Considering that the process set into motion by the Ministerial Conference held in Rabat, Morocco, from 30 March to 1 April 1989 regarding co-operation in the fishery sector among the African States bordering the Atlantic Ocean, encourages the countries of the South to form groupings in order to promote the fishery sector,

1. Calls upon African States to develop joint research programmes, particularly for the evaluation and monitoring of shared stocks;
2. Further calls upon African States to promote better integration of the fishery and aquaculture sector in their national economies in order to increase its contribution to development;
3. Urges African States to establish an intra-African information network on fishing vessels operating illegally and to propose measures to be instituted within the context of a regional legal framework to ban such vessels;
4. Requests the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) to assist African countries to establish such a network;
5. Also urges United Nations agencies, particularly UNDP, FAO, the International Maritime Organization (IMO) and ECA to support the recommendations of the Ministerial Conference organized in Rabat;
6. Exhorts African States to strengthen co-operation among themselves in the implementation of projects for the management, exploitation and marketing of fishery and aquacultural products at the national, subregional and regional levels;
7. Further urges ECA, in the interest of greater coherence and efficiency, to do its utmost to maintain a unified direction in its activities concerning continental and marine resources, non-living resources of the sea and the relevant legislation;
8. Urges member States:
 - (a) To strengthen and make full use of the marine training centres of excellence in Africa;
 - (b) To promote the exchange of information, to make use of these centres for the development and use of a standardized statistical system on all the aspects of fisheries at the subregional level;
 - (c) To promote joint negotiations of fishery agreements on the high-sea fleets of non-African countries which do not engage in racial discrimination of any kind;
 - (d) To accord greater importance to the development of small-scale fishing whenever possible, because it is better integrated into the African economy and has a greater capacity for adaptation to socio-economic exigencies in the continent;
 - (e) To improve, particularly in the areas of education and health, the social status and living conditions of African fishermen, whose poor situation hinders development;
 - (f) To give priority to multinational co-operation in fish marketing and preservation, in order to:

- (i) facilitate the access of African products to markets of the North in terms of market information, product promotion, export, infrastructure and the like;
- (ii) attain self-sufficiency in certain fishery resources through the development of intra-African trade, particularly the harmonization of taxation on fishery products;

9. Further exhorts them to promote the development of aquaculture in Africa and, to the extent feasible, pool their national human and financial resources within subregional applied research bodies;

10. Further exhorts them to explore the possibility of bringing national entrepreneurs and foreign enterprises together for the establishment of joint ventures in the framework of mutual advantage.

267th meeting,
19 May 1990.

695 (XXV). Planning, programming, monitoring and evaluation

The Conference of Ministers,

Recalling its resolutions 674 (XXIV) and 675 (XXIV) of 7 April 1989 on the draft Medium-term Plan and the proposed programme of work and priorities for the biennium 1990-1991,

Recalling also General Assembly resolution 37/234 of 21 December 1982 on programme planning,

Having examined the report of the meeting of the Ad Hoc Committee on the draft Medium-term Plan 1992-1997 the proposals for updating the 1990-1991 programme budget ⁶ the Biennial Report of the Executive Secretary, 1988-1989, ⁷ and the Self-evaluation of programmes in ECA. ⁸

Recalling further General Assembly resolution 44/201 of 21 December 1989, section B, on the Economic Commission for Africa concerning the inadequacy of resources and the review of the translation and interpretation services,

Appreciates the support of the African Group in New York and African representatives in the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination (CPC) and the Economic and Social Council,

Appreciates highly the efforts of the African Group in New York in their endeavours for an increase in resources for ECA for the biennium 1992-1993,

Notes with satisfaction the high performance rates in the implementation of the programme budget for the biennium 1988-1989,

1. Endorses the report of the meeting of the Ad hoc Committee on the draft Medium-term Plan 1991-1997;
2. Endorses also the proposals for updating the 1990-1991 programme budget;

⁶ E/ECA/CM.16.29.

⁷ E/ECA/CM.16/28.

⁸ E/ECA/CM.16/30.

3. Approves the changes to the programme budget for the biennium 1988-1989 including the reformulation of outputs, the postponements, the proposals for termination and the additional outputs added at the initiative of the secretariat in accordance with the factors necessitating such changes;

4. Requests the Secretary-General of the United Nations to include those changes in his submission to the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination;

5. Calls upon the African members of the Committee to support the changes to the programme budget for the biennium 1988-1989;

6. Calls also upon the African Group in New York to continue its support for an increase in resources for the biennium 1992-1993 for ECA in accordance with the United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development (UN-PAAERD).

267th meeting,
19 May 1990.

696 (XXV). "Priority Africa" Programme of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization

The Conference of Ministers,

Having listened to the presentation of the representative of the Director-General of UNESCO on the objective of UNESCO's "Priority Africa" Programme, and taking into account the responses made to the observations of participants,

Noting with appreciation the inclusion of the "Priority Africa" Programme on the agenda of the Conference by the Executive Secretary of ECA,

Noting further the priority which the Director-General of UNESCO has accorded to this subject and to Africa,

Aware of the emphasis the Programme places on education, literacy, environment, sciences (natural and social), culture and communication,

1. Welcomes, with satisfaction, the "Priority Africa" Programme;
2. Expresses its appreciation to the Director-General of UNESCO for the initiative he has taken in launching this Programme and for setting up a unit in his cabinet office for its implementation;
3. Requests the Executive Secretary of ECA and the Secretary-General of the Organization of African Unity to co-operate, within the joint ECA/UNESCO and OAU/UNESCO concertation machinery, in the implementation of the Programme and the mobilization of the resources required;
4. Further requests the Executive Secretary of ECA and the Director-General of UNESCO to revive the co-operation mechanism of joint consultative meetings (JCMs), in order to revitalize the relationships between the two organizations and intensify joint programme and project formulation, planning and implementation;
5. Appeals to international organizations, financial institutions and the donor community to support the implementation of the "Priority Africa" Programme;
6. Requests African member States to co-operate fully in the implementation of UNESCO's "Priority Africa" Programme.

267th meeting,
19 May 1990.

697 (XXV). Improvement of the role of women in the informal sector: Production and management

The Conference of Ministers,

Having considered resolution LC/Res. 151 (XIII) of the OAU Ministerial Labour Commission held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, from 23 to 29 April 1990,

Having taken note of the activities of the project "Improvement of the role of women in the informal sector: Production and management" (RAF/87/042),

Considering the importance of the attention given by the Organization of African Unity, the United Nations Development Programme, the Economic Commission for Africa, the International Labour Organisation, the United Nations International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women, the United Nations Statistical Office and the United Nations Development Fund for Women to the implementation of the project and the strengthening of the role of women in the informal sector,

Appreciating the considerable efforts made by the concerned agencies towards improvement of the role of women in informal sector production and management,

Recognizing the importance of the project RAF/87/042 both for the recipients and the other countries of the African region for their economic development,

Recalling the need to associate all the economic agents of African countries with the national efforts to emerge from the current crisis,

Convinced that the operators of the sector play an important role in the production of useful goods and services for the poorest African communities and all the social groups from some sectors of socio-economic life,

1. Takes note of the above-mentioned resolution and expresses its sincere thanks and congratulations to the agencies for the design and execution of such a project;
2. Expresses its total support and encouragement for the pursuit of the activities of the project under the best conditions;
3. Urges member States to take all measures to collect indispensable statistical data on the work of women in general and more particularly on the work of operators in the informal sector;
4. Recommends that member States should consider favourably the legal ways and means of protecting the work and profits of operators in the informal sector and in the enhancement of the role of women in the informal sector;
5. Requests member States to do their utmost to include the activities of informal sector operators in their national development plans and programmes (statistics and policies);
6. Also recommends that member States should draw up new training, information and credit policies to enhance the role of women in the informal sector;
7. Requests the technical services concerned to identify the priority intervention sectors for support to operators in the informal sector so as to avoid duplication of efforts in this field;

8. Further requests member States to take appropriate measures aimed at ensuring, on the one hand, the continuity of the project after the international organizations have withdrawn and, on the other hand, at reducing the mobility of the counterpart staff in charge of the implementation of the project in member countries.

267th meeting,
19 May 1990.

698 (XXV). The Final review and appraisal of the United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development, 1986-1990 (UN-PAAERD)

The Conference of Ministers.

Recalling General Assembly resolution 43/27 of 18 November 1988 in which the General Assembly decided that the final review and appraisal of the United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development (UN-PAAERD) should be conducted at its forty-sixth session to be held in 1991,

Noting with appreciation the two reports of the ECA secretariat on the progress in the implementation of the UN-PAAERD as well as preparations for the final review and evaluation of the UN-PAAERD,

Noting further with appreciation the work of the United Nations Steering Committee and the United Nations Inter-Agency Task Force on the monitoring of the implementation of the UN-PAAERD,

Convinced of the need that the final review and evaluation of the implementation of the UN-PAAERD by the General assembly should be an occasion for an in-depth appraisal of the actions taken by all sides in the implementation of the Programme as well as of the measures that are needed to sustain accelerated growth and development in Africa beyond 1991,

Convinced further of the need for ECA member States to conduct a thorough assessment of the implementation of the Programme and also of the need that such assessment should be as up-to-date as possible,

Concerned over the continuing deterioration in the economic and social conditions in Africa and the possibility of the continuation of such trends in the 1990s,

1. Recommends that mechanisms for the final review and appraisal of the implementation of the UN-PAAERD should be similar to those of the mid-term review of the Programme and that for this purpose an Ad hoc Committee of the Whole of the General Assembly should be established to appraise the Programme and to propose measures for sustained development in Africa beyond 1991;

2. Decides that a special memorandum to the Ad hoc Committee of the Whole of the General Assembly on the final review and appraisal of the UN-PAAERD should be prepared in May 1991 by the seventeenth meeting of the ECA Conference of Ministers and that the draft of this special memorandum should be considered by an Intergovernmental Expert Group Meeting to be convened immediately before the Technical Preparatory Committee of the Whole (TEPCOW), and the Conference of Ministers;

3. Invites the Executive Secretary of ECA to mount special multisectoral missions to all ECA member States early in the fourth quarter of 1990 to collect up-to-date data on the implementation of the Programme on the basis of which the ECA special memorandum will be prepared;

4. Requests the General Assembly to make available to the ECA secretariat the financial resources that are required to mount such special missions on the review and appraisal of the implementation of the UN-PAAERD;

5. Urges member States and their development and planning apparatuses to participate actively in the preparation of the special memorandum.

267th meeting,
19 May 1990.

699 (XXV) Strengthening the African Institute for Higher Technical Training and Research

The Conference of Ministers,

Recalling its resolution 348 (XIV) of 27 March 1979, by which it established the African Institute for Higher Technical Training and Research (AIHTTR) as a regional institute to serve all African States in the areas of technological development and research,

Recalling further its resolution 547 (XX) of 29 April 1985 which calls for strengthening of the operational and delivery capacities of AIHTTR,

Reaffirming its conviction that the structural transformation of African economies depends for the most part on the development of an adequate technological and scientific base,

Appreciating the support and temporary institutional facilities given to the Institute by the Government of the Republic of Kenya, and also contributions and assistance from other member States,

Further appreciating the support given to the Institute by the Economic Commission for Africa,

Commending with appreciation the support given so far to the Institute by the United Nations Development Programme for the development of its training and research programmes,

Convinced of the central role to be played by the Institute in reducing the existing technological gap between African nations and other nations of the world as well as in fostering a sustained and sustainable socio-economic restructuring and development process within the region,

Seriously concerned about the present appalling financial situation of the Institute and the relatively small number of member States that have subscribed to the Institute's Constitution since its establishment ten years ago, a fact which not only threatens the very existence of the Institute, but also hinders the process of Africa's socio-economic transformation and development,

Conscious of the need to consolidate the financial and membership position of the Institute and thereby alleviate those major constraints that have kept it in a state of stagnation,

1. Urges all African Governments that have not so far subscribed to the Constitution of the Institute to do so as a matter of top priority;

2. Calls on member States of the Institute to pay their contributions to the budget of the Institute as expeditiously as possible;

3. Appeals to members of the Institute who are in arrears with the Institute to pay up their accumulated arrears in order to provide the finances necessary to allow the Institute to function;

4. Further appeals to UNDP to continue its support to the Institute;

5. Requests the Executive Secretary of ECA to continue his efforts to mobilize extrabudgetary resources through technical assistance programmes to supplement the Institute's regular budgetary resources;

6. Further requests the Executive Secretary to continue to extend to the Institute ECA's technical and administrative backstopping services for the development of the Institute.

267th meeting,
19 May 1990.

700 (XXV). The proposed establishment of the African Economic Community.⁹

The Conference of Ministers,

Recalling the relevant provisions of the Lagos Plan of Action and the Final Act of Lagos adopted by African Heads of State and Government in April 1980,

Convinced more than ever before that the development of Africa depends primarily on Africans themselves and that such development can be achieved only within the framework of better co-ordination of efforts and collective mobilization of the resources of the continent within a better organized economic space,

Considering the events taking place in the rest of the world where economic blocs are being formed in order to meet the major challenges of the twenty-first century,

Referring to operative paragraph 11 of resolution A/44/17 on co-operation between the Organization of African Unity and the United Nations adopted at the forty-fourth session of the General Assembly of the United Nations,

Having been seized of the report of the joint OAU/ECA/ADB secretariat on the progress of work conducted by the Permanent Steering Committee of the OAU concerning the proposed establishment of the African Economic Community (E/ECA/CM.16/38),

1. Takes note of the progress report prepared by the joint OAU/ECA/ADB secretariat and commends the joint initiative taken by the secretariats of OAU, ECA and ADB;
2. Welcomes the remarkable work accomplished by the Permanent Steering Committee of OAU in preparing the draft treaty establishing the African Economic Community;
3. Further welcomes the arrangements made by the international community, within the framework of the United Nations General Assembly, to support Africa's effort to speed up the implementation of this project;
4. Takes note, with appreciation, of the financial and technical assistance provided by UNDP in furtherance of this enterprise and exhorts UNDP to continue providing such assistance to both the joint secretariat and the Permanent Steering Committee;
5. Appeals to all member States to take every measure at the national, subregional and regional levels to implement the project in accordance with the indicative time-frame;
6. Requests the Executive Secretary of ECA, the Secretary General of the OAU and the President of ADB, working within the context of the joint secretariat, to take the necessary steps in order to ensure that the economic integration projects and programmes of African subregional economic groupings and other intergovernmental organizations are co-ordinated and harmonized so as to avoid overlapping and duplication and to enable those intergovernmental organizations to contribute to the building of the Community;

⁹ Reservations by Morocco on preambular paragraph 5 and operative paragraphs 1 and 2.

7. Requests the chief executives of existing economic communities and other relevant African intergovernmental organizations to take a more active part in the work that the Permanent Steering Committee is doing for the speedy establishment of the Community, particularly when it comes to negotiating the protocols to the Treaty;

8. Further requests the joint secretariat of ECA, OAU and ADB to report on the implementation of this resolution to the next session of the Conference.

267th meeting,
19 May 1990.

701 (XXV). Contribution of member States to ECA-sponsored institutions

The Conference of Ministers,

Having considered the report on activities, work programmes and budgets of ECA-sponsored regional and subregional institutions,

Aware of the crucial role of these institutions in promoting regional and subregional co-operation in vital areas,

Convinced that these institutions are essential instruments for African countries in coping with the current economic and financial crisis facing the continent,

Noting with satisfaction that some of these institutions are striving to become financially self-sufficient in their current operations,

Concerned, however, about the difficulties facing most of these institutions and which hamper not only their expansion but even threaten their survival,

1. Calls upon all member States that have not done so to join these institutions and to provide them with the necessary financial support through the regular payment of their contributions;

2. Urges all member States to pay their contributions, particularly their accumulated arrears in order to secure the survival of these institutions;

3. Invites all member States to pay particular attention and extend special support to ECA-sponsored institutions with a view to promoting their activities and enabling them to generate the resources necessary for their operations.

267th meeting,
19 May 1990.

702 (XXV). Transforming and strengthening the multinational programming and operational centres (MULPOCs) of the Economic Commission for Africa

The Conference of Ministers,

Recalling its resolution 311 (XIII) of 1 March 1977 establishing the Multinational Programming and Operational Centres (MULPOCs),

Recognizing that the MULPOCs have, over the years, played a vital role in fostering subregional economic co-operation and integration and that the objectives for which they were established are more valid today than they were 13 years ago,

Considering the imperative need for women to participate positively and effectively in the implementation of programmes aimed at their integration in the process of development in each subregion,

Concerned about the poor performance and achievements of the MULPOCs during the past few years mostly as a result of insufficient financial and human resources and their inadequacy to meet the new tasks that they are to perform towards economic recovery and transformation,

Welcoming General Assembly resolution 43/216 endorsing the financial reports and audited financial statements of the Board of Auditors and the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (ACABQ) which "strongly recommended that the achievements of the MULPOCs be thoroughly evaluated with a view to deciding whether this experiment should be continued or whether the mandate, number and structure of these Centres should be completely reorganized",

Noting with satisfaction the decision of the Secretary-General to appoint a Review Team whose mandate was, inter alia, to examine the structure and organization of the MULPOCs with a view to determining their suitability for the execution of their tasks taking into account the General Assembly resolution referred to above,

Noting that the current distribution and location of the MULPOCs are in keeping with the spirit of the Final Act of Lagos in terms of the need to promote co-operation and integration within the framework of the subregional economic groupings.

1. Takes note of the report of the Review Team which concludes that the structures, organization and operations, respectively, of the Multinational Programming and Operational Centres of the Economic Commission for Africa should be maintained, transformed and strengthened;

2. Warmly congratulates the Review Team on the thorough and objective manner in which it has carried out its work and for its findings and recommendations thereon;

3. Strongly supports the conclusions of the Review Team that the MULPOC institutions should be transformed and strengthened to provide member States with the required technical assistance and advisory services for the execution of their joint projects within the framework of the intergovernmental organizations;

4. Adopts the new mandate of the MULPOCs as proposed by the Review Team;

5. Strongly urges the United Nations General Assembly to provide the MULPOCs with additional human and financial resources to enable them to respond more effectively to multinational and multisectoral programming requirements based on priorities identified by the member States, and to provide immediately a minimum "core" of such resources;

6. Decides that, given the financial constraints and the need for better co-ordination between the MULPOCs and the intergovernmental organizations, the MULPOCs should report directly to the ECA Conference of Ministers through the Committees of Intergovernmental Experts which will be responsible for supervising the activities of the MULPOCs at the subregional level;

7. Urges the General Assembly, donor and technical assistance organizations to provide the MULPOCs with sufficient resources for the formulation and implementation of programmes for the effective participation of women in the development process of their respective subregions;

8. Recommends that the current number and composition of the MULPOCs should be maintained since they fit in with the structure of existing subregional economic groupings. Their distribution could, however, be reviewed in future to make for the rational use of available resources and to reflect developments in the subregional economic groupings;

9. Submits the attached memorandum on the strengthening and transformation of the MULPOCs to the Economic and Social Council for consideration;

10. Appeals to member States to continue their support and assistance to the MULPOCs through the United Nations Trust Fund for African Development and/or any other appropriate means;

11. Urges technical assistance and funding agencies to assist in the implementation of the relevant recommendations of the evaluation team regarding the need to provide the MULPOCs with sufficient financial and human resources for the effective execution of their mandate.

267th meeting,
19 May 1990.

ANNEX TO RESOLUTION 702 (XXV)
MEMORANDUM OF THE CONFERENCE OF MINISTERS OF
THE UNITED NATIONS ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR AFRICA
ON
THE REPORT OF THE REVIEW TEAM ON THE STRUCTURES,
ORGANIZATION AND OPERATIONS OF THE MULTINATIONAL
PROGRAMMING AND OPERATIONAL CENTRES

1. This memorandum is submitted in response to the General Assembly resolution 43/216 of 21 December 1988 on Financial reports and audited financial statements and reports of the Board of Auditors which endorsed the concurring observations and recommendations of the Board of Auditors and the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (ACABQ) with regard to the MULPOCs. The resolution called for a thorough evaluation of the achievements of the MULPOCs with a view to deciding whether this experiment should be continued or whether the mandate, number and structures of these Centres should be completely reorganized.

2. Pursuant to the above resolution, an independent Review Team was commissioned by the Secretary-General in collaboration with the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme with the following terms of reference:

(a) To examine the original mandate as contained in document E/ECA/CM.8/26 of 8 April 1982 with a view to ascertaining its continued relevance;

(b) To examine the structure and organization with a view to determining their suitability for the execution of tasks of MULPOCs, taking into account the recommendations made in the report of the United Nations Board of Auditors as contained in paragraph 14 of document A/43/5;

(c) As a follow-up to the Rwambuya and Said's report dated 23 August 1988, to review and report on all aspects of management of the MULPOCs;

(d) To examine adequacy of resources available and make recommendations aimed at strengthening the MULPOCs for a more efficient execution of their mandate;

(e) To investigate the effectiveness of the linkages with ECA substantive and service organizational units;

(f) To examine any other relevant matters pertaining to the efficient and effective operations of the MULPOCs; and

(g) To report not later than 10 March 1989, or as soon as possible thereafter, to the Executive Secretary of ECA and the Under-Secretary-General for Administration and Management.

3. We wish to express our appreciation that the Secretary-General has, in accordance with our request contained in resolution 659 (XXIV) on the review of the achievements of the Multinational and Operational Centres of the Commission, enabled us to comment on the report of the Review Team. We wish to reiterate that we welcome the decision of the General Assembly on the review and evaluation of the MULPOCs, as we believe that such a review is opportune. Finally, we must express our sincere appreciation to the Review Team for the quality of its work and for the recommendations which it has put forward.

4. We wish in this memorandum to comment on those proposals and recommendations of the Review Team so that the General Assembly will have the benefit of our opinion on this matter. Our views have emerged from the extensive debate that took place on the report during our twenty-fifth session and sixteenth meeting preceded by an equally extensive discussion at the level of our Technical Preparatory Committee of the Whole (TEPCOW) meetings held in Tripoli, the Great Libyan Arab Jamahiriya from 5 May to 19 May 1990.

5. In the light of our critical assessment of the proposals of the Review Team, we fully concur with the Team's findings that "the objectives and purposes for which the MULPOCs were established are more valid today than they were thirteen years ago, considering the socio-economic challenges which will confront the African countries in the 1990s. The member States strongly argue in favour of the maintenance, transformation and strengthening of an institution such as the MULPOCs provided with the additional human, technical and financial resources required for execution of their joint projects within the framework of the intergovernmental organizations".

6. We recommend that the number and membership of the MULPOCs should be retained as they correspond to the existing subregional economic groupings. Our Conference will continue to pay the necessary attention to the issue of the subregional distribution of the MULPOCs with a view to ensuring efficient utilization of available resources and in keeping with the evaluation of subregional groupings.

7. We wish to seize this opportunity to express our appreciation of the services rendered by the MULPOCs and the role which they played in supporting member countries' endeavours in promoting subregional and regional economic co-operation and integration in providing technical assistance to intergovernmental organizations (IGOs) in our different subregions. We wish in particular to underline the role of the MULPOCs in the establishment of the Preferential Trade Area for Eastern and Southern Africa (PTA), the Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS) and playing a co-ordinating role among the over 40 intergovernmental organizations in West Africa.

8. We endorse the findings of the Review Team with regard to the relevance of the MULPOCs as an institution to provide technical assistance in our efforts towards subregional groupings and the need to redefine the terms of reference of the MULPOCs in the light of past experiences and the challenges that are ahead. Accordingly, we support, as proposed by the Review Team, the following terms of reference:

(a) To provide member States and IGOs with technical assistance (advisory services) in project identification, planning and the formulation of multisectoral programmes and projects for execution by MULPOCs in association with IGO secretariats and the specialized agencies of the United Nations system;

(b) To provide member States and IGOs with short-term advisory services in development planning and to assist in the translation of those plans into multinational and multisectoral programmes and projects including the identification and formulation of programmes and projects for execution by them or at their request by the ECA-STAP (MULPOCs) itself, in association with the specialized agencies of the United Nations system, as required;

(c) To undertake pre-feasibility and feasibility studies, research on and analyses of priority areas identified by member States and IGOS for enhancing subregional co-operation and integration;

(d) To provide assistance and support in the development of human resources and in organizing training courses, seminars, lectures, workshops in and around round-tables, with a view to strengthening

institutional and organizational capacity of member States to execute multinational development programmes and projects for socio-economic advancement;

(e) To develop in the light of the above, effective working relationship with the governments, the IGOs, the UNDP offices and other international organizations with a view to harmonizing the designing, programming and implementation of technical assistance programmes at the subregional level;

(f) To develop and execute programmes for more effective participation of women in all aspects of development efforts at the subregional level; and

(g) To collect, and disseminate at the subregional level, information and statistical data on macro-economic indicators in the member States and to assist them in establishing compatible systems for exchanging information among themselves and with their development partners.

9. The MULPOCs should continue playing the important role of co-ordinating IGOs and they should also contribute to the establishment of the African Economic Community by undertaking studies for the harmonization and progressive linking of the various subregional economic groupings. They should also contribute to the implementation at the subregional level of strategies contained in global prospective studies carried out by the ECA secretariat.

10. We have always realized that inadequacy of resources has been the major constraint in the ability of the MULPOCs to fulfill their mandate. The build up in their staff was severely affected by the financial crisis that the United Nations faced in most of the 1980s. Similarly, their operational activities were severely constrained by their lack of resources - financial and human. We are preoccupied by the resulting negative impact on the delivery of the MULPOCs in the past few years. ECA's capacity to decentralize staff and resources to the MULPOCs was stretched to the limit in spite of its own severe resource constraints. We are not therefore surprised that under such circumstances the impact of these MULPOCs began to dwindle.

11. We therefore fully endorse the proposal of the Review Team that the financial and human resources of the MULPOCs be significantly increased as contained in chapter 6 of the evaluation report. We propose that the MULPOCs be provided with cost-effective minimal core staff that will enable them to have immediate impact on their respective subregions.

12. We do not foreclose the possibility of changing the name "MULPOCs" and we will keep on reflecting on this possible change in the light of the evolution of their mandate and activities.

13. Finally, we wish to reiterate our firm commitment to the MULPOCs. As in the past, we will continue deploying every possible effort to create the enabling environment for the enhancement of the MULPOCs effectiveness.

267th meeting;
19 May 1990.

703 (XXV). Menace of the new world screwworm fly

The Conference of Ministers,

Bearing in mind that the new world screwworm fly, a potentially dangerous pest of warm-blooded animals was discovered for the first time by Libyan scientists in the vicinity of Tripoli about two years ago, the first recorded incidence outside the Americas,

Mindful of the serious effects of the new world screwworm fly on animals if not eradicated through biological control,

Noting that an international appeal launched by the United Nations Development Programme, the International Fund for Agricultural Development, the International Atomic Energy Agency and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, with full collaboration of the Libyan authorities, is underway to raise \$US 80 to \$US 100 million to completely eradicate this pest in order to prevent its spread to neighbouring countries in the continent of Africa as well as other Mediterranean countries, including Europe,

Fully recognizing the potential dangers of the screwworm fly within and beyond the boundaries of this continent if left uncontrolled,

Greatly impressed by and thankful to the Great Jamahiriya for its prompt and effective measures to deal with this pest within its technical means and to sensitize the international community,

1. Hails the Great Jamahiriya for its courageous initiatives;
2. Urges and calls upon all donor countries, United Nations agencies and all other appropriate bodies to join promptly in the launching of a massive operation from within the Great Jamahiriya to eradicate this potentially dangerous pest.

267th meeting,
19 May 1990.

704 (XXV). Emergency assistance to Namibia

The Conference of Ministers,

Welcoming the independence of Namibia after years of struggle for self-determination,

Having considered the plight of women and children seriously affected by the many years of war in the liberation of Namibia,

Mindful of the need which those women and children now have for assistance in attaining their basic human needs,

Conscious of their right to a life free from economic hardship and deprivation, and of the right to self-reliance in development,

1. Congratulates the Government and people of Namibia on the attainment of their independence;
2. Urges all member States to contribute to the effort of helping the people of Namibia during this critical time in the attainment of nationhood;
3. Mandates the Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa to mount, within the limits of available resources, an emergency programme of assistance for Namibia;
4. Appeals to the United Nations system, international organizations and multilateral organizations, to contribute resources that would enable the Economic Commission for Africa to implement an emergency programme of assistance in Namibia.

267th meeting,
19 May 1990.

Annex I

**REPORT OF THE ELEVENTH MEETING OF THE TECHNICAL PREPARATORY
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE (5-13 MAY 1990) AS ADOPTED BY
THE TWENTY-FIFTH SESSION OF THE COMMISSION/SIXTEENTH
MEETING OF THE CONFERENCE OF MINISTERS**

Tripoli, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya
15-19 May 1990

A. Attendance and organization of work

1. The eleventh meeting of the Technical Preparatory Committee of the Whole (TEPCOW) was held in Tripoli, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, from 5 to 13 May 1990. The meeting was formally opened by H.E. Dr. Mohamed Lutfi Farhat, Secretary of Planning of Libya. Statements were also delivered at the opening ceremony by Mr. Adebayo Adedeji, Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa and by Dr. Dender Wolde Mariam, Head of Macro-planning Department, Office of the National Committee for Central Planning (ONCCP) of Ethiopia and Chairman of the tenth meeting of TEPCOW.
2. The meeting was attended by representatives of the following States members of the Commission: Algeria, Angola, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, the Congo, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Ethiopia, Ghana, Guinea, Kenya, the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mauritania, Morocco, Mozambique, the Niger, Nigeria, Rwanda, Senegal, the Sudan, Togo, Tunisia, Uganda, the United Republic of Tanzania, Zaire and Zambia.
3. Observers from the following States Members of the United Nations, not members of the Commission, were present: China, France, the German Democratic Republic, Hungary, India, the Netherlands and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.
4. The following United Nations bodies and specialized agencies were represented: United Nations Regional Commissions New York Office (RCNYO), United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), World Food Programme (WFP), International Trade Centre, International Labour Organisation (ILO), Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), World Health Organization (WHO), World Bank, International Monetary Fund (IMF), World Meteorological Organization (WMO) and United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO).
5. The Organization of African Unity (OAU) was represented.
6. Observers were present from the following intergovernmental organizations: Africa Regional Co-ordinating Committee for the Integration of Women in Development (ARCC), African Centre for Applied Research and Training in Social Development (ACARTSOD), African Development Bank (ADB), African Institute for Economic Development and Planning (IDEP), African Regional Centre for Engineering, Design and Manufacturing (ARCEDEM), African Regional Organization for Standardization (ARSO), Afro-Asian People's Solidarity Organization (AAPSO), Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS), International Hydrographic Organization (IHO), Regional Centre for Services in Surveying, Mapping and Remote Sensing (RCSSMRS), Regional Centre for Training in Aerospace Surveys (RECTAS), Regional Institute for Population Studies (RIPS), Institut de formation et de recherche démographiques (IFORD).
7. Observers were also present from the following non-governmental organizations: Commonwealth Secretariat, Imo State University, Lutheran World Federation (LWF), University of Ibadan and University of Zambia.
8. The Committee unanimously elected the following officers:

Chairman:	Libyan Arab Jamahiriya
First Vice-Chairman:	Guinea
Second Vice-Chairman:	Rwanda
Rapporteur:	Zambia

9. The meeting decided to establish an open-ended sub-committee on the issues in the operationalization of the African Alternative Framework to Structural Adjustment Programmes for Socio-economic Recovery and Transformation (AAF-SAP): Multiple exchange rate systems, differential interest rate policy, and production subsidies, to be chaired by the First Vice-Chairman.

10. The meeting also established another open-ended sub-committee to be chaired by the Second Vice-Chairman to prepare a draft position on the report of the Review Team on the achievements of the MULPOCs with a view to strengthening them and making them more effective.

11. A third sub-committee was established to consider draft resolutions.

B. Agenda

12. On 5 May 1990, the Committee adopted the following agenda:

1. Opening of the meeting.
2. Election of officers.
3. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work.
4. Biennial report of the Executive Secretary on ECA activities 1988-1989.

PART I: Transformation, Recovery and Adjustment

- 5.1 Progress in the implementation of the United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development, 1986-1990 (UN-PAAERD) and Africa's Priority Programme for Economic Recovery, 1986-1990 (APPER) and their impact on African economies:
 - (a) Economic Report on Africa, 1990;
 - (b) Progress report on the implementation of UN-PAAERD;
 - (c) Preparation for the final review and evaluation of UN-PAAERD, 1991;
 - (d) The effectiveness of technical assistance programmes in Africa;
- 5.2 Beyond Recovery, Towards Transformation: African Alternative Framework to Structural Adjustment Programmes for Socio-economic Recovery and Transformation (AAF-SAP):
 - (a) Progress report on follow-up on AAF-SAP;
 - (b) Issues in the operationalization of AAF-SAP: Multiple exchange rate systems, differential interest rate policy, and production subsidies;

- (c) Report of the International Conference on Popular Participation in the Recovery and Development Process in Africa.

PART II: Issues, studies and reports on regional co-operation for development in Africa

6. (a) Report of the evaluation mission to review the achievements of the MULPOCs with a view to strengthening them and making them more effective;
- (b) The situation of food and agriculture in Africa:
 - (i) Multinational co-operation in coastal, marine and inland fisheries development;
 - (ii) The contribution of stabilization funds and of export commodity marketing boards to the development of rural marketing infrastructure;
- (c) Industrial development in Africa:
 - Joint ECA/OAU/UNIDO progress report on the Industrial Development Decade for Africa and the preparations for the second Decade;
- (d) Natural resources and environment in Africa:
 - (i) The status of river and lake basin development in Africa;
 - (ii) Report of the meeting of plenipotentiaries on the establishment of the African Nuclear Energy Commission;
 - (iii) African Regional Conference on Environment and Sustainable Development;
 - (iv) Report on progress in making the African Centre of Meteorological Applications for Development (ACMAD) operational;
- (e) International trade and development finance:
 - (i) The fourth ACP-EEC Convention: Principal features and their relevance to African development;
 - (ii) International co-operation for trade facilitation;
- (f) Transport and communications in Africa
 - Progress report on the preparation of the programme for the second United Nations Transport and Communications Decade in Africa;
- (g) Population:
 - Population issues for ECA member States in the 1990s;
- (h) Economic co-operation and integration:
 - Progress report on the establishment of the African Economic Community;
- (i) "Priority Africa" (item proposed by UNESCO);

(j) Operational activities:

- (i) Report on ECA-executed technical co-operation projects;
- (ii) Progress in TCDC/ECDC activities in Africa;
- (iii) Activities, work programmes and budgets of the ECA-sponsored regional and subregional institutions.

PART III: Recommendations from the subsidiary organs and sectoral bodies of the Commission

7. (a) Ninth meeting of the Conference of African Ministers of Industry;
- (b) Seventh United Nations Regional Cartographic Conference for Africa;
- (c) Fifth meeting of the Conference of African Ministers of Social Affairs;
- (d) Seventh meeting of the Conference of African Ministers of Transport, Communications and Planning;
- (e) Sixth meeting of the Intergovernmental Committee of Experts on Science and Technology Development;
- (f) Fourth Regional Conference on the Integration of Women in Development;
- (g) Tenth meeting of the Conference of African Ministers of Trade;
- (h) Second meeting of the Conference of African Ministers of Tourism;
- (i) Sixth meeting of the Joint Conference of African Planners, Statisticians and Demographers;
- (j) Report of the meeting of Chief Executives of African Intergovernmental Organizations;
- (k) Eleventh meeting of the Africa Regional Co-ordinating Committee for the Integration of Women in Development;
- (l) Ninth meeting of the Intergovernmental Committee of Experts of African Least Developed Countries;
- (m) Report of the meeting of the Conference of Chief Executives of ECA-sponsored Regional and Subregional Institutions.

PART IV. Statutory issues

8. Follow-up action on relevant resolutions adopted by the twenty-fourth session of the Commission and decisions adopted by the General Assembly and ECOSOC that are of interest to Africa:
 - (a) Follow-up action on other relevant resolutions adopted by the twenty-fourth session of the Commission/fifteenth meeting of the Conference of Ministers;
 - (b) Resolutions adopted by ECOSOC at its second regular session of 1989 and by the General Assembly at its forty-fourth session in the economic and social sectors that are of interest to Africa.

9. United Nations African Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders:

- (a) UNDP funding;
- (b) Staff rules.

10. Status and prospects of the African Institute for Higher Technical Training and Research.

PART V: Programme of work and priorities of the Commission

- 11. (a) Proposals for updating the 1990-1991 programme budget;
- (b) Report of the Ad Hoc Committee on the Medium-Term Plan 1992-1997;
- (c) Self-evaluation of programmes in ECA.
- 12. Any other business.
- 13. Date and venue of the twelfth meeting of the Technical Preparatory Committee of the Whole.
- 14. Adoption of the report.
- 15. Closure of the meeting

C. Account of proceedings

Opening addresses

13. In his opening statement, His Excellency Dr. Mohamed Lutfi Farhat, Secretary of Planning, welcomed the participants to the Great Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya. He stated that the meeting coincided with the seventy-fifth anniversary of Libya's victory over repression and tyranny in the Kerdabbia battle and the end of the first phase of the Great Man-made River. The period also marked the country's first year of achievements in industrial and agricultural development and in the control and management of desertification and drought.

14. As the documents before the meeting indicated, Africa was going through a severe economic and social crisis despite all previous efforts and measures in the fields of economic co-operation, food self-sufficiency and food security, transport and communications, scientific development and human resources development. Efforts in those areas were jeopardized by the structural rigidities inherited from colonial periods, dependency on exports of a few commodities, and protectionist and restrictive measures as well as the monetary and financial policies of the developed countries. African countries were also faced with mounting external indebtedness and a heavy debt-service burden. Inadequate transport, health and educational infrastructures had further weakened the ability of those countries to respond effectively to natural disasters.

15. Problems of that nature called for increasing sacrifices to improve the economic and social situation of the mass of the people particularly those in rural areas. Solutions to those problems should take into consideration the human dimension and the need to ensure that African countries enjoyed and exercised full sovereignty over their resources.

16. The task was hard but not insurmountable, as the Libyan experience had demonstrated. He drew attention to the role played by development plans and stressed the need for African countries to co-operate.

17. In conclusion he paid tribute to the struggle of the people of Namibia and wished the Committee success in its deliberations.

18. The Executive Secretary of ECA welcomed participants and paid homage to His Excellency Colonel Muammar Al-Qaddafi, Leader of the Great and Glorious Al-Fatah Revolution and expressed gratitude to him and the people of the Jamahiriya for their generous hospitality and for the excellent facilities that had been put at the disposal of the meeting. He thanked H.E. Dr. Lufti Farhat, representative of the people of the Jamahiriya, for officiating at the opening ceremony.

19. When the Commission had last met in Tripoli in 1982, the issue uppermost in the minds of participants had been how to translate the guiding principles and objectives of the Lagos Plan of Action and the Final Act of Lagos into practical operational terms. To that end, far-reaching recommendations had been made. Unfortunately, in spite of the Plan of Action and the Final Act, the decade of the 1980s had proved to be the most difficult and the most disappointing ten-year period in Africa's economic and social history.

20. In reviewing Africa's overall economic performance in 1988-1989 as evidenced in ECA's Economic Report on Africa, 1990, he maintained that while in economic terms, the region was distinctly better off than it had been a few years earlier, the encouraging developments in 1988 and 1989 paled in the context of the reality of Africa's overall socio-economic performance during the decade of the 1980s taken as a whole.

21. The African Alternative Framework to Structural Adjustment Programmes for Socio-economic Recovery and Transformation (AAF-SAP) which had been adopted at the last session of the Commission was born out of the bitter frustration with the decade of the 1980s and the soul-searching questions that Africans had been asking themselves as the decade came to a close: for instance, why, in spite of all the resolute policy initiatives taken during the decade, there had been lagging economic performance all around in Africa; and why real growth and structural transformation, the mechanisms for which had been well and truly outlined in the Lagos Plan of Action and the Final Act of Lagos and reinforced in APPER and the UN-PAAERD, had continued to elude the continent. Questions had also been asked as to whether the principles enshrined in the various regional plans and declarations had not been surrendered to an over-preoccupation with achieving external and internal financial and monetary balance through the implementation of orthodox structural adjustment programmes.

22. He observed that the dichotomy between short-term structural adjustment concerns and long-term development goals which had characterized the decade of the 1980s and beleaguered the African economy, would have to be completely removed. The transformation of the African economy would itself require parallel and interrelated actions to be taken over a very broad spectrum. The immediate concern was the operationalization of AAF-SAP at both the country and subregional levels.

23. The secretariat was fully aware that such operationalization should be underpinned by in-depth studies on the practical application of some of the specific policy instruments recommended in the Framework, as well as by the development of AAF-SAP model-types that could be tailored to specific country situations. Work had already been completed on the first series of such studies. These covered three specific instruments that formed part of the proposals of AAF-SAP, namely production subsidies, multiple exchange rate systems and differential interest rate policy, and were commended by the Executive Secretary for the Committee's review.

24. While the secretariat was thus very much preoccupied with the translation of AAF-SAP into operational terms, the primary responsibility for such operationalization rested with the individual countries. Member States should accordingly take immediate steps within the context of their own individual objectives and priorities to, among other things, ensure the widest possible popularization of AAF-SAP at the country level, including the broad-based analysis and discussion of the policy options that could be adopted within the context of the Framework, and the design and implementation of actual programmes.

25. He stressed that human beings should be at the centre of the processes of transformation. In that context, he drew attention to the "African Charter for Popular Participation in Development and Transformation" adopted by the International Conference on Popular Participation in the Recovery and Development Process in Africa, which would be on the agenda of the meeting.

26. The Executive Secretary then referred to the various issues, studies and reports, together with the recommendations of the subsidiary bodies of the Commission that had been brought up for the consideration of the Committee. He highlighted in particular the relevance to African development of the ACP-EEC Convention; the imperatives of regional economic co-operation and integration and the need for the speedy establishment of the African Economic Community; the question of the status of ECA's Multinational Programming and Operational Centres (MULPOCs) and the associated report of the Review Team set up in response to General Assembly resolution 43/216 on Financial Reports and Audited Financial Statements and Reports of the Board of Auditors; and the proposals involving both the programme for the second United Nations Transport and Communications Decade in Africa (UNTACDA II) and that of the second United Nations Industrial Development Decade for Africa (IDDA II).

27. The representative of Ethiopia, outgoing Chairman of TEPCOW, joined the speakers who had preceded him in welcoming participants. He expressed gratitude to the Government and people of the Jamahiriya for the excellent facilities placed at the disposal of the Committee and for the generous hospitality extended to all participants.

28. He recalled the circumstances in which TEPCOW's tenth meeting had been held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. That meeting had marked the tenth anniversary of TEPCOW; it had also marked Africa's passage from the decade of the 1980s to that of the 1990s. That meeting too was the first time the Committee had convened after the General Assembly's mid-term review and appraisal of progress made in the implementation of the United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development, 1986-1990 (UN-PAAERD), and Africa's Priority Programme for Economic Recovery, 1986-1990 (APPER). Finally, during that meeting, Africa had for the first time, through TEPCOW, undertaken a search for an African alternative framework to orthodox structural adjustment programmes (SAPs), after having witnessed its economies being buffeted by the application of orthodox SAPs for the better part of the decade of the 1980s.

29. The tenth meeting had adopted some 22 draft resolutions which were subsequently considered and adopted by the Conference of Ministers. AAF-SAP was the means by which Africa could achieve long-term growth and socio-economic transformation, and it was appropriate that the present meeting of TEPCOW would now consider the operational implications of the Framework.

30. The outgoing Chairman highlighted the various other proposals the Committee had submitted to the Ministers, particularly within the context of the final years of the UN-PAAERD and APPER. These were on a broad sectoral front and included food and agriculture, the environment, industrial development in Africa, transport and communications, social development and population. A significant number of the proposals had called for action by the international community through the machinery of ECOSOC and the United Nations General Assembly.

31. He concluded by saying that the agenda of the current meeting was built on the progress that had been made since the last meeting of the Committee in those and other areas. The problems facing Africa remained relentless and daunting. However, given TEPCOW's well-established reputation for hard work and its unflinching dedication to Africa's integrity and progress, he was confident that the Committee would rise to the challenge.

32. On behalf of the Committee, the representative of Egypt thanked the Government and people of the Jamahiriya for their warm traditional hospitality. He requested the Secretary of Planning to convey the Committee's gratitude to His Excellency Colonel Muammar Al-Qaddafi, Leader of the Great and Glorious Al-Fatah Revolution of the Great Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya and, through him, to the people of the Jamahiriya.

Biennial report of the Executive Secretary on ECA activities, 1988-1989 (agenda item 4)

33. The Executive Secretary introduced document E/ECA/CM.16/2.

34. He stated that the report was a consolidated account of the activities of the secretariat during the biennium 1988-1989. The format of the report was basically the same as that used for the reports on previous biennia. He drew the attention of the Committee to the annex on analysis of actual programme performance at the output level in relation to commitments in the programme budget for the 1988-1989 biennium. That analysis would be submitted to the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination (CPC) later in the month and subsequently to the General Assembly at its forty-fifth session. The overall performance of the secretariat in the implementation of mandated outputs had been satisfactory for most programmes except marine affairs which did not have regular budget resources during the biennium; environment, from which UNEP had withdrawn its resources; and energy and development, which also suffered from resource shortages. The quality of outputs had improved and the priority programmes of food and agriculture, development issues and policies and natural resources had all been implemented satisfactorily.

35. The meeting took note of the report and adopted draft resolution 18 (XI).

PART I: TRANSFORMATION, RECOVERY AND ADJUSTMENT

Progress in the implementation of the United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development, 1986-1990 (UN-PAAERD) and Africa's Priority Programme for Economic Recovery, 1986-1990 (APPER) and their impact on African economies (agenda item 5.1)

(a) Economic Report on Africa, 1990

36. A representative of the secretariat introduced the Economic Report on Africa, 1990 (document E/ECA/CM.16/3). He stated that the report was intended to give a summary of the economic and social trends in 1989 and to provide a forecast for 1990. Developments in 1989 had been reviewed against the background of the long-term trends of the decade of the 1980s and the report treated subregional performance, performance in the sectors of food and agriculture and manufacturing industry, economic and social infrastructure, the social situation, trade and resource flows and the debt situation.

37. During the discussion, a number of participants commended the secretariat for the quality of the report. Some, however, felt that some parts of the report were too descriptive. There was a need for more in-depth analysis of the data and trends for policy formulation. Other participants noted that not much attention had been paid to such important aspects as the role of the private sector, joint ventures, livestock and fisheries, regional co-operation, science and technology, culture, and the communications subsectors. The role of wars and other conflicts should have been mentioned as one of the constraining factors. Others wished that there had been more analysis of the possible impacts of recent developments in Eastern Europe and stressed the importance of social consciousness in the recovery efforts.

38. A number of participants pointed out inaccuracies in the information provided on their respective countries. The representative of Morocco, referring to paragraph 14, noted that the statement suggested the onset of recession in his country in 1989 when there had in fact been merely a slowing down in the rate of growth from the exceptionally high levels registered in preceding years. He also advised that in the same paragraph, the figure on the level of debt service was in fact that of the total stock of debt of his country. In paragraph 55, the word "multi-purpose" should precede the word "hydro-electric". With regard to the assessment of the impact of the European Community on the exports of certain textile products of the North African countries presented in paragraph 43, he stated that that impact was currently not very serious. None the less, the concerned parties should continue to negotiate in order to avoid difficulties arising in future, particularly with the prospect of the European Common Market being established in 1992.

39. The representative of Egypt requested the deletion of the word "tourism" from the penultimate sentence of paragraph 14 of the report since revenues from tourism were, in fact, increasing.

40. The representative of Tunisia noted the omission of the name of his country in the list, in paragraph 37, of countries constituting the membership of the Maghreb Union. He also felt that the impact of the European Community on the exports of textiles of the North African subregion was overemphasized. In the mutual interest of the parties concerned, adequate provisions should be made to forestall future difficulties.

41. The representative of Madagascar outlined the efforts of his Government to improve the country's development environment through the adoption of a number of policies, notably the incorporation of the social dimension in the reform package, the elaboration of an action programme on environment in collaboration with the country's development partners, the revision of the investment code and the promotion of medium- and small-scale enterprises.

42. Regarding prospects for the 1990s, the debt burden was one major obstacle hindering the development of African countries. The common African position on debt settlement had raised many hopes. At the sixth ministerial meeting of the Contact Group on the African debt held in December 1989 in Addis Ababa, the idea expressed by the President of Zaire at the United Nations had been recognized as one of the appropriate solutions. The idea boiled down to repaying debt in national currency and using the funds thus constituted for bilateral development finance. That experiment was currently being used to settle Zaire's debt to Belgium.

43. The observer for France regretted that the report had been, in the main, descriptive and had failed to analyze in sufficient depth the situation of the 1980s and the prospects for the 1990s. He agreed that the 1980s had indeed been a lost decade and also with ECA's analysis of the social situation, the debt overhang and the importance to be attached to popular participation. However, he failed to see how the African crisis could be ascribed mostly to the implementation of orthodox SAPs alone and maintained that the important issue of environment had not been sufficiently covered. The same applied to the assertions made in the report about the effects of an expanded European Community, the Lome IV Convention and the establishment of the Common Market in 1992. African exports were not systematically going to be adversely affected and the issue of Africa's relations with Europe should be seen in terms of intensified co-operation rather than confrontation.

44. The observer for the OAU noted that the preface should be considered an integral part of the document. More analysis should have gone into identifying measures which would make the prospects for the 1990s more positive. Regarding the outlook for 1990, he added that the extent of grasshopper infestation could be a major factor in addition to weather in determining prospects for agriculture.

45. The observer for WMO expressed his agreement with the conclusion that weather remained a major factor affecting economic growth prospects. He informed the meeting that the basic science and tools for the prediction of weather on a medium- and longer-term scale existed. Most countries in Africa were already applying meteorological information for development planning and environment monitoring. The AGRHYMET programme had been successfully applying agro-meteorological techniques to enhance food self-sufficiency in the Sahel region. Similar programmes were under development in Eastern and Central Africa.

46. The observer for UNESCO commended the increasing attention given to the review of the social situation in the report. He, however, regretted that the report had not highlighted the cultural dimension and shared the concern expressed by some participants regarding lack of information on the state of science and technology in the region. He also felt that the concept of communications should have been treated in its broader sense to include the transmission of information through audio-visual methods. He also emphasized the importance of re-orienting the private sector to play a greater role in development.

47. The observer for WHO appreciated the analysis linking the deterioration in the health situation with the general slide in the economic and social conditions in the region. He also urged ECA to make maximum use of its data and information wealth to construct macro-economic models to identify and assess the impact of the various forces impinging on the growth and development process. Such an endeavour in his view would greatly enhance the analytical and forecasting capabilities of the ECA secretariat.

48. The observer for ARCC noted that the report included valuable information and recommended its wide distribution, particularly to educational and research institutes in the region. She also stated that African countries should emulate the efforts made by other regions and countries to overcome the weather and other natural constraints on their development. She was also of the opinion that the present African development predicament could be overcome through harder work. In her view, assistance earmarked for the LDCs could be rendered most useful if directed towards helping the vulnerable groups in society, notably women and children.

49. The observer for UNIDO indicated that a sustainable upturn and transformation in the African economy should be based foremost on the complementarity between industry and agriculture. There was therefore a need to identify the various areas of possible linkages and to carry out in-depth studies on them. In that regard, he expressed the readiness of his Organization to work closely with ECA to prepare such studies.

50. The observer for ILO noted the continued deterioration in the employment situation despite the modest upturn in the economic situation in 1988 and 1989. That suggested that special measures were needed to be taken to reverse the current unemployment trends.

51. The observer for FAO regretted that the scenario on prospects for agriculture in 1990 had not been developed. He felt that one of the major problems common to countries of the continent was the constant deterioration of arable land. His organization would continue to co-operate with ECA in order to define the various factors that determined agricultural growth and with the Committee so as to improve on the section of the report on agriculture. While commending the priority that the OAU and ECA planned to give to agricultural development, he drew the attention of the Committee to the adverse effects that the attainment of this priority would have if radical measures were not taken to check the degradation of land and vegetation. He announced that the forthcoming African regional Conference of Ministers of Agriculture to be held in Morocco in June 1990 would consider the problem of the rehabilitation of African land. He called for the strengthening of co-operation between the OAU, ECA and FAO in that area.

52. The representative of the secretariat assured the meeting that due note had been taken of the various suggestions which would be used to improve the document. They would also be used for the preparation of the Survey of Economic and Social Conditions in Africa which was published on an annual basis as a more detailed technical document. He observed that the weather constituted a major factor in determining future prospects because of its unpredictability and possibly because Africa had not done enough to expand its irrigation capacities. He explained that the report was not intended to reflect the theme of the Conference, namely the operationalization of AAF-SAP but, by providing the facts and their interpretation, it provided the socio-economic setting for that theme.

53. The meeting took note of the report.

(b) Progress report on the implementation of UN-PAAERD

(c) Preparation for the final review and evaluation of UN-PAAERD, 1991

54. A representative of the secretariat introduced documents E/ECA/CM.16/4 and E/ECA/CM.16/5. The first document described activities undertaken within the framework of the UN-PAAERD by the United Nations Steering Committee and the United Nations Inter-Agency Task Force on the Implementation of the UN-PAAERD, and those of the United Nations General Assembly and the United Nations system at large since a report on the subject had been presented to the ECA Conference of Ministers at its previous meeting.

55. In document E/ECA/CM.16/5, it was explained that in resolution 43/27, the General Assembly had decided that the final review and appraisal of the implementation of the UN-PAAERD should be conducted at its forty-sixth session. The Inter-Agency Task Force on the implementation of the UN-PAAERD had approved an outline of the Secretary-General's Report on the final evaluation, as well as proposals on mechanisms and a time-table for the final review. Final recommendations on the those three issues would be submitted to the General Assembly

for its consideration at its forty-fifth session. Among the recommendations on mechanisms for the review and appraisal was the suggestion that ECA should send field missions and questionnaires to member States at the beginning of 1991 to obtain up-to-date information on the implementation of the Programme. The view of the Committee was sought on the proposals contained in the document.

56. In the ensuing discussion, participants commended the ECA secretariat, the Inter-Agency Task Force and the Steering Committee for their efforts in ensuring the successful implementation of the UN-PAAERD. They urged that the final evaluation should take into account the outcome of the special session of the General Assembly on economic co-operation and development as well as the emergent issues that would face African countries in the 1990s, especially the problem of debt, the environment and human rights. It was suggested that every effort should be made in the evaluation to measure progress made in such areas as policy reforms and investment against the specific objectives of the Programme.

57. Some participants suggested that the proposed missions and questionnaires should be sent to member States during the last quarter of 1990 and not early in 1991 in order to ensure that the most comprehensive information was collected and analyzed.

58. The observer for the OAU highlighted the activities undertaken by his Organization for the implementation of the Programme within the framework of the OAU Permanent Steering Committee, and the OAU secretariat's contribution to the work of the Inter-Agency Task Force and the United Nations Steering Committee. The OAU secretariat had itself organized a series of subregional seminars to popularize APPER and the UN-PAAERD. He appealed to member States to provide timely and up-to-date information for the final review and evaluation. In that regard, it was imperative that sufficient resources be made available to ECA to perform the evaluation. The Executive Secretary observed that it was up to member States to decide how the final review was to be done. Recommendations must be concrete, and should contain suggestions as to what would happen after 1991. The problem of data collection was difficult, since early collection could result in obsolete data being evaluated. Data collection in 1991 would have to be done quickly if the time-table was to be kept. In this regard, it might be possible to hold an intergovernmental review of the data in mid-1991.

59. The meeting took note of the reports and adopted draft resolution 21 (XI).

(d) Effectiveness of technical assistance programmes in Africa

60. A representative of the secretariat introduced document E/ECA/CM.16/6. The report, which had been prepared by several agencies, reflected the experiences of UNDP and the World Bank as the main financiers of technical co-operation within the United Nations family, as well as the experiences of the Development Assistance Committee (DAC) of OECD, ECA and other executing agencies. The report was intended to support measures for improving technical co-operation (TC), which was defined as development assistance provided through advisers, consulting services, training, fellowships, etc.

61. He observed that technical assistance was difficult to measure. However, its volume was large and accounted for up to 23 per cent of the GNP of some small African countries. While there were valid reasons for its continuation, there were fears that reliance on technical co-operation could be counter-productive. The objectives of technical co-operation were sometimes not clear and hence difficult to monitor and evaluate. The calibre of experts was also an issue of concern. Further, technical co-operation was supply-driven and reflected the interests of donors. On the other hand, recipients preferred foreign to national experts because the former were considered impartial and useful in soliciting funds.

62. He highlighted the recommendations for improving technical co-operation contained in paragraph 37 of the document. The growing consensus was for greater priority to long-term goals, articulation of specific objectives, reduced reliance on long-term resident advisors and greater emphasis on the training component of technical co-operation programmes.

63. The observer for the World Bank added that attempts were being made in many areas to improve technical co-operation. The National Technical Co-operation Assessments and Programmes (NATCAPs) were an example. There was also a need to strengthen the capacity of African Governments to determine their technical co-operation requirements and the forms it should take.

64. Participants congratulated the secretariat on the quality of the paper and confirmed that there were problems with technical co-operation. They stated that local consultants were essential and should be encouraged. However, developing countries often did not have a choice: national experts were rejected because they lacked experience or could not meet a specific profile and, in some cases, alternative foreign experts were provided free.

65. One participant stressed that technical assistance in his country was only sought for well-determined needs and used only where it would have multiplier effects. A national committee existed for the determination of such needs.

66. The meeting considered that the concern should be to improve the quality and not the quantity of technical co-operation experts. In that respect, the use of national seminars should be encouraged, as should be the NATCAPs. Participants stressed the need for having information on experts and consultants available in other African countries and urged that a data base should be established for that purpose. UNDP was requested to assist.

67. The observer for France stated that traditionally his country accorded top priority to technical co-operation and supported the NATCAP activities carried out by UNDP. To alleviate the effects of structural adjustment programmes, UNDP had adopted a pragmatic approach as evidenced, for instance, in the educational system or in macro-economic policies, by helping the ministries of finance and planning. For almost ten years, France had, in consultation with African countries, cut down drastically the number of its technical co-operation assistants.

68. The observer for UNDP congratulated the secretariat on the high quality of the paper presented. He stated that there was a convergence of views on the concerns of the report and UNDP had already implemented several recommendations mentioned in the document, especially the use of NATCAP and donor round-table exercises, actions taken to improve, qualitatively, technical assistance through the use of African consultants and experts as well as short-term consultants; the establishment of training programmes for nationals to take over from international experts; financial assistance to the Pan-African Association of Consultants. He also laid emphasis on the fact that UNDP was more than ever before determined to recruit experienced and qualified technical assistance staff.

69. The meeting took note of the document.

Beyond Recovery, Towards Transformation: African Alternative Framework to Structural Adjustment Programmes for Socio-economic Recovery and Transformation (AAF-SAP) (agenda item 5.2)

(a) Progress report on the follow-up on AAF-SAP

70. A representative of the secretariat presented document E/ECA/CM.16/7 entitled "Progress report on the follow-up on AAF-SAP". He noted that the report covered the first eight months since the adoption of AAF-SAP in 1989. The report outlined the various activities that had been undertaken including the presentation of AAF-SAP to a variety of fora and workshops; consultations with financial and development agencies, donors and NGOs; in-depth studies of selected policy instruments; formulation of models to analyze AAF-SAP policies; and activities at the country and subregional levels.

71. Participants congratulated the secretariat for the efforts made to popularize AAF-SAP both within and outside Africa and reiterated the fact that AAF-SAP was an African framework which should be accepted by the international community.

72. The observer for France pointed out that his country had supported AAF-SAP since the very beginning and noted his satisfaction that international financial institutions such as the World Bank had agreed on a dialogue with ECA on this issue.

73. The observer for ILO reiterated ILO's support for AAF-SAP and looked forward to further co-operation with ECA in that regard. ILO had organized a symposium at which AAF-SAP had been discussed. The Pan-African Employers Confederation had been represented at that symposium.

74. The observer for WHO called upon the secretariat to ensure that in its efforts to model AAF-SAP, African planners were fully involved. He also urged African countries to be financially committed to AAF-SAP instead of depending on external assistance for its operationalization. The Conference of Ministers should, consequently, explore ways to finance regional seminars that would be part of the process of popularizing AAF-SAP.

75. The Executive Secretary expressed appreciation to the international community, and particularly to France, for their support of AAF-SAP. He however stressed the fact that only a beginning had been made. He urged member States not to relent in their efforts: that had been the mistake made after the adoption of the Lagos Plan of Action. Intense efforts, particularly in the design of investment programmes and macro-economic policies, were still needed to ensure the full operationalization of AAF-SAP.

76. The meeting took note of the report.

(b) Issues in the operationalization of AAF-SAP: Multiple exchange rate systems, differential interest rate policy, and production subsidies

77. Under this agenda, the secretariat presented the following documents: E/ECA/CM.16/3 - Study on multiple exchange rate systems, E/ECA/CM.16/9 - Study on differential interest rate policy, and E/ECA/CM.16/10 - Study on agricultural production subsidies. It was explained that earlier versions of the documents had been considered by the Joint Conference of African Planners, Statisticians and Demographers at its sixth meeting. The studies were the first in the series that the secretariat planned to undertake as part of its efforts to operationalize AAF-SAP.

78. Document E/ECA/CM.16/8 discussed the grounds for the use of the exchange rate as a major development policy instrument. It examined the feasibility of multiple exchange rate systems (MERS) and the modality for their practical application in African countries. It analyzed the types of MERS, their advantages and possible limitations, their relation to African realities and situations that warranted their use.

79. Document E/ECA/CM.16/9 treated the issues relating to a selective credit control and differential interest rate policy and made proposals for the design and application of these policies in African countries.

80. Document E/ECA/CM.16/10 examined the important role that agricultural production subsidies and other price support measures could play in attaining food self-sufficiency for Africa. It discussed the case for food production subsidies in Africa, their financing, and their co-ordination with other policy instruments.

81. In the discussion that followed, many participants commended the secretariat for the bold initiative taken to operationalize AAF-SAP. It was observed that that initiative had gone a long way towards removing the skepticism with which AAF-SAP had been viewed in some quarters. They underlined the importance of the instruments selected by ECA for in-depth study and expressed the hope that African countries would learn from their experience during the 1980s to make good use of those instruments.

82. The discussion of the theoretical bases of the instruments contained in each of the document was welcomed. However, it was felt that more emphasis should have been given to the possible impacts of the use of the policy instruments on the production, trade and consumption of goods and services, and on income distribution at the national and subregional levels. ECA was called upon to apply the instruments in a model

that would help policy analysts in their day-to-day work. Such a model should be sufficiently dynamic and comprehensive for it to be adapted to the country and subregional levels.

83. Most participants recognized the validity of multiple exchange rates as a useful instrument for the management of the economy. However, given existing policy distortions, it was often not possible to maintain the positive impacts that this instrument could have on the economy. The meeting noted with interest the statement of the representative of Zaire, a country that had had substantial experience with most variants of exchange rate policies.

84. The existence of several currencies and differing monetary policies in a given subregion was considered to be a hindrance to the effective use of multiple exchange rate systems because of the interdependency of national economies. That was particularly the case in the ECOWAS subregion where the CFA franc zone existed along with many national currencies. While the CFA franc zone had been using a fixed exchange rate vis-à-vis the French franc since its inception, others notably, Nigeria were experimenting with variants of the exchange rate policy instrument. On the whole, the multiplicity of currencies and the lack of co-operation in the subregion were seen as major constraints to the effective use of the exchange rate policy instrument.

85. The representative of Zaire had reservations regarding the effectiveness of multiple exchange rates as his country had not been satisfied with their application. He thought that the law of supply and demand would be the best alternative in the foreign exchange market when used with other policy instruments that would positively influence the supply side of the economy. Furthermore, he requested ECA to intensify its brainstorming in association with central banks and ministries of finance which constituted the monetary authorities of the various countries.

86. The observer for France expressed doubt about the use of generalized devaluation. Experience had shown that such a policy had considerable side effects on the efforts of neighbouring countries to develop their economies. He suggested that there should be more consultations and co-operation among countries in different monetary zones within the framework of subregional groupings.

87. The observer for ADB suggested that empirical evidence did not support the recommendations made in the report. He particularly drew attention to the complexity of implementing foreign exchange policies, as the list of products benefitting from favourable exchange rates was often manipulated by pressure groups. He also stated that the data convened in table 1b of document E/ECA/CM.16/8 was subject to other interpretations than that proposed in the document.

88. Some participants pointed out the predominance of the informal sector in the continent and its relation to the use of differential interest rates. The majority of the agents in that sector operated outside the banking system and this hindered the effective use of the policy instrument. Others felt that its effective use could bring the informal sector to trust, and be interested in, the banking system. The experience of Zaire in this area was again pointed out to illustrate the weaknesses of this policy. It was suggested that the informal sector should be taken into account when modelling the economy to see how operators in the sector could be brought within the banking system.

89. As the tax base was narrow in most countries of the region, one participant recommended the financing of the discrimination policy in the interest rate market especially if that would entail setting up a rate that was below market clearing level.

90. The representative of Zaire felt that the best alternative was to let market forces determine the rate of interest to be applied and cautioned against government interventions to manipulate the rates.

91. The use of production subsidies to bring about food self-sufficiency was fully recognized. A basic question that most participants asked was how to ensure the financing of the subsidies, as the funds had to come within the framework of self-reliance, and sustainability in production had to be ensured. Participants reviewed some of the recommendations put forward in the report to finance subsidy programmes and made pertinent comments on how they should be applied. It was recommended that, because of the changes taking place in the eating

habits of African consumers due to the imports of foodstuffs from developed countries, provision should be made to increase the processing of staple food that would sustain the improvements in production resulting from the application of subsidies. Similarly, trade among African countries could be facilitated by improved infrastructure development and the easing of administrative procedures to move goods from one African country to another.

92. The observer for France commended the secretariat for the quality of the document on production subsidies. As admitted in the World Bank's latest report on the continent, Africa should consider seriously the objective of achieving food self-sufficiency even if it had to take protectionist measures against the import of subsidized food from developed countries.

93. To him, the argument that the production of export crops always affected that of food crops adversely seemed not to be valid because the development of cotton, for example, had often had a beneficial influence on traditional cereals in the countries of the Sahel.

94. The observer for WFP spelled out some of the constraints that his organization had encountered in assisting African countries to achieve food self-sufficiency. The limited information on specification standards of products, the poor state of infrastructures and the bureaucracy required to conclude a deal or move commodities were constraints that had to be eliminated if trade was to be facilitated among African countries.

95. The Executive Secretary expressed his appreciation for the valuable inputs of participants. He recognized the need to consider all the three policy instruments in a general framework along with other relevant factors including those of a political nature. Although the interaction between the various instruments in an overall framework had yet to be developed, the analysis of the issues so far had shown that generalized devaluation was not a solution to ensure the transformation of the economy and that production subsidies were required to stimulate production for greater food self-sufficiency.

96. He recognized the difficult situation in which African countries found themselves in applying some of the policy instruments. But Africa had to muster the required political will to implement the needed reforms and thus ensure the transformation of its economy.

97. The meeting took note of the reports and established an open sub-committee to consider them in greater detail.

(c) Report of the International Conference on Popular Participation in the Recovery and Development Process in Africa

98. A representative of the Republic of Tanzania, whose country had been Chairman of the International Conference on Popular Participation in the Recovery and Development Process, presented document E/ECA/CM.16/11. He informed the Committee that the Conference, which found its origins in the submission of NGOs to the Ad hoc Committee of the Whole of the General Assembly on the mid-term review and assessment of the implementation of the UN-PAAERD, had been held in Arusha, United Republic of Tanzania, from 12 to 16 February 1990. The debate of the Conference emphasized that the crisis engulfing Africa was not only economic but was also human, legal, political and social. The Conference had adopted the African Charter for Popular Participation in Development and Transformation, which he submitted to the Committee for endorsement.

99. He stressed the call of the Charter to put the people first in the recovery and development process by spelling out effective popular participation measures in decision-making, allocation of resources, in planning, monitoring, evaluation and accountability. He highlighted the roles of government, people and the international community, and drew attention to ILO Convention 87 concerning Freedom of Association and Protection of the Right to Organize, and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women. He stated that the Charter also laid the foundation for the implementation of AAF-SAP. His own country would be holding its first national conference on popular participation during the second half of 1990.

100. One participant thanked the secretariat for the report and stated that popular participation was accepted in all sectors of his country and that both men and women participated effectively. Also, all tools of production were in the hands of the people.

101. The meeting took note of the document, proposed the African Charter for Popular Participation in Development and Transformation for endorsement by the Conference of Ministers, and adopted draft resolution 14 (XI).

PART II ISSUES, STUDIES AND REPORTS ON REGIONAL CO-OPERATION FOR DEVELOPMENT IN AFRICA

Report of the evaluation mission to review the achievements of the MULPOCs with a view to strengthening them and making them more effective [agenda item 6(a)]

102. In introducing the item, the Executive Secretary explained that document E/ECA/CM.16/13 was an independent report prepared and presented by a Review Team in response to General Assembly resolution 43/216 on the Financial Reports and Audited Financial Statements and Reports of the Board of Auditors, and to Conference of Ministers resolution 659 (XXIV).

103. Professor Asante, leader of the Review Team, summarized the report. He first apologized for maps which were contained therein and which showed some disputed areas. Those maps would be deleted. The evaluation, he said, had revealed that the purpose and objectives of the MULPOCs were as relevant now as they had ever been. Indeed, their role had become more crucial given the commitment of member States to the establishment of the African Economic Community. Member States thus wanted the MULPOCs to continue, but were agreed that the structure, organization and name of the Centres should be changed. The Team had recommended that they be called "ECA-Subregional Technical Assistance Programmes (ECA-STAPs)". Proposals made in the report also covered the mandates and objectives of the Centres; their size, number, nature and membership; their institutional framework; and their human and financial resource requirements.

104. In the discussion that followed, some participants indicated that they had not received the document on the subject in time. A representative of the secretariat however indicated that the document had been dispatched in March.

105. Participants confirmed the continuing relevance of the MULPOCs and the need to redefine their objectives and functions. The terms of reference and mandates of the MULPOCs had not been clearly understood by all, and had led to co-ordination problems with subregional intergovernmental organizations.

106. Several participants were of the view that the name of the MULPOCs was not as important as their function, or their resource situation. Some observed that the term "Programme" in the proposed name was vague and proposed such other names as "ECA Economic and Technical Assistance" and "ECA Subregional Offices".

107. Some participants pointed out that the recommendation to abolish the existing MULPOC policy organs required careful consideration in the light of the specific requirements of each subregion. They observed that abolition of the MULPOC policy organs could lead to loss of direction and make the work of the ECA Conference of Ministers unwieldy. Some participants also felt that the relationship and responsibilities of the subregional IGOs and the proposed ECA-STAPs needed to be more clearly defined before action was taken.

108. Other participants, noting that ministerial meetings of the MULPOCs were no longer well attended, stated that these could be abolished. The meetings of experts, however, were essential and should be retained.

109. Several participants stressed the need to retain the current subregional arrangement of the MULPOCs which was based on current subregional groupings, and for the MULPOC memberships to reinforce the building blocks envisaged for the establishment of the African Economic Community.

110. Participants confirmed that the gross inadequacy both of human and financial resources was the most serious obstacle facing the MULPOCs. They stressed the need to recruit qualified staff and redeploy them effectively. However, they advised against any major decentralization of staff from ECA headquarters since the number of staff there was already less than desirable. Some participants questioned the criteria used to determine the number of staff and designation of priority sectors contained in table 3: ECA-STAP priorities and staff requirements and indicated that some rationalization of these proposals would be required.

111. Several participants urged ECA to strengthen its co-ordination of MULPOC activities and to give due attention to the specific programming requirements of each subregion.

112. The observer for UNDP noted that, under the Fourth Programming Cycle, ECA was the largest executing agency for UNDP in the African region. A large proportion of the funding was directed towards regional and subregional groupings. In this regard, UNDP was increasingly favouring national execution of activities and providing less resources for institutional support. UNDP would wait until a consensus had been reached among member States and would then engage in consultations with ECA within the framework of the Fifth Regional Programming Cycle.

113. The observer for UNESCO urged ECA to include the objectives of "Priority Africa" in its MULPOC programmes. He expressed satisfaction with the enhanced technical assistance functions envisaged by the report.

114. The observer for ILO expressed his organisation's readiness to co-operate with ECA in the area of operational activities especially in providing advice to member States on employment problems.

115. The observer for ARCC noted the absence of women in the list of persons contacted by the Review Team. She expressed a preference for the name, ECA-STAPs, and the functions envisaged under the framework provided in paragraphs 78 (a) and (b) of the report of the Team, as well as the need to direct programmes to rural populations. She considered that the MULPOC Council of Ministers was redundant and urged the greater involvement of women in discussions at the subregional level.

116. The observer for ECCAS stated that although there was consensus on the need to maintain the MULPOCs, there was a need for detailed examination of the report at the subregional level.

117. In his response, the Team Leader reviewed the points over which he felt there was consensus, namely the failure of the MULPOCs to make an impact, the duplication of activities, and the inadequacy of resources. He urged the Committee to re-examine the proposals on renaming the MULPOCs, the revised mandate of the MULPOCs, and the country regroupings. The Review Team's recommendations should be considered as a package and not in isolation.

118. The Executive Secretary thanked member States for their interest in the subject. It could be said that the MULPOC system had been a victim of its own successes, such as the establishment of the subregional economic groupings. Those successes, however, were now in the past, and there was a need to re-examine the MULPOC mandate to give it new relevance and importance. In that, competent leadership and an effective core staff in the MULPOC offices would be a critical factor. He agreed that the lack of resources was a major issue and, further, that major decentralization of resources from ECA headquarters was not a viable alternative in the light of the limited resources available there.

119. The Committee thanked the Review Team for its report and decided to establish an open-ended sub-committee to review the report under the chairmanship of Rwanda. The core members of the sub-Committee were: Algeria, Cameroon, the Congo, Kenya, the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Mauritania, Morocco, the Niger, Nigeria, Togo, Zaire, Zambia and ARCC.

120. The meeting took note of the report and adopted the draft memorandum contained in annex II, as well as draft resolution 25 (XI).

The situation of food and agriculture in Africa [agenda item 6(b)]

(i) Multinational co-operation in coastal, marine and inland fisheries development

121. A representative of the secretariat presented document E/ECA/CM.16/14. He stated that fisheries and fish farming constituted a dynamic subsector in African agriculture, and their efficient and rational exploitation called for subregional, regional and international co-operation. With regard to marine fishing, the need for co-operation was heightened by the adoption in 1982 of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea which defined the exclusive economic zone (EEZ) of each coastal country. But since fish ignored national marine boundaries, even when such boundaries had been determined and established by a supranational body such as the United Nations, it was necessary to pool resources for their rational exploitation.

122. During the debate that followed this presentation, participants congratulated the secretariat on the quality of the document. They underscored the importance of multinational co-operation in coastal, marine and inland fisheries development. Such co-operation must deal with research and training in the acquisition of technologies; the patrolling of coasts; and the management of fisheries including marketing, processing and preservation channels. They laid special emphasis on North-South co-operation in order to enable African countries to profit, through joint ventures, from new fishing technologies and to take advantage of the new European market. That market could provide outlets for African fish caught under these joint ventures or partnerships. Participants also stated the need to establish a mechanism that would make it possible to exchange information on fisheries.

123. One participant stressed the importance of the contribution that aquaculture could make to the rational management of fishery resources and increased fish production within the context of multinational co-operation.

124. The meeting was informed of the outcome and objectives of the Ministerial Conference on fishery co-operation among African States bordering the Atlantic Ocean which had been held in Rabat, at the initiative of Morocco, from 30 March to 1 April 1989. That Conference had adopted recommendations relating to multinational co-operation for fisheries development in Africa. The committee set up to monitor the implementation of the objectives set by the Conference, would meet from 28 to 30 May 1990 in Rabat.

125. One participant drew attention to the need to abolish drift net fishing which was leading to the extinction of several species of fish, and to the polluting effects of the fishing fleets of some developed countries.

126. The observer for France pointed out that it was necessary for African countries to harmonize their legislation in the area of net meshes; it would be necessary for vessels fishing in exclusive economic zones to be easily identified; there should be standardized presentation of data; and only one stock should be studied at a time. He also stated that it would be useful to conduct training jointly through existing institutions.

127. The observer for ITC stated that his organization stood ready to co-operate with ECA in preparing studies on such subjects as fish marketing and processing. He also proposed that a study should be conducted on destructive fishing techniques involving the use of explosives.

128. The representative of the secretariat thanked participants for their supporting remarks.

129. The meeting took note of the document and adopted draft resolution 17 (XI).

(ii) The contribution of stabilization funds of marketing boards to the development of rural marketing infrastructures

130. A representative of the secretariat introduced document E/ECA/CM.16/15 which analyzed the problems posed by stabilization funds and export commodity marketing boards. Such funds and boards were meant to stabilize producer prices, improve the earnings of producers, and improve the production environment for rural peoples. Resources generated were meant to be reinvested in the rural areas in order to stimulate the development and self-sustaining transformation of those areas. It was regrettable that, in general, those

objectives had not always been attained. While exogenous factors were partly responsible for the failure of the funds and boards, internal factors were also significant. The proper management of the resources generated had often been wanting and improvement of rural infrastructure, in particular, had been neglected. That state of affairs undermined the productivity of the rural areas which were essential to African economies. The recommendations contained in the document took into account current international structural changes such as the introduction of biotechnological products, economic and technological changes and the need for a radical transformation of production structures.

131. In the ensuing debate, representatives commended the technical quality of the document and its recommendations. They expressed the view that the recommendations would have been particularly useful if they had been made during the time that many boards had been economically viable. The question remained whether abolition of the board ultimately benefitted the farmer.

132. Participants emphasized that the development of the rural areas in Africa was contingent upon the improvement of basic infrastructure such as feeder roads and storage facilities, and upon credit, marketing and increased use of agricultural inputs. It was necessary to transform and diversify traditional agricultural products that had been covered by the stabilization funds. Representatives were also of the opinion that the funds had not always been allocated in line with their primary objectives nor had their management always been sound. For that matter, current pricing policies were of questionable value when prices had fallen to historic lows, and it was now more important to think what else could be done for the farmer.

133. The observer for France commended the intellectual and political courage of ECA in publishing a document which realistically pointed out the importance of marketing boards and how they had diverged from the role assigned to them. He considered that it would be useful to conduct a deeper analysis of the situation in each commodity group and in particular to assess the role of various transactors and the distribution of costs and earnings in subsequent stages of the study.

134. The representative of the secretariat thanked participants for their support and comments.

135. The meeting took note of the document.

Industrial development in Africa [agenda item 6(c)]

Ninth joint ECA/OAU/UNIDO progress report on the implementation of the programme for the Industrial Development Decade for Africa and preparations for the second Decade

136. A representative of the secretariat introduced document E/ECA/CM.16/Summary. He indicated that the activities undertaken by the three secretariats in pursuance of ECA Conference of Ministers resolution 656 (XXIV) could be grouped into three main categories, namely activities in support of specific country assistance projects in such subsectors as agro-industries, metallurgical industries, chemical industries and the small- and medium-scale industries; activities for the development of factors of production including projects for improving national technological capabilities and finally, miscellaneous activities including studies and the organization of workshops. He explained that the impact of those activities on industrial development in the member States had been limited because of structural and economic difficulties resulting from the economic crisis experienced by the African continent throughout the 1980s. The independent evaluation report had concluded that the first Decade was a failure. That failure, it was emphasized, had been brought about by several causes including inadequate co-ordination among member States and the three secretariats.

137. The representative of the secretariat went on to explain the procedures to be adopted in the preparation of the programme for the second Decade (1991-2000). The programme was to be prepared in accordance with a time-table set forth in resolution 2 (IX) of the ninth meeting of the Conference of African Ministers of Industry and endorsed by the Industrial Development Board of UNIDO, the Council of Ministers and the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the OAU and by the Economic and Social Council. The various stages of preparation of the programme included the setting up of an intergovernmental group of experts. The

intergovernmental group would finalize the programme by the first quarter of 1991. It would then be submitted to the tenth meeting of the Conference of African Ministers of Industry, the seventeenth meeting of the ECA Conference of Ministers, the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly in 1991. An amount of \$US 1.3 million had been allocated by the General Assembly for the preparation of the programme. He concluded by indicating that to date, only 20 countries had set up their working groups and appealed to the remaining countries to set up their groups.

138. In the ensuing debate, participants stated that the preparation of the second Decade programme should be based primarily on available local resources. The political aspects of industrialization were underscored by several participants who stressed that the second Decade programme should fit into the framework of AAF-SAP. An improvement of the international environment was also necessary for industrialization in Africa to be successful.

139. One participant pointed out that the mechanisms established during the first IDDA had not been satisfactory and that the member States should take that into account during the second IDDA. Current industrialization master plans in certain countries should be harmonized with national programmes in order to avoid the dissipation of efforts. It was important that international organizations not only participate in the preparation of the programme but also help the various countries in the mobilization of resources.

140. Referring to paragraph 6 of the summary report, the representative of Nigeria stated that his country had not received any information concerning the establishment of the intergovernmental working groups and requested further information. He supported those proposals contained in section IV of the report seeking to speed up the implementation of the second IDDA programme.

141. The observer for UNIDO provided additional information on the preparation of the second Decade programme. He noted that a certain number of innovations had been introduced by the ninth meeting of the Conference of African Ministers of Industry which had entrusted to member States the prime responsibility for the preparation and implementation of the Decade programme. Thus, the programme would, necessarily, take account of national development priorities and policies. During the preparation of the programme, the traditional project-by-project approach must be replaced by an integrated programming approach. That would make it possible to take account of inter-industrial and inter-sectoral linkages.

142. He maintained that the use of national experts would enable member States to participate directly in the preparation of their programmes and that the Ministers of Planning should accord priority to the Decade by supporting the efforts of the Ministers of Industry. Governments should have already set up working groups charged with the preparation of national programmes. Their work should be sufficiently advanced in order to enable the use of international experts to be supplied by UNIDO.

143. Contrary to the first Decade in which only the OAU, ECA and UNIDO had participated, the second Decade must involve all relevant United Nations and other organizations such as ADB, the World Bank, the European Development Fund, UNDP and the IMF. Consultations were being initiated. UNIDO had already received 45 requests for assistance in the preparation of programmes for the decade, which showed the high degree of importance States attached to the second Decade.

144. The observer for the OAU stressed that the success of the second IDDA would depend on close co-operation among member States, the working group of governmental experts and international organizations at all levels. He recalled that 20 November of every year had been declared African Industrialization Day by the African Ministers of Industry. On that date, sensitization activities would be conducted in each country.

145. The representative of ECA expressed the secretariat's appreciation to the various speakers for the importance they had attached to the IDDA. The problems of industrialization did indeed cover many political aspects as had been properly reflected in AAF-SAP. He reminded the meeting that the membership of the working group of intergovernmental experts comprised the Gambia, Senegal and Côte d'Ivoire for West Africa; Zaire, Cameroon and the Central African Republic for Central Africa; Ethiopia, Kenya and Uganda for East Africa;

Algeria and Zimbabwe. Two other countries were expected to represent North Africa and Southern Africa. Rwanda was one of the 20 countries in which national committees had already been established.

146. The representative of the secretariat also emphasized that the programme for the second IDDA would necessarily take industrialization master plans into account where such plans existed. A properly designed programme would facilitate the promotional role that ECA, the OAU and UNIDO were called upon to play. He underscored the need to give wider circulation to the time schedule for preparation of the programme, for the second IDDA among ministries of planning.

Natural resources and environment in Africa [agenda item 6 (d)]

(i) The status of river and lake basin development in Africa

147. Introducing document E/ECA/CM/16/17, a representative of the secretariat provided an overview of the activities of the river and lake basin organizations and the efforts made so far to create new organizations. He recalled the important role of rivers and lakes in the integration process in Africa and their potential for development, notably in the rural sector. He indicated that from the review of the performance of the institutions dealing with river and lake basin development, it had been found that the results for most of them fell far below expectations. The main cause of such poor performance was the inadequacy of resources, particularly financial resources.

148. He drew attention to the recommendations contained in the report for reversing the trend of poor performance of those organizations and for creating new institutions which would fully exploit the water resources of the continent. He underlined the need to build the institutions around programmes based on self-reliance, and urged member States to increase their financial support and to continue to appoint the chief executives of such organizations on the basis of managerial and professional competence.

149. During the discussion that followed, some participants indicated that they were encouraged by the progress being made to bring together all the riparian States of the river Nile through co-operative utilization of its waters. One participant referred to the recent meetings of the ECA and OAU for the Undugu Group and the UNDP fact-finding mission. Several participants underlined the important role of river and lake basins in the socio-economic transformation of African countries. It was noted with concern that while Africa was exceedingly rich in water resources, most countries in the region suffered from food shortages due, among other things, to an inability to exploit those resources effectively. The inadequacy of funding was mentioned as one of the major constraints.

150. The representative of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya informed the Committee of the efforts being made by his country to create the Great Man-Made River.

151. The observer for FAO noted that the question of river and lake basin development in Africa was of paramount importance, especially in the context of the establishment of the African Economic Community. He underscored the role that ECA could play, in collaboration with organizations of the United Nations system, in harnessing the water resources of the 48 basins that existed in Africa. He drew attention to the possible impact of mismanagement of the basins on the environment and the potential benefits that their optimal use held for the socio-economic transformation of the continent.

152. The observer for WMO informed the meeting of the activities of his organization in assisting member States in the development of basins. He indicated that a conference on hydrological surveys was being planned jointly with ECA for late 1991.

153. In response to the observations made, the representative of the secretariat appealed to the delegation of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya for relevant information on the Great Man-Made River so that the secretariat could share such information with other member States of the Commission.

154. The Executive Secretary underlined the importance of the basins in the transformation process in Africa. The limited performance of the institutions dealing with the development of the basins was due mainly to the fact that they consumed resources and generated little revenue. The institutions were also excessively dependent on external assistance. He expressed concern at the lack of progress in efforts to establish organizations for the development of the continent's major basins, such as the Congo/Zaire basin. He commended the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya for the bold initiative it had taken to create a man-made river. The experience gained in that initiative was one that could serve all African countries.

155. The meeting took note of the report.

(ii) Report of the meeting of plenipotentiaries on the establishment of the African Nuclear Energy Commission

156. A representative of the secretariat introduced document E/ECA/CM.16/18. The mandates from which the initiative to establish an African Nuclear Energy Commission was derived included paragraph 294 of the Lagos Plan of Action calling on African countries to establish an African Nuclear Energy Commission, resolution 572 (XXI), requesting the Executive Secretary of ECA in collaboration with the heads of relevant bodies and agencies of the United Nations system, to assist the African countries in mastering nuclear science and technology and to be involved in R&D work, and the meeting of African experts on nuclear science held in July 1985 requesting ECA, relevant United Nations agencies and international financial institutions to set up co-operative arrangements for initiating and expanding activities in nuclear applications for African economic and social development.

157. The meeting of plenipotentiaries on the establishment of the African Nuclear Energy Commission had recommended the establishment of a Technical Advisory Committee on Nuclear Science and Technology in Africa instead of a Commission. The Committee should be composed of two appointed representatives from each subregion, representatives of nuclear centres, and representatives of ECA, IAEA, the OAU and UNDP.

158. During the discussion that followed, the meeting was informed by the representative of Uganda of the need to update the report to include activities that had recently taken place such as the OAU seminar on Nuclear Science for Peace and Development held in Kampala, Uganda in March 1990 and its relation to the establishment of the Committee. He highlighted the problems of nuclear wastes, the management of which the developed countries were to pay great attention. He also noted the restrictions placed on African countries in transferring nuclear technologies from developed countries.

159. The representative of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya underlined the benefits that could be derived from nuclear science and stated that African countries should not fall behind in availing themselves of those advantages of peaceful use and co-operation in that field.

160. The representative of Algeria referred to paragraph 27 of the document and informed the meeting that the North African subregion had deferred its decision to appoint representatives to the Technical Advisory Committee until it received the list of African countries that had nuclear centres. He further recalled, with reference to paragraph 11 of the document, that ECA had been requested in May 1989 to prepare such a list in consultation with IAEA.

161. The observer for France underlined the need to pool Africa's financial and human resources in the effort to develop nuclear programmes in the common interest. He also stressed that the development of nuclear energy in Africa would contribute to reducing the accumulation of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere. He hoped that the Technical Advisory Committee would maintain close collaboration with IAEA which could provide inputs for regional nuclear science and technology programmes.

162. The observer for UNESCO recalled that his organization had contributed financially to the organization of the OAU/IAEA seminar in Kampala. He suggested the development of scientific manpower as a starting point for all nuclear science and technology programmes.

163. The observer for ARCC emphasized the need for using nuclear programmes to promote peace and development, and to provide African basic needs such as food, health, etc. She drew the attention of the meeting to the nuclear wastes that some developed countries were dumping in Africa and advocated an African alternative framework for nuclear energy development.

164. Responding to the comments made, the representative of the secretariat stated that during the seminar held in Kampala from 12 to 16 March 1990, participants had welcomed the establishment of the Technical Advisory Committee on Nuclear Science and Technology in Africa as an instrument for co-operation and co-ordination in the area. They had also recommended the establishment of two sub-committees (a nuclear reactor sub-committee and a nuclear application sub-committee) under the Technical Advisory Committee.

165. The seminar had also requested IAEA to establish a regional office in Africa. In response to the question of the representative of Algeria, he said that nuclear centres existed in those countries which had nuclear research reactors, and currently, those countries included Algeria, Egypt, the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya and Zaire.

166. The meeting approved the establishment of a Technical Advisory Committee on Nuclear Science and Technology in Africa. It took note of the report and adopted draft resolution 11 (XI).

(iii) African Regional Conference on Environment and Sustainable Development

167. A representative of the secretariat introduced document E/ECA/CM.16/19. The Conference had been convened as part of the follow-up of the report "Our Common Future" of the World Commission on Environment and Development, the Environment Perspective to the year 2000 and Beyond, as well as General Assembly resolutions 42/186 and 42/187. The Conference had also been part of the preparatory process for the World Conference on Environment and Development, to be held in Brazil in June 1992.

168. The Conference had focused on the following issues: managing demographic change and pressures; achieving food self-sufficiency and food security; ensuring efficient and equitable distribution of water resources; securing greater energy self-sufficiency; optimizing industrial production; maintaining species and ecosystems; and preventing and reversing desertification. The Conference had adopted an "Agenda for Action towards sustainable development in Africa" and had issued the Kampala Declaration in which the Conference had expressed its resolve to implement the agenda for environmentally sound management.

169. In the ensuing debate, several participants noted that for various reasons, some States at the African Regional Conference on Environment and Sustainable Development had not ratified the Basel Convention on the Transboundary Movement of Hazardous Wastes, and that the package of measures proposed had not been accompanied by the financial resources necessary for its effective implementation. A participant noted that the report before the Committee could have referred to the pertinent recommendations of the Belgrade Declaration of September 1989 on the environment. A distinction needed to be made between environmental degradation problems affecting the industrial development of the developed countries and those affecting developing countries, which arose primarily from poverty. Resources to be allocated should take account of the two differing situations. Participants also emphasized the need for manpower development in order to ensure sound management of the environment for sustainable development. Issues needed to be considered realistically before making environmental management and/or protection a conditionality in the development process, or as part of structural adjustment programmes. African States should also co-ordinate their environmental management efforts and institute subregional co-operation for sustainable development.

170. The observer for France stated that the report had several positive points. It was important to make the people themselves assume a certain amount of responsibility for the management of their rural environment. France was in the process of establishing an observatory for the Sahara and Sahel regions to measure the drift of the desert in order to control it.

171. The observer for WFP drew the attention of participants to the role played by his Programme in matters of the environment and sustainable development. That role was characterized by distribution of food and by long-term development projects on the environment and development.

172. The observers for UNESCO and WMO expressed the desire to co-operate with ECA in developing training programmes on the environment and sustainable development for Africa. The observer for WMO stressed the growing importance being attached to climate change issues by the world community.

173. The observer for the OAU informed participants of the forthcoming meeting on environment to be held in Bamako, Mali. The meeting, to which all African States were invited, would consider a draft convention on the transboundary movement of hazardous wastes in Africa.

174. The observer for ARCC stated that ARCC or ATRCW should be invited to the Bamako meeting, given the important role played by women in the area of environment and development.

175. Responding to the issues raised and comments made by representatives and observers, the representative of the secretariat indicated that the forthcoming Bamako meeting would, indeed, consider a draft African convention on the transboundary movement of hazardous wastes. That was important since the African countries had not been satisfied with the Basel Convention. He recognized the efforts made by France to establish the observatory for the Sahara and the Sahel. In conclusion, he assured the Committee of the preparedness of the secretariat to strengthen co-operation between UNESCO and WMO in training related to the environment and sustainable development.

176. The meeting took due note of the report of the first African Regional Conference on Environment and Sustainable Development and the relevant recommendations.

(iv) Report on progress in making the African Centre of Meteorological Applications for Development (ACMAD) operational

177. A representative of the secretariat introduced document E/ECA/CM.16/20. He reviewed the background and resolutions leading to the establishment of the African Centre of Meteorological Applications for Development and the efforts of both ECA and WMO towards making the Centre operational. Progress had been slow largely because member States had been unable to raise the required resources to support the Centre through country contributions. The expected support from donor countries and agencies had also not been forthcoming because member States' interest in the Centre had not been adequately demonstrated. Only 12 countries had at that time, ratified the statutes and of those, only four had paid their contributions.

178. The Executive Secretary intervened to stress the gravity of the financial situation facing the Centre and appealed for frank discussions of its future.

179. In the ensuing discussions, several representatives reiterated their countries' support for ACMAD. They pointed out that the delay in ratification was not necessarily due to lack of interest, but rather delays in national procedures for such matters. One participant stated that his country would soon be ratifying the statutes and others urged that the issue of ratification should be brought before the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the OAU at its forthcoming meeting.

180. Some participants pointed out that ACMAD was only one of several African intergovernmental institutions facing similar difficulties as a result of the regional economic crisis. They proposed that WMO should take over the administration of the Centre until such a time that member States could assume their responsibilities fully. The representative of Morocco informed the meeting that his country had begun the formalities for signing and ratifying the statutes of ACMAD.

181. The observer for WMO explained that his organization was not a funding agency. Nevertheless, WMO had already invested a considerable amount of its regular budgetary resources in the Centre. WMO would continue

to provide technical assistance to the Centre, but member States had to express their interest in ACMAD in concrete terms. He informed the Committee that resources already transferred to the Centre by donors could not be used until member States had ratified the statutes and paid up their contributions.

182. The observer for ARCC reaffirmed ARCC's interest in ACMAD and proposed that ECA mount an intensive sensitization campaign for the ratification of ACMAD's statutes as well as the convention on discrimination against women.

183. The meeting took note of the document and adopted draft resolution 13 (XI).

International trade and development finance [agenda item 6(e)]

(i) The fourth ACP-EEC Convention: Principal features and their relevance to African development

184. A representative of the secretariat introduced document E/ECA/CM.16/13, which described the main new features of the Lomé IV Convention. He indicated that improvements and innovations had been introduced in the new Convention in the following areas: agricultural development and food self-sufficiency, industrial development and manufacturing (including horizontal and vertical diversification), primary commodity processing, marketing and distribution, external debt and debt servicing, structural adjustment and the role of women in development.

185. He stated that despite improvements in the design and elaboration of successive EEC-ACP Conventions, Africa had found it increasingly difficult to reap the expected benefits from this framework for North-South co-operation. In particular, it had been difficult for Africa to maintain its share of the market of the EEC. He noted that while Asia's share in the European market was increasing, that of Africa was in fact decreasing.

186. He recommended that the meeting should consider the possibility of undertaking in-depth studies at national, subregional and regional levels of the main sectors with a view to analyzing the problems and proposing remedial measures to reverse the deteriorating trends and improve the ability of the continent to take advantage of the provisions contained in the Convention. The studies would focus on the impact of recent changes in Eastern Europe, the results of the Uruguay Round of Multilateral Trade Negotiations, the 1992 European single market and EEC-ACP co-operation.

187. In the ensuing discussion, the meeting welcomed the information concerning the new features of the Convention. However, some participants regretted the fact that the document was mainly descriptive of the new principal features of the Convention and did not deal sufficiently with the second aspect of the theme, i.e., the relevance of those features to Africa's development. Some participants in particular questioned the meaning of the last sentence in paragraph 41 of the document presented which read: "From the experience gained in the previous Conventions, there is evidence to suggest that even if one-third of the provisions are fully implemented, African economies would have shifted to higher levels of prosperity by the year 2000". They requested the deletion of the sentence from the document.

188. Many participants supported the secretariat's proposal for various studies to be undertaken. They also felt that a full analysis should be made of debt and structural adjustment support in the Lomé IV Convention especially to ensure that the latter was in line with AAF-SAP.

189. The observer for ARCC expressed her satisfaction with the steps taken by EEC to include funding for women-in-development programmes. She urged ECA, which had a mandate to mobilize resources for projects in favour of women, to enter into consultation with EEC to secure funding within the framework of the new Convention.

190. The observer for the OAU recalled the collaborative efforts undertaken by the ECA and OAU secretariats in providing support to the African Group during the negotiations for the Lomé IV Convention. Those efforts had culminated in the adoption of a resolution by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the OAU on

guidelines and directives for African government officials involved in the negotiations of the Convention. He noted that, in real terms there had been no significant increases in the level of funding under the Lomé IV Convention and that some of the issues of interest to Africa had not been adequately addressed. Specifically, these concerned the simplification of procedures to access resources available under STABEX and the assessment of the benefits in other than local currencies. African countries, perhaps with the exception of Côte d'Ivoire, Ethiopia and Senegal, had hardly benefitted from STABEX.

191. He expressed the view that some of the provisions contained in the Convention stipulated conditions to be fulfilled by ACP countries first before they could have access to the funds. He cautioned the meeting on the need for African countries to remain vigilant during the ongoing multilateral trade negotiations notably within the framework of the Uruguay Round as the EEC position would be particularly influential in those negotiations.

192. The observer for France provided additional information on the Convention which, he said, had been concluded under the chairmanship of his country. He indicated that the Convention was a good example of partnership between the two groups of countries. He underlined the importance of some of the new features included in the Convention, notably its duration and the introduction of structural adjustment programme support. He felt that the ECA document could be improved by including information on the participation of the member States of EEC in the European Currency Unit (ECU) and issues related to human rights and the democratization of the development process. He expressed concern at the comments made on the usefulness of STABEX and the access by African countries to the technologies of Europe.

193. In his reaction to the debate, the representative of the secretariat expressed appreciation for the useful comments made by the participants and assured them that the document would be revised in the light of the comments. He explained that the main purpose of the report was to highlight the new features of the Convention and not to provide an assessment of its provisions.

194. The Executive Secretary indicated that ECA was in general agreement with the comments made by the Committee. He reiterated the fact that the purpose of the document, which was a briefing note, was to describe the main features of the Lomé IV Convention and not to make any assessment. In that context, he agreed that paragraphs 39 to 41 of the document should be deleted and assured the Committee that a revised version of the document would be prepared and distributed to participants before the end of the meeting. He expressed the readiness of ECA to undertake with other organizations, notably the OAU, the various studies requested by the meeting in terms of assessing the impact of the Convention on Africa's development.

195. The meeting recommended that ECA, in collaboration with the OAU and other relevant organizations, should undertake detailed and comprehensive studies on how best African countries could derive the maximum benefit from the Lomé IV Convention.

196. The meeting took note of the report.

(ii) International co-operation for trade facilitation

197. A representative of the secretariat introduced document E/ECA/CM.16/33. He drew the attention of the meeting to the fact that African countries were characterized by the extreme openness of their economies, with foreign trade playing a key role in economic and social development. He noted that while Africa's development partners had developed very sophisticated trade and information networks, African countries were operating with inadequate trade information and cumbersome facilities and formalities. The issue of international co-operation for trade facilitation to the African continent was therefore important.

198. He outlined the proposed interregional project on co-operation in international trade facilitation that would, inter alia, enable African countries to identify their problems and requirements in international and intra-African trade facilitation and would allow them to make use of systems such as the UNCTAD-based Trade Facilitation Programme (FALPRO) and the United Nations Rules for Electronic Data Interchange for Administration,

Commerce and Transport (UN/EDIFACT). The project would help African countries to develop their capacities for processing trade information and overcome existing obstacles to trade facilitation.

199. During the discussion that followed, several participants underlined the importance of the issue in the overall development of the continent. They expressed the wish that the project would deal adequately with the bottle-necks hampering the promotion of intra-African trade, the reasons for the weakness of present trade patterns, the standardization of data and the development of capabilities to enable African countries to negotiate effectively with the North on an equitable basis.

200. One participant noted the absence of reference to the North African subregion in the document. As the project was to be implemented jointly by the UNCTAD secretariat and the regional commissions, he urged the ECA secretariat to remedy this omission.

201. The observer for France indicated his country's keen interest in the facilitation of international trade especially as a means of avoiding the further marginalization of the African region. He informed the meeting that his country was actively co-operating with UNCTAD to assist member States in this field. Only recently a seminar on the issue had been organized in Yaounde, Cameroon with the participation of France. He appealed for greater co-ordination among the institutions involved in helping the continent in the facilitation of international trade.

202. The representative of the secretariat responded that the document would be revised to take into account the pertinent issues raised. The omission of the North African subregion from the project had been due to the different subregional arrangements used for Africa by UNDP who was expected to fund the project. He added that the revised document would reflect the inclusion of the North African subregion and that the implementation of the project could be done within the framework of the Maghreb Union (MU) and the MULPOC.

203. The meeting endorsed the recommendations contained in the report (with the understanding that the North African subregion would be included in the project on trade facilitation) and adopted draft resolution 16 (XI).

Transport and communications in Africa [agenda item 6(f)]

Progress report on the preparation of the programme for the second United Nations Transport and Communications Decade in Africa (UNTACDA II)

204. A representative of the secretariat introduced document E/ECA/CM.16/21. He stated that the preparatory activities for the programme for UNTACDA II had begun in 1989 under the guidance of the Inter-Agency Co-ordinating Committee (IACC) and the Resource Mobilization Committee (RMC). The global objectives and the strategy for the implementation of the Decade programme had now been established. That strategy involved extensive promotion, strict monitoring, use of a multisectoral and "bottom-up" approach and development of specific criteria for selecting national, subregional and regional projects. National co-ordinating committees (NCCs) were to constitute the foundation of UNTACDA II both at the preparatory and execution stages of the programme. Member States were called upon to speedily set up the NCCs, so that the groundwork of UNTACDA II could be done in good time for it to be considered by the Conference of African Ministers of Transport, Communications and Planning in December 1990, and by the ECA Conference of Ministers in April 1991. The programme would be submitted to the Economic and Social Council in July 1991 and the General Assembly in September of that year.

205. During the ensuing discussions, participants urged member States which had not already done so to set up their NCCs as a matter of urgency. One representative urged that environmental protection needs should be taken into account in the formulation of the Decade programme. Another underscored the importance of implementing sequenced and balanced programmes for building and managing the African transport and

communications infrastructure. For example, there existed in the continent desert areas without transport facilities. There was a need therefore to reactivate the trans-Saharan highway project within the context of UNTACDA II. The meeting of the Liaison Committee on that project which had been held on 4 and 5 May 1990 in Tunis was an encouraging step in that direction.

206. One participant reaffirmed the need to base the UNTACDA II programme on the conclusions of the evaluation of UNTACDA I. He considered that the integration of the Decade programme into economic development programmes would ensure the efficiency of national, subregional and regional economic systems. On resource mobilization, he suggested that UNDP should assist the NCCs in order to enable them to meet the deadlines.

207. The observer for the OAU called upon member States to set up their national co-ordinating committees so that the deadline for the submission of the regional programme to the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly could be met. He also appealed to UNDP to assist governments in preparing the national programmes which would form the basis of the regional programme.

208. The observer for UNDP underlined the vital role of the transport and communications sector in the economic integration process. UNDP had allocated the sum of \$US 5 million to the sector under the Fourth Programming Cycle. The projects financed had been designed to strengthen the continent's manpower resources for transport development as well as the capacity to manufacture transport equipment and spare parts.

209. The observer for UNESCO said that his organization had participated actively in the implementation of the UNTACDA I programme. The improvement of human resources and widespread popular participation, wider use of the mass media and a broader concept of communication would be crucial to the success of the new Decade programme.

210. The observer for WMO emphasized the importance attached to UNTACDA II by his organization, especially in the areas of air transport and information exchange. He stated that his organization would like to contribute to flight safety measures for airlines and to the preparation of the programme at the sectoral and regional levels.

211. The observer for ECCAS underlined the urgent need for the subregional organizations to join hands with the NCCs in preparing the UNTACDA II programme. He stressed the need for information exchange between the NCCs, ECA and the IGOs in order to enable them fully to play their role in the integration process.

212. One participant wondered whether the multiplicity of committees at various levels would not compromise their efficiency. In response, the representative of the secretariat said that the simultaneous existence of various committees would not impede efficiency and rationalization. The role of each of them had been well defined and the executing agency would ensure that each organ played its role fully.

213. The meeting took note of the report.

Population [agenda item 6(g)]

Population issues for ECA member States in the 1990s

214. In introducing this agenda item, a representative of the secretariat first announced the exhibition on POPIN-Africa which was being staged during the meeting.

215. He presented document E/ECA/CM.16/34 which discussed population problems in the region within the context of the current economic crisis and the role of the secretariat in assisting member States to address them.

216. In the ensuing discussion, participants commended the secretariat for the quality and presentation of the paper and urged that it should be disseminated to all member States, interested organizations and women

associations for them to implement the recommendations. One participant considered that the issues of urbanization and employment would be important in the 1990s.

217. The observer for ARCC stressed the need for family life education and the provision of modern means of contraception to rural women. Risky pregnancies should be avoided. Furthermore, she suggested that the regional component of the global 1994 Family Year should focus on the role of the family in the development process in the African context.

218. The observer for WHO reiterated the need to integrate family planning in maternal and child health (MCH) services. He urged greater co-ordination between the secretariat and the specialized agencies, and highlighted some of the reasons for the limited success of past population programmes such as the non-implementation of various resolutions, the lack of or limited political commitment in terms of resources, inefficient utilization of available resources, adoption of "vertical" approaches towards programme implementation, and the lack of co-ordination among donors.

219. In his reply, the representative of the secretariat emphasized the need for governments to give priority to family life education. In that regard, a suggestion was made to include family as an important topic in the African consultation preceding the 1994 international population conference.

220. The meeting took note of the report.

Economic co-operation and integration [agenda item 6(h)]

Progress report on the establishment of the African Economic Community

221. A representative of the joint OAU/ECA/ADB secretariat introduced document E/ECA/CM.16/38. He informed the meeting of the steps taken thus far to establish the African Economic Community. He particularly emphasized the emergence of a consensus on such issues as the concept, contents and scope of the Community, and relations between the Community, the OAU and subregional economic groupings. He informed the meeting of the current status of the project and, in particular, of progress made by the Permanent Steering Committee of the OAU in the elaboration of the provisions of the draft treaty of the Community.

222. In the discussion that followed, representatives welcomed the progress report and commended the joint efforts of the three secretariats in the important task of creating the African Economic Community. The need for the speedy establishment of the Community was stressed, particularly in the light of observed changes in global economic and political relationships. It was emphasized that the Community offered Africa an opportunity that could not be missed for solving its economic and social problems. The region's political leadership was called upon to follow the time-table for the establishment of the Community with single-minded determination. In this regard, AAF-SAP and the African Charter for Population Participation in Development and Transformation should be included among the regional policy documents mentioned in the report.

223. The meeting considered that since the building blocks for the Community were the existing subregional economic groupings, such groupings needed to be more involved in the ongoing consultation process than they had been, and more particularly, in the preparation and negotiation of protocols to be annexed to the Treaty.

224. Some participants were concerned that the period proposed for the Community to come fully into being was too long. It was also observed that the French acronym for the Community could be confused with that of the Economic Commission for Africa and that there was need to look for a more appropriate name to be given to the Community. One observer questioned the appropriateness of the last paragraph on page 8 of the document which was considered to be unduly provocative. Another view was that Africa must be prepared to encounter opposition in its efforts to establish the new Community. The Moroccan delegation stated that though it was convinced of the urgent need to establish the African Economic Community, it, however, had reservations on the report presented by the joint OAU/ECA/ADB secretariat on this subject and, especially, on the draft treaty

to which the document made reference. This was because his country had, indeed, not participated either in the drafting of or in discussions on the said treaty.

225. In reacting to the debate, the observer for the OAU explained that with regard to the participation of the subregional economic groupings, every effort had been made to ensure that representatives of those groupings participated in the consultation process. He appealed to members of TEPCOW to ensure that the issue of participation was raised at the meetings of the policy organs of those groupings. He also explained that the period proposed for each stage in the establishment of the Community was only indicative. It was therefore normal and in keeping with the spirit of the draft treaty, that the various stages could be shortened if the set objectives were attained earlier than expected.

226. The Committee took note of the report and adopted draft resolution 23 (XI).

"Priority Africa" (item proposed by UNESCO) [agenda item 6 (i)]

227. The observer for UNESCO introduced the document entitled "Priority Africa". That document had been prepared at the initiative of the Director-General of UNESCO after extensive consultations with African Governments and had been approved unanimously by the General Conference of UNESCO. It constituted a programme of action for Africa for the period 1990-1995 and basically aimed at strengthening co-operation between his organization and African member States. He said that the Director-General had created a Co-ordination Unit in his office headed by a senior African to monitor the implementation of the programme. With regard to funding, he stated that some activities would be carried out under the regular budget of UNESCO and the participation programme for the 1990-1991 biennium. However, the bulk of the programme would be funded from extrabudgetary resources estimated at \$US 35 million.

228. He underscored the excellent relations between ECA, the OAU and UNESCO, and expressed the hope that both ECA and the OAU would actively participate in the implementation of "Priority Africa".

229. In the discussion that followed, a number of participants commended the Director-General of UNESCO for his excellent initiative and expressed the hope that the programme would receive adequate support to ensure its effective implementation. Some participants requested that the programme should be widely distributed and submitted to the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the OAU at its next session.

230. The representative of Morocco requested the UNESCO representative to furnish further explanation on countries involved in the programme of action entitled "Priority Africa", which are mentioned in paragraphs 3 of page 1 and 3 of page 26 of the programme in the document presented. The UNESCO representative explained that the countries involved in the programme mentioned in the paragraphs cited were UNESCO African member countries with the exception of South Africa. He further stated that the General Conference of UNESCO in which the Minister of Education of Morocco participated, had unanimously approved the "Priority Africa" programme. He also expressed the satisfaction of the Director-General of UNESCO with the useful remarks made on this unique joint undertaking between Africa and his organization. He reaffirmed that the Director-General would spare no effort to translate "Priority Africa" into concrete and implementable programmes for the benefit of the peoples of Africa.

231. The meeting took note of "Priority Africa" and adopted draft resolution 19 (XI).

Operational activities [agenda item 6(j)]

(i) Report on ECA-executed technical co-operation projects

232. A representative of the secretariat introduced documents E/ECA/CM.16/22 and E/ECA/CM.16/22/Add.1. He stated that total extrabudgetary resources mobilized by the secretariat increased from \$US 13 million in 1988 to \$US 22 million in 1989. He noted that UNDP, which was ECA's major funding agency, had increased its contribution from \$US 6.4 million in 1988 to \$US 12.4 million in 1989, with a major proportion of that going to

interregional multisectoral projects. The contributions of Belgium, France, the Federal Republic of Germany, India and the Netherlands accounted for a significant proportion of bilateral extrabudgetary resources. Co-operation between ECA and the Islamic Development Bank had become operational during the year and a number of joint activities had been organized with the Bank.

233. African countries had also increased their contributions to the United Nations Trust Fund for African Development (UNTFAD) at the Pledging Conference held in 1989. Not all pledges had been fully paid, and he appealed to member States with arrears to meet their obligations. He informed the Committee that interest accruing on UNTFAD's Specific Fund constituted a potential source of resources which the secretariat was unable to use since that required the approval of the specific donors. There was therefore a need for the Conference of Ministers to authorize the use of such accrued interest.

234. The Executive Secretary expressed appreciation to governments for the additional resources they provided in support of the work of the secretariat. He thanked UNDP in particular for its support to the multisectoral co-operation and integration projects. He also thanked UNFPA and other United Nations agencies for their contributions. He noted especially the growing co-operation with the World Bank and that agency's contributions to the work of the secretariat. He also noted, with appreciation, the sustained support which the secretariat had received over the years from the Government of India.

235. In the discussions that followed, participants congratulated the secretariat for its efforts in mobilizing resources. They pointed out that the increase in extrabudgetary funds was an indication of the willingness of Africa's development partners to assist in Africa's development efforts. They, however, also urged caution in the use of extrabudgetary resources as they were not a guaranteed source of income.

236. The representative of Togo explained that the amount of \$US 1,639 shown under arrears for his country was the result of delays in foreign exchange transactions. The amount in question which had been cleared by the recent pledge to UNTFAD was designed for the financing of the Niamey-based MULPOC's programme of activities. The representative of the United Republic of Tanzania stated that his country had already cleared its arrears, and requested the secretariat to adjust the records.

237. The meeting took note of documents E/ECA/CM.16/22 and E/ECA/CM.16/22/Add.1 and recommended for approval the secretariat's request on the use of the interest accrued on UNTFAD's Specific Fund for the implementation of projects consistent with the purposes of UNTFAD. The secretariat should report on the use of such funds in accordance with draft resolution 1 (XI).

(ii) Progress in TCDC/ECDC activities in Africa

238. A representative of the secretariat introduced document E/ECA/CM.16/23. He drew the attention of the meeting to the shortcomings of technical and economic co-operation between African developing countries, despite the considerable efforts of institutions such as UNDP to promote it. The document contained a number of recommendations to accelerate the process of TCDC/ECDC including identification of the potential areas of co-operation and mechanisms for promoting TCDC projects, such as the proposed South-South Partnership Promotion Centre.

239. During the discussion that followed, several participants commended the secretariat for the quality of the report. They recognized TCDC/ECDC as a catalyst for putting the African economy on the path to self-reliant and self-sustaining development. A participant informed the meeting of his country's co-operative efforts with sister countries in areas such as joint ventures including banking. African Governments were however urged to be competitive when developing TCDC by offering quality goods and services. Africa should, through such co-operation, aim at developing technologies and equipment which have their basis within the region itself, and were not dependent on imports for their survival. TCDC should also be encouraged within the countries themselves, with co-operation being established among various sectors of the community.

240. The observer for UNDP drew the attention of the meeting to the efforts of his organization to promote TCDC/ECDC. He expressed disagreement with paragraph 29 of the report. UNDP was considering the financing of a preparatory assistance project for the creation of the South-South Partnership Promotion Centre. He appealed to ECA to consult all concerned in preparing that document to ensure that the information base was as comprehensive as possible.

241. The observer for ITC stated that a considerable amount of funds earmarked for trade promotion were available under previous and current ACP-EEC Lomé Conventions. His organization would be willing to co-operate with ECA in assisting African countries to use those funds.

242. The observer for UNESCO stressed the need to strengthen the negotiating capacity of African countries. He suggested the organization of an inter-agency meeting to consider the issues involved.

243. The observer for FAO indicated that his organization had considerable experience in TCDC that could be shared with sister organizations. He suggested that a start should be made by first identifying potential areas for co-operation, such as commodities which could be traded within Africa itself.

244. In conclusion, the representative of the secretariat laid emphasis on the insignificance of TCDC results. The paucity of results had been due to the lack of inter-sectoral relations at the national level among African countries involved in such co-operation.

245. The meeting took note of the document.

(iii) Activities, work programmes and budgets of ECA-sponsored regional and subregional institutions

246. A representative of the secretariat presented a document which was in two parts, E/ECA/CM.16/24 (Part I) and E/ECA/CM.16/24 (Part II).

247. During the discussion that followed, the Executive Director of ARCEDEM drew the attention of the meeting to the very serious financial crisis facing the Centre. He indicated that ARCEDEM had survived to date largely because of the continuing support of the Government of Nigeria and UNDP and added that the Centre was planning to finance its own activities through the commercialization of its products. However, that would need working capital. Accordingly, member States' contributions were badly needed, at least for the medium term.

248. One participant considered that the future existence of these institutions would depend on the successful recruitment of qualified, competent and motivated managers and staff.

249. The observer for ARCC expressed her concern about the financial position of the centres and noted that there was a need to look into the fundamental causes of the financial crisis facing all these institutions.

250. The Executive Secretary of ECA stated that the resource crisis facing the institutes had been a long-standing issue. All were agreed that the role of those institutes had been important in promoting economic development in Africa. Unfortunately, member States still failed to pay their contributions. Some of the institutions had survived only because of the support received from UNDP and other sources. As matters stood, many of the institutions risked being closed down by the end of 1990. He therefore appealed to all the representatives to impress the seriousness of the situation upon their respective Governments.

251. The meeting took note of the report and adopted draft resolution 24 (XI).

PART III
RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE SUBSIDIARY ORGANS AND
SECTORAL BODIES OF THE COMMISSION

Ninth meeting of the Conference of African Ministers of Industry [agenda item 7(a)]

Seventh United Nations Regional Cartographic Conference for Africa [agenda item 7(b)]

Fifth meeting of the Conference of African Ministers of Social Affairs [agenda item 7(c)]

Seventh meeting of the Conference of African Ministers of Transport, Communications and Planning [agenda item 7(d)]

Sixth meeting of the Intergovernmental Committee of Experts on Science and Technology Development [agenda item 7(e)]

Fourth Regional Conference on the Integration of Women in Development [agenda item 7(f)]

Tenth meeting of the Conference of African Ministers of Trade [agenda item 7(g)]

Second meeting of the Conference of African Ministers of Tourism [agenda item 7(h)]

Sixth meeting of the Joint Conference of African Planners, Statisticians and Demographers [agenda item 7(i)]

Report of the meeting of Chief Executives of African Intergovernmental Organizations [agenda item 7(j)]

Report of the meeting of the Conference of Chief Executives of ECA-sponsored Regional and Subregional Institutions [agenda item 7(m)]

252. A representative of the secretariat introduced document E/ECA/CM.16/25 entitled "Meetings of subsidiary and sectoral organs of the Commission - Summary of recommendations and resolutions". The document was a summary of the reports of the meetings of the subsidiary organs of the Commission held since the twenty-fourth session of the Commission/fifteenth meeting of the Conference of Ministers.

253. The representative of Morocco whose country had been Chairman of the seventh meeting of the Conference of African Ministers of Transport, Communications and Planning elaborated on the decisions and recommendations of that meeting. He informed the Committee of the setting-up in his country of a co-ordinating committee for UNTACDA II. He underlined the importance of trans-African highways and the need for progress in the implementation of related ongoing programmes. He informed the meeting of the decision taken by the Maghreb Union to construct a Maghreb highway which would speed up economic integration in the North African subregion.

254. The observer for FAO referred to the resolution on rural structural transformation and development in Africa adopted by the fifth meeting of the Conference of African Ministers of Social Affairs and stressed the need to ensure efficiency and avoid unnecessary duplication in the implementation of that resolution with the implementation of the outcome of the World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development which had been going on since 1979. In that connection, the FAO Regional Conference for Africa due to be held in 1992 would be the appropriate forum for all-African discussion of agrarian reform and rural development.

255. The observer for ILO referred to the difficulties faced by the African Rehabilitation Institute (ARI), which had been considered by the Conference of African Ministers of Social Affairs at its fifth meeting. ILO had provided technical assistance to the Institute but there was an urgent need for member States to increase their material and financial support to the Institute, if it was not to close down. Only 13 countries had signed the Agreement

establishing ARI and only three or four had ratified the Statute while only one had paid the 1990 contribution to the budget.

256. The observer for the International Hydrographic Organization (IHO) presented document E/ECA/CM.16/37 on the 'Hydrographic requirements for planning and development in African coastal and inland waters'. That subject had been treated by the seventh United Nations Regional Cartographic Conference for Africa in September 1989 and had resulted in two resolutions recommending the establishment in each African maritime country of a national hydrographic committee and the adoption of international rules for the nomenclature of undersea features.

257. He briefed the Committee on the activities of IHO, and highlighted the results of the study carried out in collaboration with the United Nations Department of Technical Co-operation for Development on the status of hydrographic surveys and nautical charts. Only 19 per cent of the water areas of Africa was considered by the study to be adequately surveyed while 64 per cent was regarded as being unsurveyed. He called on ECA, in collaboration with IHO and specialized African institutions, to prepare a project to develop existing regional centres for the maintenance of hydrographic equipment and the training of nautical cartographers. IHO was ready to render technical assistance in those areas.

258. The representative of the secretariat assured the meeting that the issues raised had been noted. The proposal that ECA and FAO should avoid duplication on the implementation of activities on agrarian reform and rural transformation was welcome.

259. The meeting took note of the reports and adopted draft resolutions 2 (XI), 3 (XI), 4 (XI), 5 (XI), 6 (XI), 7 (XI), 8 (XI), 9 (XI), 10 (XI), 12 (XI), and 15 (XI).

Eleventh meeting of the Africa Regional Co-ordinating Committee for the Integration of Women in Development [(agenda item 7 (k))]

260. The Chairperson of ARCC presented document E/ECA/ATRCW/ARCC.XI/10.

261. She stated that the eleventh meeting of ARCC which had been held in Tripoli on 7 and 8 May 1990, had discussed the follow-up to the fourth Regional Conference on the Integration of Women in Development. The outcome of that Conference had been the Abuja Declaration on Participatory Development: The Role of Women in the 1990s. That Declaration was the most important guideline for the integration of women in development which had emerged since the adoption of the Arusha Strategies for the Advancement of Women in Africa. She appealed for support in its implementation.

262. The eleventh meeting of ARCC had also examined the following issues: a comparative study on national laws on the rights and status of women in Africa; access of women to credit; and mobilization of regional support for the project on improving African women's role in the informal sector. It had also discussed developments relating to the reform of the MULPOCs and their impact on women's programmes.

263. In the ensuing discussion, participants expressed their active support for ARCC in its efforts to promote the role of women in development and requested UNDP to support women's activities.

264. Some participants reported on the status and role of women in their countries. In one country, the Head of State had declared women to be at the core of development and a special department had been set up for them. In another country, women were represented in the participatory democratic process from the village level up to the National Assembly, in the professions, in the university and in all aspects of political and economic life.

265. The observer for ILO drew the attention of the Committee to the Convention and recommendations on the protection of women workers and his agency's involvement in projects designed to ensure women's participation in development.

266. One participant observed the absence of any recommendations in the report of ARCC. Another requested clarification of the word "anomalies" referred to in paragraph 33 of the report.

267. The Chairperson of ARCC explained that the report did not contain recommendations of the meeting as those were already contained in the Abuja Declaration. It was further pointed out that the word "anomalies" referred to some aspects of the study on national laws and not Moslem law itself. She thanked participants for their encouraging and supportive comments.

268. The meeting took note of the document and adopted draft resolution 20 (XI).

Ninth meeting of the Intergovernmental Committee of Experts of African Least Developed Countries [agenda item 7 (f)]

269. The representative of Togo, Chairman of the ninth meeting of the Intergovernmental Committee of Experts of African Least Developed countries, introduced document E/ECA/LDCs.10/EXP.9/7.

270. The Committee of Experts had met in Tripoli from 3 to 5 May 1990 and had considered, among other things, the substantive preparations for the second United Nations Conference on Least Developed Countries. It had further discussed a report on the preliminary evaluation of some aspects of the employment problems and policies in African LDCs.

271. The meeting took note of the report.

PART IV STATUTORY ISSUES

Follow-up action on relevant resolutions adopted by the twenty-fourth session of the Commission and decisions adopted by the General Assembly and ECOSOC that are of interest to Africa (agenda item 8)

(a) Follow-up action on other relevant resolutions adopted by the twenty-fourth session of the Commission/fifteenth meeting of the Conference of Ministers

272. A representative of the secretariat introduced document E/ECA/CM.16/26 by highlighting the follow-up actions taken by the secretariat in respect of some of the twenty-two resolutions adopted by the fifteenth meeting of the Conference of Ministers. He referred specifically to resolution 658 (XXIV) on strengthening development information systems in Africa; resolution 659 (XXIV) on the review of the achievements of the MULPOCs in order to strengthen them; resolution 663 (XXIV) on the creation of an African Economic Association; resolution 666 (XXIV) on strengthening the capabilities of subregional and regional structures for the integration of women in development; and resolution 671 (XXIV) on the current economic situation in Africa.

273. During the discussion that followed, the representative of Egypt stated his country's interest in the effective functioning of the North African Documentation and Information System (NADIS).

274. The observer for WHO referred to resolution 663 (XXIV) and congratulated ECA for the establishment of the African Economic Association. He hoped that member States would continue to translate their political will in creating organizations such as the African Economic Association into concrete actions and programmes.

275. The meeting took note of the report.

(b) Resolutions adopted by ECOSOC at its regular session of 1989 and by the General Assembly at its forty-fourth session in the economic and social sectors that are of interest to Africa

276. A representative of the secretariat introduced document E/ECA/CM.16/27. Six resolutions adopted by the fifteenth meeting of the ECA Conference Ministers had been addressed to ECOSOC, namely resolutions 656

(XXIV) on the proclamation of a second Industrial Development Decade for Africa, 659 (XXIV) on the review of the achievements of the MULPOCs with a view to strengthening them and making them more effective, 667 (XXIV) on the measures for strengthening the ECA's special programme for least developed, land-locked and island countries in Africa, 669 (XXIV) on the African Institute for Economic Development and Planning (IDEP), 675 (XXIV) on the proposed programme of work and priorities for the biennium 1990-1991, and 676 (XXIV) on the African Alternative Framework to Structural Adjustment Programmes for Socio-economic Recovery and Transformation (AAF-SAP).

277. In addition to those presented by the Commission, the General Assembly had adopted other resolutions of interest to Africa. These were on the preparation of the International Development Strategy for the fourth United Nations Development Decade (resolution 44/169); towards a durable solution of external debt problems (resolution 44/205); international co-operation for the eradication of poverty in developing countries (resolution 44/212), and specific action related to the particular needs and problems of land-locked developing countries (resolution 44/214).

278. The meeting took note of the report.

United Nations African Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders (agenda item 9)

(a) UNDP funding

279. The representative of the secretariat introduced document E/ECA/CM.16/32 and informed the meeting that recent consultations with UNDP had led to an amicable resolution of the issues raised in the document. UNDP had already signed the project document providing UNDP funding for UNAFRI and had designated ECA as executing agency. UNDP had also agreed that the issue of the Chairmanship of the Governing Board of UNAFRI should be taken up at the next meeting of the Board. As a result of those developments, it was not necessary to introduce the document and it should be considered as withdrawn.

280. The Executive Secretary of ECA stated that those recent developments demonstrated the capacity of the two organizations to solve common problems. In that connection, he expressed his sincere thanks to UNDP. He also expressed gratitude to the people and Government of Uganda for their continuing efforts and support to UNAFRI. In spite of the economic and financial difficulties that Uganda faced, that country had more than fulfilled its obligations as host country to UNAFRI.

281. The representative of Uganda highlighted the efforts made in collaboration with the ECA secretariat in support of the Institute. Much remained to be done and he appealed to member States to join UNAFRI, urging those that had already joined to pay their assessed contributions as soon as possible. The viability of the Institute was the primary responsibility of member States themselves.

282. The representative of Nigeria expressed his thanks to ECA, the Ugandan Government and to UNDP for their tremendous efforts which had enabled UNAFRI to get off the ground. He regretted the fact that member States tended to establish regional institutions, without providing the necessary financial support. He hoped that additional efforts by ECA and the Government of Uganda could stimulate member States to pay their assessed contributions to the Institute.

283. The observer for UNESCO reiterated UNESCO's commitment to UNAFRI. In that regard, he informed the meeting that UNESCO was in the process of preparing a technical publication on drugs, which had become a primary cause of crime. His agency would continue to co-operate with other United Nations agencies.

284. The Committee considered document E/ECA/CM.16/32 as withdrawn.

(b) Staff rules

285. A representative of the secretariat introduced document E/ECA/CM.16/36. He explained that in accordance with item 6 (f) of Article V of the Statute of the United Nations African Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders (UNAFRI), the Governing Board of the Institute "shall prescribe the administrative, financial, staff and other rules and regulations governing the operation and administration of the Institute". Likewise, the final provision (Article 50) of the draft staff rules and regulations stipulated that the "provisions of the present staff rules and regulations shall come into force upon their approval by the Conference of Ministers of the Economic Commission for Africa upon the recommendations of the Governing Board".

286. Accordingly, the draft staff rules and regulations of UNAFRI had been examined and endorsed by the Governing Board of the Institute, at its inaugural meeting, held in Kampala, Uganda, in June 1989.

287. The meeting took note of the document and recommended the staff rules and regulations for approval by the Conference of Ministers.

Status and prospects of the African Institute for Higher Technical Training and Research (AIHTTR) (agenda item 10)

288. A representative of the secretariat introduced document E/ECA/CM.16/39.

289. He reviewed the background to the establishment of the Institute which was located in Kenya. He explained that the Institute was facing financial and management difficulties which were affecting its performance. Contributions from member States had not reached the desired levels and AIHTTR had suffered managerial problems related to its finances. In spite of that, the host country had continued to support the Institute. He informed the Committee of the action taken by the Governing Council to redress the problem.

290. The representative of Kenya expressed his country's concern over the problems faced by the AIHTTR and made an appeal to member States to support the Centre by paying their arrears and contributions. He also appealed to donors to support the AIHTTR.

291. The observer for UNDP expressed concern and requested careful consideration of the contents of paragraph 18 of the document, which contained the decisions of the Governing Council. UNDP would, on its part, consider the status of the project in the light of those decisions.

292. The meeting took note of the document and adopted draft resolution 22 (XI).

PART V
PROGRAMME OF WORK AND PRIORITIES OF THE COMMISSION

Programme of work and priorities (agenda item 11)

- (a) Proposals for updating the 1990-1991 programme budget
- (b) Report of the Ad hoc Committee on the Medium-term Plan 1992-1997
- (c) Self-evaluation of programmes in ECA

293. A representative of the secretariat introduced documents E/ECA/CM.16/28, E/ECA/CM.16/29 and E/ECA/CM.16/30 entitled: Proposals for updating the 1990-1991 programme budget, Report of the Ad hoc Committee on the Medium-term Plan 1992-1997 and Self-evaluation of programmes in ECA, respectively. He referred in particular to document E/ECA/CM.16/28 and said that its objective was to inform member States of the follow-up on the recommendations and decisions of the Conference on the work programme and priorities at its twenty-fourth session and to secure the approval of the Conference for the programming of new activities which had become possible as a result of additional extrabudgetary funds obtained after the General Assembly had approved the 1990-1991 programme budget.

294. A participant sought clarification on the vacancy situation in the ECA secretariat and on the status of resources available to the translation services at ECA, particularly the Arabic service. He urged that the African Group in New York should be requested to appeal to the Secretary-General of the United Nations to provide more resources for those services.

295. The Executive Secretary thanked member States for their efforts and support to ECA. ECA, indeed, had had a high vacancy rate which had been occasioned by the recruitment freeze which had itself, resulted from the financial crisis in the Organization. The overall situation had now improved. It had proved difficult to recruit translators for ECA in the face of competing attractions at other duty stations. It was hoped that new incentive schemes being offered by the United Nations would redress that situation. In the meantime, member States could assist the secretariat by supporting requests for additional resources for translation services from the policy organs of the United Nations.

296. The meeting took note of the reports, endorsed the programme changes contained therein and adopted draft resolution 18 (XI).

Any other business (agenda item 12)

297. No issue was raised under this agenda item.

Date and venue of the twelfth meeting of the Technical Preparatory Committee of the Whole (agenda item 13)

298. The Chairman informed the meeting that in accordance with the established practice that the annual sessions of the Commission be held every other year at ECA headquarters, the twelfth meeting of TEPCOW which would prepare for the twenty-sixth session of the Commission/seventeenth meeting of the Conference of Ministers would be held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, in April 1991 after the month of Ramadan. The exact dates of the meeting would be determined by the secretariat.

Adoption of the report (agenda item 14)

299. On 13 May 1990, after making necessary amendments, the meeting adopted the present report together with the draft resolutions and the recommendations prepared by the sub-committee it had established on the report of the Review Team on the structure, organization and operations of the ECA Multinational Programming and Operational Centres.

Closing of the meeting (agenda item 15)

300. The Chairman expressed gratitude to members of the Committee as well as observers for their co-operation and the fraternal atmosphere that had prevailed throughout the meeting. He commended the work of the sub-committees and thanked the secretariat and all technical services for their support.

301. He then declared the meeting closed.

Annex II

MEETING OF SUBSIDIARY BODIES HELD DURING
THE PERIOD UNDER REVIEW
(11 April 1989 - 19 May 1990)

Body and officers	Meeting or session	Document symbol
<u>Conference of African Ministers of Industry</u>	Ninth meeting Harare (Zimbabwe) 29-31 May 1989	CAMI.9/22/RV1
Chairman: Zimbabwe Rapporteur: Uganda		
<u>Conference of African Ministers of Social Affairs</u>	Fifth meeting Arusha (Tanzania) 27-28 October 1989	ECA/OAU/AMSA.V/25
Chairman: United Republic of Tanzania Rapporteur: Lesotho		
<u>Intergovernmental Committee of Experts for Science and Technology Development</u>	Sixth meeting Addis Ababa (Ethiopia) 6-9 November 1989	S&T/IGCESTD/6/10
Chairman: Algeria Rapporteur: Botswana		
<u>Conference of African Ministers of Transport, Communications and Planning</u>	Seventh meeting Tangier (Morocco) 15-16 November 1989	E/ECA/TCD/66
Chairman: Morocco Rapporteur: Senegal		
<u>Conference of African Ministers of Trade</u>	Tenth meeting Addis Ababa (Ethiopia) 17-18 November 1989	E/ECA/TRADE/89/28
Chairman: Ethiopia Rapporteur: Sudan		
<u>Joint Conference of African Planners, Statisticians and Demographers</u>	Sixth session Addis Ababa (Ethiopia) 15-20 January 1990	E/ECA/PSD.6/27
Chairman: Guinea Rapporteurs: Lesotho and Zimbabwe		

Body and officers	Meeting or session	Document symbol
<u>Africa Regional</u> <u>Co-ordinating Committee for</u> <u>the Integration of Women</u> <u>in Development</u>	Eleventh meeting Tripoli (Libya) 7-8 May 1990	E/ECA/ATRCW/ARCC.XI/ 10/Rev.1
Chairman: Ghana Rapporteur: Rwanda		
<u>Technical Preparatory</u> <u>Committee of the Whole</u>	Eleventh meeting Tripoli (Libya) 5-13 May 1990	E/ECA/CM.16/40
Chairman: Libyan Arab Jamahiriya Rapporteur: Zambia		
<u>Conference of Ministers</u> <u>of African Least</u> <u>Developed Countries</u>	Tenth meeting Tripoli (Libya) 14-15 May 1990	E/ECA/CM.16/35
Chairman: United Republic of Tanzania Rapporteur: Ethiopia		

Annex III**LIST OF DOCUMENTS**

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| 1. | E/ECA/TPCW.11/1/Rev.1
E/ECA/CM.16/1 | Provisional agenda
Provisional agenda |
| 2. | E/ECA/TPCW.11/1/Add.1
E/ECA/CM.16/1/Add.1 | Annotated provisional agenda
Annotated provisional agenda |
| 3. | E/ECA/CM.16/2 | Biennial report of the Executive Secretary, 1988-1989 |
| 4. | E/ECA/CM.16/3 | Economic report on Africa, 1990 |
| 5. | E/ECA/CM.16/4 | Progress report on the implementation of the United Nations
Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development |
| 6. | E/ECA/CM.16/5 | Preparations for the final review and evaluation of the United Nations
Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development
(UN-PAAERD) (1986-1990) |
| 7. | E/ECA/CM.16/6 | Technical co-operation in Africa: Issues and concerns for improving
effectiveness |
| 8. | E/ECA/CM.16/7 | Progress report on the follow-up on AAF-SAP (as of end February
1990) |
| 9. | E/ECA/CM.16/8 | Multiple exchange rate system (MERS) |
| 10. | E/ECA/CM.16/9 | Study of differential interest rate and selective credit control policy |
| 11. | E/ECA/CM.16/10 | Production subsidy and price support policies for food self-sufficiency
in Africa |
| 12. | E/ECA/CM.16/11 | African Charter for Popular Participation in Development and
Transformation (Arusha 1990) |
| 13. | E/ECA/CM.16/12 | Report of the fifth meeting of the Ministerial Follow-up Committee of Ten
of the Conference of Ministers Responsible for Human Resources
Planning, Development and Utilization |
| 14. | E/ECA/CM.16/13 | Report of the Review Team on the structure, organization and
operations of the Multinational Programming and Operational Centres
of the Economic Commission for Africa |
| 15. | E/ECA/CM.16/14 | Multinational co-operation in coastal marine and inland water fisheries
development |
| 16. | E/ECA/CM.16/15
E/ECA/CM.16/15/Summary | Report on the contribution of stabilization funds and export commodity
marketing boards to the improvement of rural marketing infrastructure |
| 17. | E/ECA/CM.16/16
E/ECA/CM.16/16/Summary | Ninth joint progress report by the secretariats of OAU, ECA and UNIDO
on the implementation of the programme for the Industrial Development
Decade for Africa |

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| 18. | E/ECA/CM.16/17 | River and lake basin development in Africa |
| 19. | E/ECA/CM.16/18 | Report of the meeting of plenipotentiaries on the establishment of the African Nuclear Energy Commission |
| 20. | E/ECA/CM.16/19 | Report on the first African Regional Conference on Environment and Sustainable Development |
| 21. | E/ECA/CM.16/20 | Report on progress in making the African Centre of Meteorological Applications for Development operational |
| 22. | E/ECA/CM.16/21 | Progress report on the preparation of the programme for the second United Nations Transport and Communications Decade in Africa |
| 23. | E/ECA/CM.16/22
E/ECA/CM.16/22/Add.1 | Report on extrabudgetary activities undertaken by ECA during 1989 |
| 24. | E/ECA/CM.16/23 | Progress report on TCDC and ECDC in Africa |
| 25. | E/ECA/CM.16/24
and E/ECA/CM.16/24/Summary | Activities, work programmes and budgets of ECA-sponsored regional subregional institutions

Part I: Consolidated biennial report of the activities of ECA-sponsored regional and subregional institutions for 1988/1989

Part II: Consolidated biennial work programme and budget of ECA-sponsored regional and subregional institutions for 1990/1991 |
| 26. | E/ECA/CM.16/25 | Meetings of subsidiary and sectoral organs of the Commission: Summary of recommendations and resolutions |
| 27. | E/ECA/CM.16/26 | Follow-up action on other relevant resolutions adopted by the twenty-fourth session of the Commission/fifteenth meeting of the Conference of Ministers |
| 28. | E/ECA/CM.16/27 | Resolutions and decisions adopted by the Economic and Social Council at its second regular session of 1989 and by the United Nations General Assembly at its forty-fourth session in the economic and social sectors that are of interest to Africa |
| 29. | E/ECA/CM.16/28 | Proposals for updating the 1990-1991 programme budget |
| 30. | E/ECA/CM.16/29 | Report of the meeting of the <u>Ad hoc</u> Committee on the draft Medium-term Plan, 1992-1997 |
| 31. | E/ECA/CM.16/30 | Self-evaluation of programmes in ECA |
| 32. | E/ECA/CM.16/31 | The fourth ACP-EEC Convention: New principal features and their relevance to Africa's development |
| 33. | E/ECA/CM.16/32 | United Nations African Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders (UNAFRI): Note by the secretariat on UNDP funding |

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| 34. | E/ECA/CM.16/33
E/ECA/CM.16/33/Rev.1
E/ECA/CM.16/33/Summary | International co-operation for facilitation of international trade: the African experience |
| 35. | E/ECA/CM.16/34 | Population issues for ECA member States during the 1990s |
| 36. | E/ECA/CM.16/35 | Report of the tenth meeting of the Conference of Ministers of African Least Developed Countries |
| 37. | E/ECA/CM.16/36 | Approval of the draft Staff Rules and Regulations of the United Nations African Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders |
| 38. | E/ECA/CM.16/37 | Hydrographic requirements for planning and development in African coastal and inland waters |
| 39. | E/ECA/CM.16/38 | Progress report on the establishment of the African Economic Community |
| 40. | E/ECA/CM.16/39 | Status and prospects of the African Institute for Higher Technical Training and Research (AIHTTR) |
| 41. | E/ECA/CM.16/40 | Report of the eleventh meeting of the Technical Preparatory Committee of the Whole |