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# BIENNIAL REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

# 1977- 1978

ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR AFRICA



UNITED NATIONS

#### NOTE

Symbols of the United Nations documents are composed of capital letters combined with figures. Mention of such a symbol indicates a reference to a United Nations document. United Nations documents symbols which are preceded by the designation E/CN.14/. . . indicate that the documents are issued under the auspices of the Economic Commission for Africa.

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## ABBREVIATIONS

<b>AAPAM</b>	<b>A</b>	African Association for Public Administration and Management
<b>ACAST</b>		Advisory Committee on the Application of Science and Technology to Development
<b>ACC</b>		Administrative Committee on Co-ordination
<b>ACP</b>		African, Caribbean and Pacific (countries)
<b>ADB</b>		African Development Bank
<b>AFDIN</b>		African Development Information Network ( <u>see</u> p. 130)
<b>AFRAA</b>		African Airlines Association
<b>APSO</b>		African Purchasing and Supplies Organization
<b>ARSO</b>		African Regional Organization for Standardization ( <u>see</u> p. 80, parag. 274)
<b>ASWEA</b>		Association for Social Work Education in Africa
<b>ATRCW</b>		African Training and Research Centre for Women ( <u>see</u> p. 86)
<b>BADEA</b>	<b>B</b>	Arab Bank for Economic Development in Africa
<b>BPEAR</b>		Bureau [of the OAU] for the Placement and Education of African Refugees
<b>CAFRAD</b>	<b>C</b>	African Centre for Administrative Training and Research for Development
<b>CICE</b>		Centre ivoirien du commerce extérieur
<b>CILSS</b>		Permanent Inter-State Committee on Drought Control in the Sahel
<b>CMEA</b>		Council for Mutual Economic Assistance
<b>CTNC</b>		Centre on Transnational Corporations ( <u>see</u> esp. p. 177)
<b>EAMI</b>	<b>E</b>	East African Management Institute
<b>ECB</b>		Environment Co-ordination Board
<b>ECD C</b>		Economic Co-operation among Developing Countries
<b>ECE</b>		Economic Commission for Europe
<b>ECLA</b>		Economic Commission for Latin America ( <u>see</u> esp. p. 125)
<b>ECOWAS</b>		Economic Community of West African States ( <u>see</u> esp. p. 140, 159)
<b>ECWA</b>		Economic Commission for Western Asia
<b>EEC</b>		European Economic Community
<b>ESCAP</b>		Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific ( <u>see</u> esp. p. 125)
<b>FAO</b>	<b>F</b>	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations ( <u>see</u> esp. p. 162)
<b>IBRD</b>	<b>I</b>	International Bank for Reconstruction and Development
<b>ICHDA</b>		International Co-operative Housing Development Association
<b>ICP</b>		International Comparison Project
<b>IDA</b>		International Development Association
<b>IDEP</b>		African Institute for Economic Development and Planning
<b>IDRC</b>		International Development Research Centre
<b>IFAD</b>		International Fund for Agricultural Development
<b>ILO</b>		International Labour Organisation
<b>IMCO</b>		International Maritime Consultative Organization ( <u>see</u> esp. p. 174)
<b>IMF</b>		International Monetary Fund

# ABBREVIATIONS (cont'd)

I P P F	International Planned Parenthood Federation
I S O	International Standards Organisation
I T D G	Intermediate Technology Development Group
I T U	International Telecommunication Union
J A S P A	<u>J</u> Jobs and Skills Programme for Africa
M U L P O C	<u>M</u> Multinational Programming and Operational Centre (s)
O A U	<u>O</u> Organisation of African Unity
O C A M	African and Mauritian Common Organization
O E C D	Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development
P A N A F T E L	<u>P</u> Pan-African Telecommunication Network
S I D A	<u>S</u> Swedish International Development Agency
T C D C	<u>T</u> Technical Co-operation among Developing Countries
U D E A C	<u>U</u> Central African Customs and Economic Union
U N C T A D	United Nations Conference on Trade and Development
U N D A T	United Nations Development Advisory Team
U N C S T D	United Nations Conference on Science and Technology for Development ( <u>see</u> esp. p. 77 )
U N D P	United Nations Development Programme
U N E C A D E	Universal New Educational and Cultural Approach to Develop Economically
U N E P	United Nations Environment Programme
U N E S C O	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation
U N F P A	United Nations Fund for Population Activities
U N H C R	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
U N H S F	United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation
U N I C E F	United Nations Children's Fund
U N I D O	United Nations Industrial Development Organization
U N T F A D	United Nations Trust Fund for African Development
U P U	Universal Postal Union
U S A I D	United States Agency for International Development
W A C H	<u>W</u> West African Clearing House
W A R D A	West African Rice Development Association
W F P	World Food Programme
W F S	World Fertility Survey
W H O	World Health Organization
W I P O	World Intellectual Property Organization
W M O	World Meteorological Organization
W T O	World Tourism Organization

## FOREWORD

This biennial report covers the period from March 1977 to March 1979 - a period which has witnessed significant changes and developments in the orientation and activities of the Economic Commission for Africa and of its secretariat.

Two years ago, the secretariat was just emerging from a restructuring exercise whose objective was to enable it to become more responsive in meeting the development needs of the member States and be more operational in its activities in the light of the persistent demand of its legislative organ. Two years ago also, the "Revised Framework of Principles for the Implementation of the New International Economic Order in Africa, 1976-1981-1986" (E/CN.14/ECO 90/Rev.3) in which the secretariat, acting on the instructions of the Executive Committee of the Commission, laid down the strategy for African development, was endorsed by the fourth meeting of the ECA Conference of Ministers and thirteenth session of the Commission and subsequently approved by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity at its Libreville Summit in July 1977. Since then the secretariat has revamped its work programme in the light of the "Revised framework of principles". In 1979 - the twenty-first anniversary year of the Commission - it can be said that the ECA secretariat is poised to embark most vigorously on the task of assisting member States in the promotion of economic development and integration in Africa.

Within the context of the new role of the Commission as an operational agency, the period under review witnessed the establishment of the important Multinational Programming and Operational Centres (MULPOCs) in the region as the subregional operational arms of the Commission which are to play a practical and crucial role in bringing about and strengthening technical and economic co-operation and integration. The promotion of the establishment of a Preferential Trade Area for Eastern and Southern Africa under the aegis of the Lusaka-based MULPOC for Eastern and Southern Africa is an indication of the great potentialities of these MULPOCs in the operational fields at the subregional level. In order to accelerate this process, the Executive Committee of the Conference of Ministers at its nineteenth meeting held in October 1978 suggested that in future the programme of work and priorities of the Commission should basically derive from those of the MULPOCs and that all United Nations agencies should use these MULPOCs as their focal points for subregional activities.

In the field of institution building for development, the secretariat actively assisted in the promotion and establishment of various strategic institutions which are regarded as indispensable to the accelerated economic and social development of the continent. Among these are the African Regional Centre for Technology, the East African Mineral Resources Development Centre, the African Centre for Engineering

Design and Manufacturing and the African Institute for Higher Technical Training and Research. The secretariat also continued with efforts to strengthen and in some cases revamp existing institutions as well as seek necessary financial support for these older intergovernmental institutions.

In order to enable the secretariat to be able to discharge its functions effectively and increase its capability to give practical assistance to African countries, the fourth meeting of the Conference of Ministers decided that a pledging conference be convened. Accordingly, the most significant development which took place in the period under review was the historic Lagos Pledging Conference of April 1977, where African Governments for the first time voluntarily pledged financial assistance in support of the Commission's approved programme of work and priorities. Between April 1977 and now, 24 African Governments have pledged financial support. Equally significant was the decision of the first Pledging Conference that this kind of support should not be one shot-in-the-arm affair and that the Pledging Conference should be convened every two years for the purpose of getting member States to make voluntary contributions to the Commission. Accordingly, the second Pledging Conference is taking place at Rabat, Morocco on 29 and 30 March 1979, immediately after the fourteenth session of the Commission (20-28 March 1979). In addition, financial support continued to be received from traditional international and bilateral sources and particular mention should be made of the steady support which the secretariat has received from the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) for its operational activities.

As part of the United Nations system, the work of the Commission depends very much on the relationships which it is able to forge with the other bodies in the system and how such relationships are regulated so as to enhance the work of the secretariat in an effective and co-ordinated manner. In this respect, the Commission enjoyed, during the period under review, a fruitful and useful relationship with such United Nations organs as ECWA, ESCAP, ECLA, ECE, FAO, UNIDO, UNEP, UNESCO, UNCTAD, WIPO, UNICEF, UNFPA and the Centre on Transnational Co-operations, to mention only some, and has entered into formal arrangements with a number of them. The main thrust of these arrangements is the recognition of the leadership role of the Commission in the region with respect to the activities of the United Nations system. As is required by the General Assembly resolution 32/197, ECA has begun the process of exercising "team leadership and responsibility for co-ordination and co-operation" in Africa among the United Nations agencies operating in the economic and social sectors in the region.

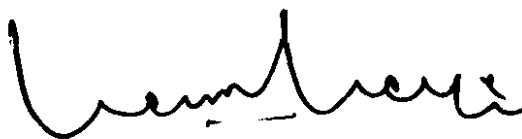
Co-operation with African intergovernmental organizations is equally important. The Commission has accordingly strengthened its links with African regional and subregional intergovernmental organizations and in particular with OAU and ADB. The multiplicity of existing African intergovernmental institutions - all of them established, no doubt, to



serve laudable purposes - has given rise to complex problems of rationalization and co-ordination. In giving its attention to these problems, the Commission took steps within the framework of the MULPOCs, particularly the Niamey-based West African MULPOC, to explore ways in which it could assist in the co-ordination and rationalization of the activities of these intergovernmental organizations.

The biennial report on the activities of the Commission during the past two years contained in this volume reveals most clearly the great change that has taken place in the attitude of member States towards the Commission. The increasing acceptance on the part of African Governments and intergovernmental organizations of ECA as their own regional organization, which within the context of regional development is, more than any other organization, the most appropriate to be entrusted with the promotion of regional integration and multi-national operational projects and the provision of practical assistance to member States is unmistakable. Some African Governments and intergovernmental organizations have called upon the secretariat during the biennium to act as their executing agency even with respect to projects which they financed themselves.

The following chapters give a comprehensive account of the activities of the Commission from March 1977 to March 1979 and of the performance of the secretariat in the implementation of the approved programme of work and priorities during the same period. Shortcomings such as the lack of resources and manpower are revealed but the general picture is one of encouragement. It represents a milestone in the process of the metamorphosis which the Commission and its secretariat are undergoing in its new role as the catalytic agent for promoting regional co-operation and integration in Africa.

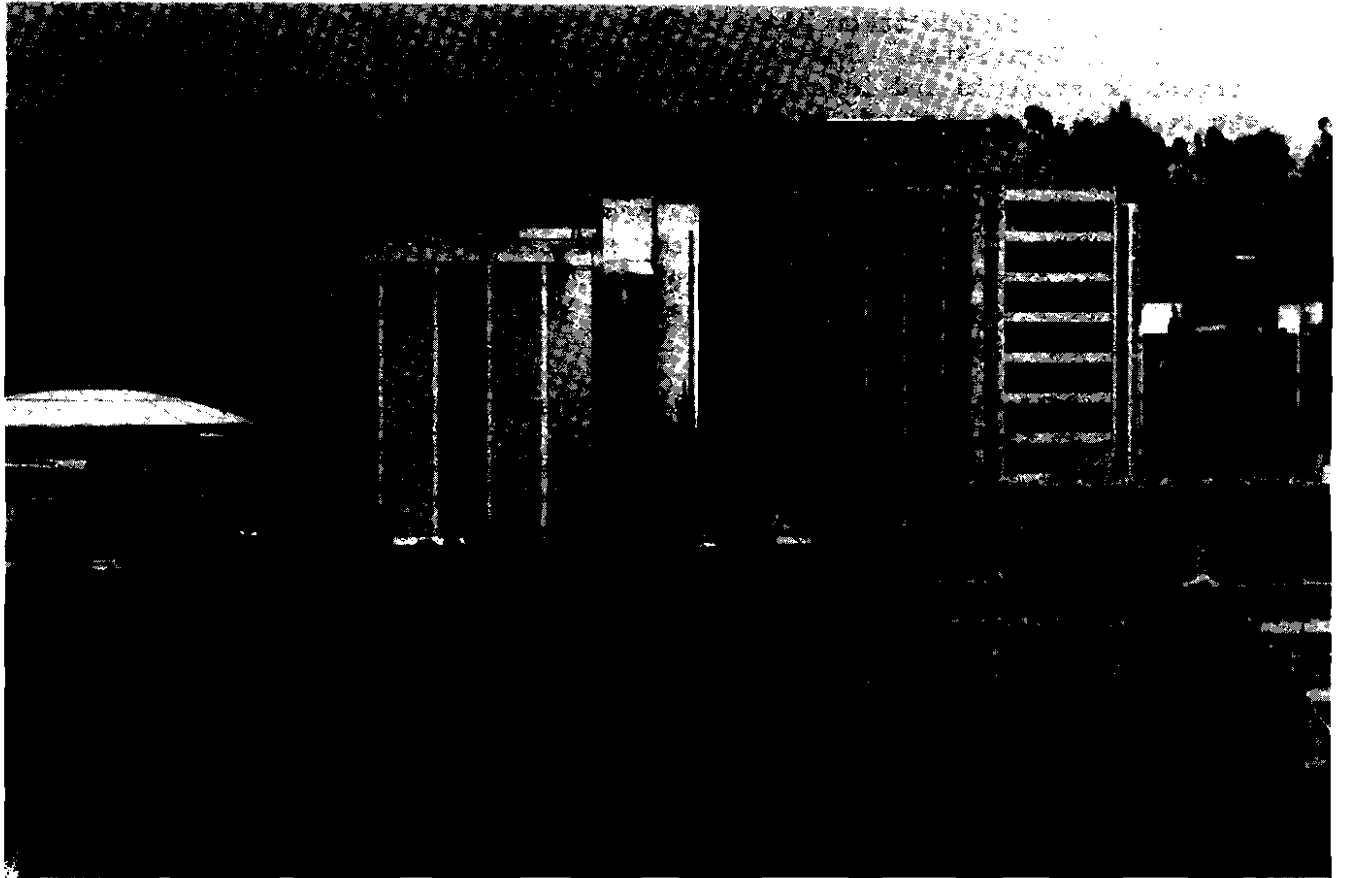


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Adebayo Adedeji  
Executive Secretary

Economic Commission for Africa

15 January 1979



## Chapter I

### REVIEW OF ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS IN AFRICA IN THE LIGHT OF DEVELOPMENT OBJECTIVES, TARGETS AND STRATEGIES

1. The basic proposition on which ECA's strategy and work programmes rest is the revised framework of principles for the implementation of the new international economic order in Africa. <sup>1/</sup> The revised framework of principles in turn rests on international consensus among African States such as the Declaration on Co-operation, Development and Economic Independence adopted by the OAU Assembly of Heads of State and Government in May 1973 or those in which African States participated such as the General Assembly resolutions adopted at the sixth and seventh special sessions, the Declaration and Plan of Action approved by the Second General Conference of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization held at Lima, Peru. And the basic proposition is predicated on the idea that an increasing measure of self-reliant and self-sustaining development and economic growth is an essential accompaniment of political independence for many reasons, two of which are of particular concern to the Economic Commission for Africa: the reduction of mass poverty and mass unemployment. If successful measures are not taken to deal with these two problems no improvement can be said to have occurred in general welfare no matter where the GDP or GNP indicator stands. Self-reliance is considered in terms of:

- the internalization of the forces of demand which determine the direction of development and economic growth processes and patterns of output;
- increasing substitution of factor inputs derived from within the system for those derived from outside;
- increasing participation of the mass of the people in the production and consumption of the social product.

2. Increasing self-sustainment is taken to mean the deliberate installation of patterns and processes of development and economic growth in which different components mutually support and reinforce each other so that, when related to the internalization of the forces determining demand and supply, the whole system develops its own internal dynamics.

3. In the preceding paragraph a distinction has been made between development and economic growth which is important for an over-all evaluation of the ECA's work programmes. Conventionally the massive over-all socio-economic changes associated with increasing self-reliance and self-sustainment are now judged by a single growth indicator without regard to the fact that the characteristic of being underdeveloped, developing or least developed is not measurable simply by high or low

<sup>1/</sup> E/CN.14/ECO/90/Rev.3

gross domestic product per capita but by the degree of development or socio-economic change that is going on. The process of identifying factor inputs, reshaping them and improving their quality; of removing or modifying enclaves and semi-enclaves and other disfunctional relations within the socio-economic structure; of redesigning institutions and of improving infrastructure in a much wider sense than that conventionally defined; of instilling a sense of self-reliance (including the reorientation of the content, methods and objectives of education and training); and steps taken to inhibit the development of excessive skewness in income distribution, to integrate the domestic market and contain the growth of production or imports of luxury goods for the better off may be more significant than growth as indicated by such measures as the GDP.

4. In the past two years, therefore, the ECA secretariat has been engaged in assisting members States bearing in mind the policy objectives described earlier and the distinction just made, in clarifying general and sectoral policies, in working out strategies and tactics in greater detail and in translating policies and strategies into operational programmes and projects. As may be recalled the strategy placed emphasis primarily on the internal development and growth of industry, agriculture and the rural sector and the mutual interaction among these three sectors, but it must be obvious that such development and growth required the development and growth of practically all other sectors and subsectors as well as basic changes in three essential conditions: restructuring and expansion of domestic markets; the combination of national markets to accommodate unavoidable economies of scale; the removal of enclaves, semi-enclaves and dysfunctional relations in national and multinational socio-economic structures so as to increase their capacity as a whole not only for responding to internally-generated pressures and changes but also for systematic management in accordance with planning models and techniques.

5. This review, therefore, begins with the principal factor inputs: human resources, natural resources, technology, capital goods and services, finance, infrastructure (including the spatial organization of socio-economic activity), markets and marketing and institution building; it then considers planning and its information base and finally the social aspects of both the failure to promote economic change and the consequences of doing so in particular ways.

6. As is easily recognized, human resources are the most fundamental of all resources and the most important in regard to any effort to increase self-reliance. Over-all, the picture is daunting. UNESCO's projections suggest that tens of millions are likely to be added not only to the out-of-school population by the years 1990 and 2000 but also to drop-out population, the larger part of which will be women and girls. This will be taking place at the time when a large and increasing body of skilled workshop operatives, supervisors and other middle-level as well as high-level managers and technologists will be required to advance diversified economic growth and at a time when farming communities will be called upon to adopt new crops, new cultivation methods and inputs, cropping

practices, storage and marketing arrangements, especially in relation to food. The secretariat has therefore begun work on non-formal education, on research into the processes of skill transfer, formation, development and multiplication. In this area also must be counted the rapidly expanding programme, at grass-roots level, for the integration of women in development.

7. At the middle and higher levels of skilled manpower, the ECA secretariat has been concerned with what may broadly be described as deficiencies in the structure of subject offerings in second- and third-level educational institutions as a result of which the educational system does not appear, in general, to be turning out the appropriate kinds of skilled manpower required for accelerated development and diversified growth, particularly for the conversion of industrial raw materials into semi-finished and finished products. This weakness is bound to place serious constraints on, among others, the development of the capital goods industries and to perpetuate the region's extensive dependence on imports of skilled services of a kind the region could with reasonable effort develop to meet its needs. This dependence is reflected not only in the large and growing expenditures of bilateral and multilateral agencies providing technical assistance to the region but in the region's continuing incapacity to carry out a significant quantity and range of work in project identification, design, planning, management and evaluation. As will shortly be noted, it also seriously affects the process of transfer and development of technology.

8. Associated with this weakness is the tendency for course contents to be dominated by theory and by textbook problems of advanced countries and their solutions, and for education and training to be organized in such a way that they inadequately exploit local opportunities and resources for practical teaching and learning from experimental trial and error.

9. These are among the considerations which make imperative the secretariat's projects for a Higher Technical Institute for Training and Research; for subregional post-graduate schools of business management with special emphasis on international business and finance; for the Expanded Training and Fellowship Programme and, to some extent, for the Regional Centre for Engineering Design and Manufacturing. The post-graduate schools are particularly critical for strengthening the capabilities of member States in international negotiations in general, for negotiations with transnationals and for negotiations of package financing for large projects. The secretariat is also examining the concept of teaching companies - on the analogy of teaching hospitals - based on experiences of, for example, Japan. It should be noted that the Expanded Training and Fellowship Programme (for which funds are urgently needed) is closely tied to the institution-building programme.

10. Included in human resources are entrepreneurial resources broadly defined to include entrepreneurs and managers in the private sector, public utilities and other public enterprises, business consultancy

services and business support institutions. The importance of this factor input tends to be overlooked in development policies and planning in the region in spite of the fact that, irrespective of ideological preferences, the implementation of any development plan, especially with self-reliance in view, places entrepreneurial resources at the centre of the stage. In its examination of the transfer of technology, for example, the secretariat has had to consider the supply, characteristics and orientation, environment, technical and organizational competence and sectoral distribution of African businessmen and it feels that these elements may be a major factor affecting the transfer and development of technology in any substantial sense. Moreover, it is apparent that the choice of product line and the motivation for such choices depend in part on who makes the choices i.e. the entrepreneur. The choice of product line broadly determines the choice of technology, employment opportunities, the allocation of factor incomes, the pattern of output and of capital accumulation, and technological dependence. This list is not exhaustive. The secretariat has therefore carried out a study of indigenization policies and practices<sup>2/</sup> and their consequences and intends to broaden its examination of entrepreneurial resources and the support institutions which enable them to function in terms of national development policies, objectives and targets.

11. Entrepreneurial resources also play a crucial role in dealing with the problem of mass unemployment. If one assumes a society of small family or individual producers, simple technology, limited markets, investment unevenness and absence of linkages, universal self-employment is reasonable. The moment one abandons these assumptions the question of the supply of entrepreneurial resources i.e. the organizers of production and distribution and providers of employment, arises in terms of their numbers, quality, orientation, sectoral spread and the means of keeping them in effective operation.

12. Another aspect of employment on which the secretariat is now laying emphasis is the relative inattention to factors determining population growth and composition. A study of national development plans suggests that, in general, macro planners pay only scant attention to these aspect of population for purposes of estimating the impact of their plans on levels of living of the mass of population.

13. It has, for example, become apparent, over the years, that little is known to planning agencies of the manpower profiles required for, say, an iron and steel works or a fertilizer complex or even much simpler types of plants. In respect, therefore, of basic and strategic industries work is proceeding on the compilation of data on manpower profiles for workshops at which the manpower requirements for these industries will be matched against the output of education and training institutions and the policy and development implications considered with a view to action being taken at the national, multinational or regional level. It should be added

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<sup>2/</sup> "The Indigenization of African Economies" (E/CN.14/CAP.7/2)

that, in the secretariat's view, programmes of institution building of the kind noted above and elsewhere in this report, are more likely than many other proposed cures to halt and reverse the brain drain from the region.

14. In the list of technical inputs mentioned above, natural resources to which human skills are applied to produce increased and varied outputs come next. The amplitude of the region's natural resources (minerals, hydrocarbons, hydropower and other energy resources, forests and fish, cattle and other animals, etc.) although not yet fully explored are widely recognized. In broad terms, part of the secretariat's projects (e.g. remote sensing, mineral resources development centres, evaluation of sub-surface water resources, conservation and development of forest resources, map inventory and development of capabilities in conventional surveying and mapping) are concentrated firstly in strengthening capabilities at the national and multinational levels for developing, interpreting and using an adequate data base for purposes of policy making, planning and development. A complementary set of projects (e.g. a symposium on mineral resources, review of legislation and machinery in the field of mineral resources, establishment of an advisory service on mineral resources development, manpower) are directed - along with the information base - towards improving national capabilities for planning the use of natural resource endowments including negotiations with private corporations (whether foreign or indigenous) for their exploration, extraction and disposal.

15. An issue arising from work on natural resources is the relationship of natural resources to population growth and movement and to planned efforts to raise levels of living. Nowhere, perhaps, has this planning implication become so obvious as in the case of water resources. A little less striking are the policy and planning implications for the conservation, development and exploitation of forest and fish resources. As regards energy, policy and planning involve problems of substitutability and end uses of different forms of energy as well as linkages and environmental effects. At the moment, however, the secretariat is paying special attention to forms of energy (especially solar energy and small-scale generation of hydro-power) which are capable of exploitation at many points over large rural areas and avoid the technical problems and economic costs of long-distance transmission of electric energy.

16. As regards technology, reputedly the most complex and potent of factor inputs, the Regional Centre for Technology is now nearing actual establishment. Together with the African Regional Standards Organization and the Regional Centre for Engineering Design and Manufacturing, it constitutes a very important part of the region's infrastructure for technology. Other parts of this infrastructure included technology information centres, modernized legislation and machinery relating to patents, trade marks, and the regulation of transfer of technology, etc. However, the effectiveness of this infrastructure depends on the identity and objectives of users and it is here that a review of African entrepreneurial resources raises doubts. It is not clear that, whether in the

private or the public sector, these are adequate in terms of numbers, business and technical competence, motivation and sectoral distribution to undertake the considerable role implied in concepts of technology transfer and adaptation, especially when related to targets in the industry, agriculture and services sectors. In any case the definition of technological dependence and, therefore, the specification of the means of overcoming such dependence with special reference to Africa are still under consideration. Efforts are also being made to clear up confusion over the relative importance of patents and other proprietary rights on the one hand and trade marks, brand names and advertising on the other in perpetuating dependence. Thought is also being given to the institutional matrix within which production and technology interact and the processes which are involved in this interaction. These are matters which are already reflected on the Commission's approach to the World Conference on Science and Technology to be held in Vienna in 1979.

17. The development of the capital goods, including machine tools industries, raises many complex issues to which only a few of those for which the secretariat is developing and carrying out action programmes will be referred to here. Reference is made below to the character and dynamics of domestic markets in Africa and the constraints they impose on final demand for industrial products, and it is necessary here only to point out the close relation between the demand for final output and the structure, organization and output of the capital goods industries which are defined here, for purposes of illustration, to include mining, metals and engineering, chemicals and petrochemicals and building materials.

18. Under engineering would fall equipment for the building and construction industry, transport and communications, agriculture, water supply, energy and electronic industries.

19. Thus without reforming market structures and demand for final goods and without bringing about effective multinational co-operation, the pattern of development of the capital goods industries is likely to be narrow and in many important respects indefinitely dependent on foreign markets which are highly competitive and on the private enterprises which control these markets as well as their finance and management.

20. With regard to production, the secretariat recognizes the importance of developing national and multinational capabilities in the manufacture of parts, components and accessories based on agreed design and functional standards intended to reduce the excessive product differentiation characteristic of industrial production in advanced industrial free enterprise economies. The secretariat also recognizes the historical importance of facilities for, and skills acquired in, repair and maintenance facilities, such as those provided for railways, shipping and other modes of transport, building and construction, mechanized agriculture and other metal-working industries, for the initiation of capital goods production. Associated with this is the adaptation of equipment designed for one purpose to other purposes,



e.g. of textile equipment for the oil industry, as is done in the People's Republic of China.

21. It must be stressed that a very important part of the process of manufacturing parts, components, etc. or of experimenting with different materials in their production or of adapting equipment to new uses is the richness of learning-by-doing that these provide. This richness is virtually absent where production is organized by vertically integrated transnationals manufacturing for export and assembly elsewhere. In such circumstances the manufacturing process is characterized by strict adherence to given materials and design specifications and to routine managerial and operational procedures. No room is left for experimentation and the learning-by-doing process loses a great deal of its value when viewed in dynamic terms. Indeed, extensive reliance on this approach to industrial development and in particular to the development of engineering production is likely to extend and perpetuate dependence. In the end some balance has to be struck between the advantages of high-quality engineering production for competitive international markets and the development of capabilities for invention and innovation which production to meet local needs can be designed to encourage.

22. What is clear beyond doubt is that the development of the capital goods industries will require a great deal of deliberate planning and systematic encouragement. The secretariat does not see, on the basis of its own and other studies, how this crucial area of development and growth can be left to decisions by the private sector, whether in terms of product choice of technology of inter-firm relations. In the case of metals, for example, current debate has tended to argue against the processing of ores into metals in the country of origin. Again current developments in the world iron and steel industry indicate the growth of cartellization and of protectionism with consequently increased difficulties in the development of this industry in the region<sup>3/</sup>.

23. This leads to the problem of oligopolistic characteristics of important segments of the capital goods industries. The secretariat is compiling material on restrictive practices by leading transnational corporations and so far these cover the conversion of ores into metals, iron and steel, the electric power equipment industry, the food industries, pharmaceuticals, electronics. The importance to member States of familiarity with such practices, of the basis on which they have proved successful, and of the success or failure of Governments in both advanced and developing countries to curb them hardly needs emphasizing.

24. Capital services cover mainly industrial consultancy services and business support institutions (e.g. industrial estates, industrial

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<sup>3/</sup> "Trade and structural adjustment aspects of the international iron and steel industry : the role of the developing countries" (UNCTAD/ST/MD/16) Geneva, 1978.

industrial extension, industrial development, finance institutions, materials and product testing centres, business information centres, market research services, advisory services on project design, planning and management on plant and equipment selection layout, etc.), which primarily assist in the development of the capital goods industries. There are two issues to which the secretariat is paying particular attention: the adequacy of the network of such services and institutions in relation to the support requirements of entrepreneurs and managers in public, mixed or private enterprises; and the quality and orientation of the services so provided. An industrial development bank whose management is unfamiliar with the structure and dynamics of critical industries such as those producing for instance equipment for the metals, mining, agricultural, transport and communications, textile, building and construction, chemical and petrochemical industries and with their manpower technology, marketing and financial requirements, which makes little effort to correct these deficiencies and whose lending policies bear an uncertain relation to the industrial development sector of the national economic plan and national industrial development policies, is an industrial development bank in name only.

25. The secretariat has been involved in considerations of, conferences and consultations on, and arrangements for securing larger resources, mainly financial, for the region's accelerated development and economic growth such as improved access to markets in advanced countries for its exports, the Integrated Programme for Commodities programme, the negotiation of a successor arrangement to the Lome Convention, discussions on international monetary reform, the availability of Arab funds for multinational and regional projects, bilateral and multilateral aid and technical assistance in general. In this process the secretariat has begun to question not only allegations of the region's poverty in the face of such ample natural resources and of the fact that private corporations continue to carve out new niches for themselves behind protected markets for all kinds of products, but of its pennilessness. It is difficult to reconcile a state of wretched and irretrievable poverty and pennilessness with the apparent strong desire of transnational corporations not only to get into but to remain and operate within the region.

26. In the examination of the bases for an intra-African aid and investment system and of the mechanism of debt accumulation, it has become apparent that the region continues to recycle not only a considerable volume of foreign exchange - whether obtained from export earnings or from loans and grants - to pay for goods and services it could with some effort provide for itself, e.g. technical services often of a simple nature, insurance, shipping, civil aviation, internal distribution, external marketing, simple parts, components and accessories, simple tools and implements, food and so on. There are, in addition, the recurring losses arising from some forms of import substitution industrial development as well as from inadequate policies and machinery relating to purchasing and supplies. When to this is added the possibility of part of the surplus funds obtained as income from exports of minerals and hydrocarbons being

redployed for intra-African development, it becomes difficult not to question the state of financial penury of the region as a whole. These are issues which, whilst not explicitly spelled out in the work programme, have emerged as a result of carrying out projects or exploring issues relating to development finance. Finally, observations both inside and outside the region with regard to the availability and use of funds earned from exports of extremely buoyant commodities or of substantial aid as well as an examination of the rate of utilization of funds secured through debts have raised the question in a particularly acute form of the extent to which real factors and institutional weakness (absorptive capacity) constitute more of a constraint than the availability of financial resources. Other and significant issues have also emerged relating to co control over efficient allocation and use of domestic financial resources.

27. The secretariat has come to distrust the definition of infrastructure as comprising largely transport and communications, health and education services and public utilities. In the secretariat's view, infrastructure comprises all the essential institutions and services which constitute the main platform for accelerated take-off into self-reliant and self-sustaining development and economic growth. Infrastructure would from this point of view include, for example, business support institutions as defined earlier. Research-and-development facilities and the mechanisms for transmitting R-and-D results to potential users, the institutional devices for marketing and distribution, agricultural credit and so on. However, in this instance, attention is centred on transport and communications and in particular on the plan, programmes and projects for the United Nations Transport and Communications Decade in Africa. Details of work on the plan are set out in the appropriate section of chapter III.

28. There are aspects of transport and communications to which attention should be drawn because of their reflection on other parts of the work programme and activities of the secretariat. The first relates to the link between human settlements (particularly the factors influencing their spatial distribution and character and their relationship to rural development) and transport and communications.

29. The second is the influence of transport and communications on the nature and dynamics of domestic markets and on the physical integration of the domestic economy bearing in mind the problem created by the existence of enclaves, semi-enclaves and other dysfunctional relations which characterize most national economies in the region and to which reference is made later.

30. The third aspect of transport and communications that deserves attention is the opportunity its various forms (modes of transport and modes of communications) offer for industrial production of parts, components and accessories provided the extreme and presently unchecked

diversity of technical design standards is reduced and the excessive influence of oligopolistic transnational corporations is somehow overcome.

31. The fourth aspect is the demand for and supply of effective communication of ideas, skills, incentives, information, etc., implied in attempts to induce the massive socio-economic changes required for increasing self-reliant and self-sustaining development and economic growth. There are thus close connexions - recognized in the work of the secretariat - between work in the area of transport and communications and in the area of social development, as regards what might be called the software of mass communications. The links between this and non-formal education hardly need reference.

32. Institution building as is already apparent constitutes an important strategic and tactical device in the process of inter-linked forward movement of socio-economic systems. Many references have been made and others will be made to projects for building institutions at the national, multinational and regional levels. The particular aspect of institution building - whether in regard to the reform of government to enable it to perform such functions as manager of the process of socio-economic change, entrepreneur or planner, or in regard to the design and development of support institutions, or the creation and orientation of research and development, or to mechanisms for effective intraregional co-operation - on which the secretariat lays emphasis is the range of the institutional infrastructure essential for accelerated socio-economic change. In this region, the larger number of relatively small and weak economies rules out the establishment of such infrastructure entirely at the national level and necessitates a complementary multinational and regional approach. There is thus an irreducible minimum of critical institutions which, at this stage in the region's development, have to be erected over a broad spectrum of sectoral activities at the multinational and regional levels. Indeed, in the case of many of these regional institutions one of their most important functions is the promotion of national and multinational counterparts or complements.

33. As is well known, the market - whether considered as an autonomous or an a State-controlled entity is central to the determination of the volume and pattern of investment, capital accumulation, employment, income distribution, technology and so on. In advanced countries reference to the market implicitly means, first and foremost, the domestic market. In Africa, the market is usually interpreted to mean the so-called world market for export commodities. Consequently, policy makers and planners tend to be unfamiliar with and untroubled by the character and dynamics of the domestic market and to overlook the fact that in most member States its present structure and dynamics place serious limits to industrial and agricultural expansion. Furthermore, the combination of even a large number of such markets, without serious efforts at the national level to broaden the basis of effective demand, does little to accommodate a number of basic and strategic industries requiring unavoidable economies of scale.

34. At the national level, certain characteristics may be singled out for attention. First, there is the division of the market into an overlap market in which income levels are overlapped with those in advanced industrial countries and in which therefore it has proved easy to promote consumption and expenditure patterns similar to those in advanced countries, associated with strong emphasis on trade marks and brand names, advertising and promotional techniques, excessive product differentiation (which tends to inhibit technical design standardization) and product succession and with technologies, management and cost structures characteristic of advanced industrial economies. Side by side with this exists the vast bulk of the poverty market. It will easily be seen that the addition, in effect, of the overlap markets of several countries in the region, apart from other considerations, is unlikely to provide a substantial aggregation of demand for meaningful industrial development. Indeed, the accumulation of negative value added under import substitution strategies of industrial development not only impedes economic co-operation but constitutes part of the mechanism of debt accumulation referred to in the foregoing paragraphs. The secretariat is, therefore, at present examining some of these features of domestic markets in Africa and their constraining effects on attempts to improve general living levels and to reduce mass unemployment as well as to increase self-reliance and self-sustainment.

35. This leads to a second condition for accelerated development and economic growth: the progress of economic co-operation including the establishment of Multinational Programming and Operational Centres; the encouragement of the formation of new economic co-operation groupings such as the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) and the proposed Eastern and Southern African Preferential Trade Area; support for existing economic co-operation groupings; the development of international lake and river basins and the promotion of intra-African transport and communications and intra-African trade which, together with other co-operation efforts, are dealt with in other parts of this report.

36. To a large extent these movements, as stated earlier, have as their rationale the enlargement of markets to accommodate economies of scale. However, some essential and practical implications of the economies of scale issue need reiteration. Efforts to combine markets for this purpose can easily be frustrated as a result of failure to regulate the proliferation of differentiated products not justified by functional requirements. This differentiation is most effectively supported by trade marks and the promotion of brand names. There is therefore an urgent and implicit need in the design of economic co-operation arrangements to provide for reviews, policy formulation and measures to inhibit the structural impediment to planned accelerated socio-economic change in general and the improvement of living standards and expansion of employment in particular represented by this form of market fragmentation.

37. A different kind of frustration, in the light of Latin American experience, is likely to arise from the failure to establish indigenous multinational agencies for taking advantage of the production and trade

opportunities that economic co-operation arrangements are usually designed to create. In the absence of such deliberately established operating institutions, transnational corporations step in, organize production and trade and gradually establish closer links between subsidiaries and affiliates within the protected market area and subsidiaries and affiliates outside it than among industrial enterprises as a whole within it. In the end market aggregation is accompanied by technological and economic fragmentation within the protected market area, linkages are inhibited or destroyed and the propulsive power of the industrial sector seriously weakened.

38. As regards industrial co-operation within Africa it is hoped that gradually some confusion over the significance of geographical location and the accrual of economic benefits, as well as over the nature of economic benefits and their causes, will disappear and allow a more realistic, flexible and long-term approach to be taken to a set of factors which now tend to obstruct such co-operation.

39. In this connexion the secretariat has begun to examine the potential role of public utilities in promoting multinational economic co-operation. There seems no reason why public utilities should not in Africa step out of a traditional mould as they are now doing elsewhere and, under dynamic and far-sighted leadership, jointly promote standardization and bulk purchase arrangements, pool resources for research and development and jointly establish enterprises for production of the technical inputs they require. This may well be possible for example with regard to equipment for the vast expansion of water supplies for irrigation foreseen in the Regional Food Plan for Africa.

40. It is now appropriate to ask where international trade in particular and international economic relations in general (in the extra-African sense) come into all this. Clearly, their significance lies in the role they play in facilitating or inhibiting (a) the establishment of self-reliance i.e. the substitution of domestic for foreign factor inputs and (b) the promotion of self-sustainment i.e. the substitution of internally generated for externally generated forces determining the speed and direction of economic growth in terms of measurable increments in the output of goods and services. From this point of view approaches to international trade which stress access to markets in advanced countries in order to secure foreign exchange earnings clearly confuse means with ends. It is the secretariat's conviction that what is being sought through extra-African trade are those components of development and economic growth processes which are available only outside the system for combination with those that are known to be available within the system in order that these processes may be set in train. There are several implications of looking at extra-African trade in this way. The first is that the appropriate processes are determined in advance and that plans and programmes and key projects are worked out at the national level. The second is that locally available components are identified and evaluated and steps taken in hand to prepare them for use. The third is that capabilities are developed

for locating those components only outside the system, and for competitive negotiation of ownership or user rights. The fourth is that a careful evaluation is made of the quid pro quo, strategies and tactics of negotiation. Thus planning, programming, project design and trade negotiations are closely tied together and related to concrete and specific factor inputs and to measures for creating the internal forces (mainly of demand) for promoting growth. The extent of the internal and external information base is easy to see. The scope of technical competence and general know-how required in planning, programming, project design and analysis, and in international negotiations is not difficult to perceive. The secretariat has therefore begun to shift attention from macro-planning to sectoral, intersectoral and intrasectoral planning, to programming problems, to national and multinational capabilities in project design and analysis and to the question of capabilities in international negotiations.

41. Turning to industry, a substantial part of the programme for, and activities in the promotion of industrial development has already been treated under considerations of the development of the capital goods industries.

42. However, it might be useful to invite attention to some issues which are beginning to emerge as the programme develops. One is the role of wages and incentives in relation partly to the dampening of inflationary tendencies inevitably arising from national plans heavily weighted in favour of infrastructure and of industrial projects with long gestation periods, and partly to the raising of levels of living within reasonable time perspectives.

43. Another is the growth of critical integration in advanced free enterprise industrial economies whereas there is a tendency of enterprises operating from these bases to establish bridge-heads and expand operations in the Third World by take-overs of existing enterprises rather than by the establishment of new enterprises and production units. A third aspect is the preoccupation of foreign enterprises with growth potential engendered by the need for a high and sustained level of cash flow. This need is itself the result of the operation of several powerful factors: the continuing development of capital/labour substitution technologies with a high investment ratio; the extreme product differentiation and rapid product succession characteristic of advanced industrial free enterprise economies; and the rapid obsolescence built into final products or induced by advertising and other forms of product promotion, leading to rapid obsolescence of plant and equipment. Inevitably, the reliance on transfer pricing techniques to enable resources to be redeployed flexibly to take advantage of new areas of potential growth raises questions of the adequacy of legislation and machinery in Africa for dealing with oligopolistic business structures, financial reporting and restrictive business practices.

44. Agriculture forms one of the three sectors whose internal development and interaction with each other is expected to provide a large part of the propulsion implied in accelerated growth and diversification of output. An important development during the past two years has been the establishment of the Economic Community of West African States and the Multinational Programming and Operational Centres which, together with other economic co-operation arrangements within the region, now provide the secretariat with the institutional framework within which to organize its field activities (such as studies of food waste, multinational trade possibilities in food, livestock and fisheries, food production in specific geographical regions and agricultural inputs supply).

45. However, a large amount of attention was devoted to the preparation of the Regional Food Plan which now forms the basis for collaborative effort among United Nations and non-United Nations agencies and squarely confronts Governments and national communities with a challenge to take and sustain initiatives in domestic food production and intra-African trade in food or be gradually beggared by steadily expanding food imports at probably increasing prices. Quite clearly it will not merely be a matter of marshalling finance for investment but also the improvement or orientation of all those factors which affect the capacity of national communities to absorb new production and distribution resources with the specific aim of increasing food supplies and raising food consumption.

46. The secretariat's activities related to rural development are, of course, scattered widely over several programmes to some of which reference has been made earlier, i.e. the programme for the integration of women in development which is closely associated with projects on village technology; energy; water resources development; regional planning and human settlements; non-formal education; agriculture and food. Others include forest and agro-based industries, transport and communications, fuel, the rural component of the building materials and building and construction industries; institutional reform especially of government; rural industries (farm-related or other). In the meantime some attention has begun to be given to the technological requirements, economic significance and organizational implications of a geographically dispersed pattern of population settlements and of the elements of self-reliance and self-sustainment that need to be built into such a system and the impact of the education and life styles which have developed in urban Africa, with its marked dependence on imports, on self-reliance and self-sustainment, particularly the habit of making the best use of resources available at hand and of inventing ways and means of transforming and adapting them to meet local needs.

47. There are three aspects of social development generally associated with rapid economic change. The first is the social conditions which economic change is expected to improve. The second is the social factors which impede or facilitate economic change. The third is unintended and undesirable social consequences of rapid economic and social change.



48. In a region where more than 80 per cent of the population lives in rural areas, work on social development is inextricably tied to rural development. It is in the rural areas and in the peripheral communities of large urban centres where the rural/urban interface is located that the social conditions requiring improvement through economic growth and diversification are mainly located.

49. In contrast the problem of factors which facilitate or inhibit material and social invention are characteristic of both urban and rural communities. However, it is not unreasonable to argue that rural communities have displayed a far greater capacity to accept production innovations (new crops, new seeds, new cultivation and cropping methods, new marketing arrangements) than have urban communities, whilst the latter display outstanding adaptability to new consumption technologies.

50. Similarly, unintended and undesirable social consequences may be expected in any milieu so that the central problem is to devise mechanisms which signal the emergence of social illnesses bred by rapid social or economic change and which indicate when a solution has itself developed into a new problem.

51. The secretariat's work in rural development referred to earlier and in respect of the status and the role of women in development, in regard to the young, in relation to disadvantaged groups, to poverty and employment, to pathological urbanization, to environmental protection, to rural health services, to nutrition, mass communications and village technologies all fall within the three broad categories of action for social development set out above.

52. A change of socio-economic policies, strategies and programmes from strong outward dependence towards increasing self-reliance and self-sustainment aimed at the elimination of mass unemployment and mass poverty implies marked changes in planning concepts and methodologies, instrumentation and data base. Problems of macro-planning give way to problems of sectoral and intersectoral planning and to sequential planning (or programming). Planning of real resources inputs becomes crucial. An almost inevitable association develops between general planning and regional planning. Planning also becomes closely involved with problems of environmental protection. These changes are being taken into account in the secretariat's work on planning in statistics and in data base development, especially the African Household Survey Capability Programme and the African data bank project now under way.

53. The pursuit of multiple objectives argues against reliance on a single indicator of socio-economic change and considerably affects the concepts and methodologies of economic projections.

54. Finally, there are two new subject areas in which the secretariat has begun to take an interest and in which preliminary desk work has begun. The first is the psychological and socio-cultural foundations of

a new economic order in the region. One of the main arguments here is that no matter how ample and varied are the material and financial resources any community in the region commands, little possibility exists of the successful promotion of self-reliant and self-sustaining development and economic growth until self-confidence in perceiving, defining and solving substantial development and economic growth problems is re-established.

55. The second is predicated on the now widespread recognition that knowledge is an important element in self-confidence and that the development of the knowledge industry is a basic factor in attempting to establish self-reliance and self-sustainment.

## Chapter II

### POLICY ORGANS AND OTHER ADVISORY BODIES

#### Introduction

1. The principal decision-making organ of the Commission is the Conference of Ministers which meets every two years. The thirteenth session of the Commission and fourth meeting of the Conference of Ministers was held from 24 February to 3 March 1977 in Kinshasa (Zaire). Between two sessions of the Conference of Ministers, the Executive Committee ensures that the resolutions and decisions adopted by the Conference are implemented and that the biennial programme of work and priorities approved by the Conference of Ministers on the recommendation of the Technical Committee of Experts is executed.

2. During the period under review, the Executive Committee, which holds two regular meetings a year, has held its seventeenth meeting at Arusha (United Republic of Tanzania) from 10 to 12 October 1977, its eighteenth meeting at Khartoum (the Sudan) from 2 to 4 May 1978 and its nineteenth meeting at Arusha again from 23 to 25 October 1978. The sixteenth meeting, which took place at Kinshasa from 21 to 23 February 1977, was held preparatory to the Conference of Ministers.

3. At its seventeenth meeting, the Executive Committee considered the following items : progress report on the implementation of the work programme and resolutions; report of the Pledging Conference of African Government Plenipotentiaries held at Lagos from 26 to 29 April 1977; strengthening of co-operation between ECA and FAO, IMCO, UNEP and UNESCO; Afro-Arab co-operation; African Regional Centre for the Transfer, Adaptation and Development of Technology; and progress report on the Implementation of Plans of Action for the Integration of Women in Development. The Committee also considered at the same meeting the enlargement of its membership, an issue on which it had been requested by the Conference of Ministers to take a decision, since the Conference itself had been unable to resolve the matter during its meeting in Kinshasa.

4. The Committee approved the progress report on the implementation of the work programme and resolutions as well as the report on the first Pledging Conference of African Plenipotentiaries held at Lagos from 26 to 29 April 1977 in accordance with Conference of Ministers resolution 288(XIII). It endorsed the efforts made by the secretariat to strengthen the co-operation links between ECA and the various United Nations bodies. With regard to the enlargement of its membership, it was unable to reach a consensus. Accordingly it decided that it should remain a committee of all States members of the Commission until the fifth meeting of the Conference of Ministers and fourteenth session of the Commission to be held at Rabat in 1979. <sup>1/</sup>

<sup>1/</sup> The report of the seventeenth meeting is published as document E/CN.14/ECO/130.

5. At its eighteenth meeting, the Executive Committee considered the following agenda items: Survey of economic and social conditions in Africa, 1976-1977; Medium-term plan 1980-1983; United Nations Transport and Communications Decade in Africa; United Nations Trust Fund for African Development : (a) Progress report on pledging and (b) Utilization of funds already received; Expanded training and fellowship programme for Africa; IDEP : General Assembly's request in connexion with resolution 320(XIII) of the Conference of Ministers: (a) Report on the African Institute for Economic Development and Planning and (b) Election of one member of the Governing Council; Report of the Conference of Migratory Labour in Southern Africa; Preparations for the twenty-first anniversary of ECA; Report of the tenth session of the Conference of African Statisticians : (a) Revised work programme, (b) Statistical training programme for Africa and (c) African Household Survey Capability Programme; and the Introduction of Arabic as a working language of the Commission.

6. With regard to the Survey of economic and social conditions in Africa, 1976-1977, which for the first time included a study on the problem of education and employment, the Committee welcomed the presentation of the Survey in two parts, thus facilitating the understanding of the general problems of development in Africa as well as the understanding of the particular problems of individual countries of the region. It then adopted resolution ECO(XVIII)/Res.3 on accelerated economic development and collective self-reliance.

7. The Committee, after putting forward various additional proposals, endorsed the medium-term plan for the period 1980-1983. Concerning the United Nations Transport and Communications Decade in Africa, 1978-1988, the Committee stressed that it was the first time the international community had adopted a resolution of interest to one continent and expressed its appreciation to the world community for having taken a major decision in declaring the Decade for Africa. It recommended that special emphasis should be laid on the need for all States to support the Decade in terms both of financial contributions and of the political support which ECA would need to ensure the full implementation of the Decade. In its resolution ECO(XVIII)/Res.2 on the Transport and Communications Decade for Africa, the Committee appealed to the Secretary-General of the United Nations:

".....

- (a) To arrange for the convening of a meeting of donor countries and other institutions as soon as possible for the purpose of mobilizing the resources required for implementation the work programme for the Decade.
- (b) To provide the Economic Commission for Africa with the necessary financial and staff resources that will enable it to discharge fully its responsibilities during the Decade."

8. The Executive Committee also invited the Executive Secretary of ECA and the Administrative Secretary-General of OAU to prepare and

convene, by early 1979, a meeting of ministers concerned with matters relating to transport, communications works and planning to prepare a detailed programme of action and to submit projects to international sources of financing. Lastly, it requested the Executive Secretary to bring the matter of Transport and Communications Decade for Africa before the Khartoum meeting of OAU's Assembly of Heads of State and Government. In collaboration with the Administrative Secretary-General of OAU, the Executive Secretary submitted resolution ECO(XVIII)/Res.2 to the Khartoum meeting of OAU, where it was approved.

9. With respect to IDEP, the Executive Committee approved the statute of IDEP as revised in the light of the proposals made by the Secretary-General and the recommendations of the Fifth Committee of the United Nations General Assembly which were aimed at ensuring that the statute conformed to the financial and administrative regulations of the United Nations. The Committee also expressed concern at the deterioration in the financial management of the Institute and therefore requested the Executive Secretary to arrange for an audit of the budgetary and extra-budgetary resources of the Institute and to report thereon through the Conference of African Planners and then to the Conference of Ministers at its next meeting at Rabat in 1979.

10. At its nineteenth meeting the following items were considered by the Committee : The problem of Africa's least developed countries; Integration of women in the development process; Report of evaluation mission; Co-operation in the field of natural resources; Report of the United Nations Conference on Science and Technology Development; The promotion of the use of solar energy in Africa; Follow-up and implementation of the Mar del Plata Action Plan; Purchasing and materials management in Africa; The African region and international negotiations; Negotiation of a new co-operation agreement between the ACP countries and the European Economic Community; External debt problems; Review of the implementation of the resolutions adopted at the second session of the Economic and Social Council in 1978; Twenty-first anniversary of ECA; Preparation for the fifth meeting of the Conference of Ministers; and Staff and administrative questions.

#### Other policy-making bodies

11. The other policy-making bodies of the Commission which held meetings during the period under review are the Conference of African Ministers of Industry, the Conference of African Ministers of Social Affairs, the Conference of African Ministers of Agriculture and the MULPOC ministerial meetings.

12. During the period under review, the Conference of African Ministers of Industry held its fourth session at Kaduna (Nigeria) from 23 to 25 November 1977. It considered the progress in the implementation of the ECA work programme in the field of industry and policies and proposals for the achievement of national and collective self-reliance in industrial development in Africa. The Conference also reviewed the preparation for the third General Conference of UNIDO, including the formulation of a common African position.

13. The Conference, which has been meeting since 1973 and which is ECA's regional legislative body in the field of industry, selected the following priority industrial branches for implementation in the immediate future : food and agro-industries; building materials and construction industries; engineering; basic metals industries; and chemical industries. More specifically, the Conference approved the setting up of a Regional Centre for Industrial Design and Manufacturing and an African Development Fund in addition to the African Regional Centre for Technology whose constitution, after having been approved by the Conference, was open for signature by member States.
14. A meeting of the Follow-up Committee on Industrialization in Africa, a subsidiary body of the Conference, was also held at Addis Ababa in November 1978. The Follow-up Committee reviewed the progress which had been achieved in the implementation of the Kaduna decisions.
15. The Conference of African Ministers of Social Affairs held its second session in January 1977 in Alexandria (Egypt) and the ECA Conference of Ministers, at its fourth meeting held at Kinshasa (Zaire) in February/March 1977, took note of its report. During the period under review, the secretariat endeavoured to implement the decisions adopted by the Alexandria meeting, among which was the establishment of the African Centre for Applied Research and Training in Social Development with headquarters at Tripoli (Libyan Arab Jamahiriya). Negotiations are under way for the convening of the third session of the Conference of African Ministers of Social Affairs.
16. The Tenth FAO Regional Conference of Ministers of Agriculture in Africa was held in 1978 under the joint auspices of FAO and ECA in Arusha (United Republic of Tanzania). This being the first such joint effort, it marked the beginning of a fruitful and enhanced form of collaboration between the two organizations particularly in the field of agricultural development on the African continent.
17. The Conference, which examined amongst other papers, those on the Regional Food Plan, regional co-operation in Africa, technical co-operation among developing countries, and agrarian reform and rural development, was addressed by the Executive Secretary who urged Ministers to face squarely and in a more determined manner the problems of agriculture and food for the increasing African population. He called attention to the pivotal role the development of agriculture had to play both as an engine of growth and development and as "the only basis for achieving a new economic order at the national level".
18. The Executive Secretary called attention of the Ministers to a few of ECA's innumerable activities at the subregional level in the area of agriculture carried out through the Joint ECA/FAO Agriculture Division and the WULPOCs. He finally charged the Ministers that their deliberations be "translated to practical action through policies, programmes and projects at the national, subregional and regional levels" which must be implemented with a total sense of commitment.

19. At its fourth meeting held at Kinshasa (Zaire) in February/March 1977, the Conference of Ministers adopted resolution 311(XIII) on Multinational Programming and Operational Centres (MULPOCs) to replace the former United Nations Multinational Interdisciplinary Development Advisory Teams (UNDATs). The same resolution also set up policy and supervisory organs for the MULPOCs at the ministerial and expert levels, and requested the Executive Secretary of ECA, "as a matter of priority, to take immediate steps to implement its decisions".

20. Accordingly the meetings of the MULPOCs took place as follows: the Great Lakes Community MULPOC based at Gisenyi (Rwanda): 23-25 October 1977: meeting of the Committee of Officials; 28-29 October 1977: meeting of the Council of Ministers; the Lusaka-based Eastern and Southern Africa MULPOC: 3-6 October 1977 meeting of the Committee of Officials; 4 November 1977 meeting of the Council of Ministers; the Yaounde-based Central Africa MULPOC: 27 February - 1 March 1978: meeting of the Committee of Officials; 2-3 March 1978: meeting of the Council of Ministers; the Tangiers-based North Africa MULPOC: 15-18 March 1978: meeting of the Committee of Officials; the meeting of plenipotentiaries is scheduled to be held in early March 1979; the Niamey-based West African MULPOC: 12-13 June 1978: meeting of the Committee of Officials; 14-15 June 1978: meeting of the Council of Ministers.

21. During these meetings the Councils of Ministers approved the programme of work and priorities, the projects and possible areas of co-operation within the respective subregions and the establishment of institutions for co-operation with intergovernmental organizations existing in the respective subregions, as recommended by the meetings of the Committees of Officials which preceded the sessions of the Councils of Ministers.

#### Subsidiary bodies

22. The subsidiary bodies of the Commission are the Technical Committee of Experts, the Conference of African Planners, the Conference of African Statisticians, the Conference of African Demographers and the Intergovernmental Committee of Experts for Science and Technology Development in Africa.

23. The Conference of African Planners, which meets every two years, held its seventh session from 11 to 16 December 1978 in Addis Ababa and focused attention on the following items on its agenda: planning for the indigenization of the African economies; planning for environmentally sound development and the search for a strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade and the work undertaken and being carried out by the ECA secretariat in that connexion.

24. The biennial Conference of African Statisticians was held at Addis Ababa from 17 to 22 October 1977. It studied the ways and means of improving the response to development in the economic and social situation in the region. In general it envisaged that it should play a

more operational role by exploiting the possibilities of regional technical co-operation in the field of statistics in particular, through intergovernmental advisory services, by taking more direct responsibility for certain aspects of the development of statistics and by redefining priorities in the field of statistics. The Conference also considered and made proposals for the establishment of a statistical training programme for Africa and defined the regional component of the African Household Survey Capability Programme. The Executive Committee of ECA at its eighteenth meeting held at Khartoum from 2 to 4 May 1978 in its resolution ECO(XVIII)/Res.9 approved the Statistical Training Programme for Africa, endorsed the regional component of the African Household Survey Capability Programme and authorized the Executive Secretary of ECA to sign on behalf of member Governments the two project documents submitted to the United Nations Development Programme dealing with operational support for the improvement and expansion of statistical training programmes in Africa and the regional component of the African Household Survey Capability Programme respectively.

25. The Conference of African Demographers was not able to hold its third session in 1977 for want of financial resources. UNFPA has now made funds available and the Conference will be held from 19 to 24 February 1979 in Dakar (Senegal). The Conference will be called upon to consider inter alia population trends in Africa in 1958 to 1979 and their implications in terms of planning, population activities in Africa, the African Census Programme and the programme of work and priorities in the population field for 1979-1981. The report of the Conference will be submitted to the Conference of Ministers at its fifth meeting in Rabat in March 1979.

26. The Intergovernmental Committee of Experts for Science and Technology Development in Africa, established by Conference of Ministers resolution 248(XI) of 22 February 1973, which in principle meets at least once a year, held its last meeting, the fourth, at Addis Ababa from 24 to 28 January 1977. The Committee was not able to meet in 1978 primarily because the term of office of its members had expired in 1977. Meanwhile, the Committee faced two problems: one of form - the enlargement of its membership - and one of substance - the revision of its terms of reference. Initially composed of 20 members, the Committee is now proposing that the number of member countries should be increased to 24 to take account of the increase in the number of States members of ECA following the accession to independence of new African States since 1973. A revision of the terms of reference of the Committee has proved necessary so as to enable it to deal with other science and technology questions of interest to the African region.

27. Arrangements have been completed for the Technical Committee of Experts to hold its seventh meeting at Rabat from 12 to 16 March 1979 to consider the programme of work and priorities for the 1980-1981 biennium and related budget estimates and make recommendations thereon to the fourteenth session of the Commission and fifth meeting of the Conference of Ministers.



## Chapter III

### PROGRESS REPORT ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF APPROVED WORK PROGRAMME OF THE COMMISSION (1977-1979)

#### AGRICULTURE

1. The performance of the agricultural sector in the developing countries of Africa has been poor in recent years. The average growth rate of total agricultural output was 1.4 per cent per annum during the period 1970-1977, while that of food production was 1.5 per cent or less, far below the growth rate in population. Over a period of ten years, the self-sufficiency of the region in food commodities declined from 90 to 85 per cent, resulting in ever-increasing dependence on imports and the drain of foreign exchange. The analysis of prospects for the future indicates that if recent trends continue, there will be a further fall in the regional and subregional self-sufficiency for nearly all the major food commodities and the regional food self-sufficiency will further decrease to 81 per cent by 1985.

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2. Bearing in mind these trends and the basic assumption of the ECA programme of work, as set out in document E/CN.14/ECO/90/Rev.3, relating to the need for a measure of economic self-reliance and for the installation, within the countries of the region, individually or collectively, of the components of an autonomous and self-sustaining engine of growth and diversification during 1977 and 1978, the efforts of the secretariat have been directed towards the transformation of agriculture and the promotion of accelerated development of the rural sector by:

- (a) Reorienting and improving agricultural development policies and plans by organizing and improving data collection and processing for effective planning and policy action; short- and long-term agricultural development planning; analysis of development plans to highlight the constraints to agricultural development; prospective study of agricultural developments in the Sahel; formulation of schemes for inter-country and multinational co-operation; forest conservation and development; collection and dissemination of information by means of the ECA socio-economic Survey and the FAO State of Food and Agriculture;
- (b) Promotion of integrated rural development and improvement of agricultural institutions and services through projects on increasing the effectiveness of agricultural research institutions; integration of livestock production into the farming system; collection and dissemination of information by means of contributions to the Rural Development Newsletter;
- (c) Expansion of food production through projects for the preparation of national and group-country food production programmes; analysis of supply and demand of the main food products; formulation of projects and programmes for livestock and dairy development; eradication of tse-tse fly and animal diseases; study of food situation in the Sahel; intergovernmental meetings to discuss regional programmes for the expansion of food production and trade; and

- (d) Promotion and improvement of agricultural marketing institutions, services and facilities, e.g. feasibility studies for the establishment of group-country food reserves and marketing arrangements; and subregional consultations for the reduction of food waste.

Reorientation and improvement of development policies, plans and programmes

3. During the review period, a pilot study on the methodology for the collection of livestock statistics was carried out from 15 June to 15 September 1977 in several West African countries but a meeting to discuss the findings and recommendations of the study could not be convened owing to lack of funds. Preparations were also initiated for a study - expected to be completed early in 1979 - of the possibilities of co-operation for increasing production of and trade in agricultural production in the UDEAC countries. During the last quarter of 1977 the secretariat participated with four professionals in the work of a 40-man multidonor mission to Chad for the preparation of ten projects among which were three dealing with integrated rural development.

4. With finance from the United Nations Trust Fund, the secretariat conducted a study on co-operation for trade promotion in food, livestock, fishery and forest products for ECOWAS. In addition, response was given to a request by the Government of Senegal for a study and evaluation of four rural development projects, three of which were connected with forest protection, conservation and development and forestry research. The secretariat is also preparing another study on agricultural potential in West Africa.

5. With the object of assisting the Governments of Zambia and the United Republic of Tanzania in improving their institutions and reorganizing farming, a prefeasibility study was completed in collaboration with the Lusaka-based MULPOC in the area of intercountry integrated rural development for the region served by the TAZARA railway. Following the completion of the report an intergovernmental meeting was held and the two Governments decided to establish a permanent liaison committee on co-operation in integrated rural development programmes. Furthermore, the secretariat participated in a UNDP/FAO mission to the United Republic of Tanzania from 1 to 15 March 1978 to identify, formulate, prepare and implement, with credit from IDA, agricultural production, processing and support projects for the Ministry of Agriculture with special reference to the parastatal authorities.

6. On the request of the Lusaka MULPOC Council of Ministers, the secretariat collaborated with OAU in convening, for the Eastern and Southern African subregion, a conference on co-operation in the protection of animal health and the promotion of livestock production.

7. In co-operation with the West African Rice Development Association (WARDA) the secretariat carried out a study of the possibilities of the West African subregion in attaining self-sufficiency in rice production. The secretariat also accommodated a multidisciplinary request from Cape Verde and Guinea-Bissau for an economic survey which has the objective of

identifying constraints and priorities to the development of the two countries.

8. In conformity with the Freetown Declaration for making the region self-sufficient in food within the next decade, the secretariat contributed significant inputs into the preparation of the Regional Food Plan for the tenth Regional Conference of Ministers of Agriculture held at Arusha, United Republic of Tanzania, in September 1978. The Plan provides Governments with guidelines for reorienting their agricultural development policy and increasing food production and thus the region's self-sufficiency ratio. The secretariat also assisted in preparations for the Conference under the agenda items dealing with regional co-operation in agriculture, technical co-operation among developing countries (TCDC) and agrarian reform.

9. The secretariat contributed to the chapter on Africa of the FAO report on the State of Food and Agriculture for 1977.

#### Promotion of integrated rural development and improvement of agricultural institutions and services

10. A project aiming at strengthening co-operation in the field of agricultural research and facilitating the expansion of agricultural production in Central Africa was considered and accepted by the secretariat. The terms of reference for a consultant who is to undertake the task were recently drawn up.

11. Assistance is being given through the Gisenyi-based MULPOC for an integrated rural development project in the Rusizi Valley aimed at substantially increasing food production, improving distribution systems and processing.

12. Other work relating to the promotion of integrated rural development and improvement of agricultural institutions has already been described above.

#### Expansion of food production

13. The tasks accomplished by the secretariat with regard to national and groupcountry programmes and projects on food production including those on livestock and dairy development are covered under paragraphs 4 to 8 above. The analysis of food supply and demand on a regional and subregional basis forms part of the Regional Food Plan for Africa, and the analysis of food situation in the countries of the Sahel also forms part of both the Regional Food Plan for Africa (see paragraph 8) and the study on ECOWAS (see paragraph 4). With regard to the meetings for discussing regional programmes for the expansion of food production and trade, the secretariat helped to service the FAO Regional Conference of African Ministers of Agriculture as well as the ECOWAS meetings at which food production issues were discussed at length.

#### Promotion and improvement of agricultural marketing institutions, services and facilities

14. A rice project was initiated with the co-operation of WARDA, FAO

and ATRCW. The aim of the project was to conduct a survey of farms in one area of Sierra Leone with a view to building up a more reliable data base on the operation of farms and to identify areas where further in-depth research would be useful in recommending feasible projects and programmes in order to increase production and reserves. Particular attention was given in the project to the role of women in rice production and marketing.

15. Under the project on subregional consultation on food waste in West Africa, a consultation report to reduce food waste in West Africa was finalized and distributed among the countries concerned. This was followed by a draft proposal for follow-up action. Preparatory work and a mission was carried out in the East African subregion for a similar consultation to be held in 1979.

16. A study on agricultural inputs supply was initiated with forms being sent to member countries for completion and followed up through correspondence and personal contacts during subsequent field missions. The objective of the study is to examine the adequacy and timeliness of the availability of inputs to the farmers and to propose measures to overcome possible deficiencies through improvements in marketing and/or local production where possible.

#### DEVELOPMENT PLANNING, PROJECTIONS AND POLICIES

17. In keeping with the spirit of the revised framework of principles for the implementation of the new international economic order in Africa, 1976 - 1980 - 1986 (E/CN.14/ECO/90/Rev.3) the basic emphasis of the work programme as a whole, in this as in other fields, is to assist ECA member States in achieving self-reliance and autonomous self-sustained growth and diversification by promoting agricultural production, rural transformation and basic industrialization, close economic co-operation or integration among African countries and the restructuring of trade between Africa and the outside world.

18. Equally, special attention has been paid to those factors which have been identified as restricting the development capacities of African countries. These include the inadequate supply of skilled manpower in both the public and the private sectors, limited choice of technology, large imports of inputs, small output mix and limited domestic markets relative to efficient plant size.

19. For practical purposes, the programme relating to development planning, projections and policies was broken down into four subprogrammes:

- (a) surveys and reviews of development trends, requirements and possibilities;
- (b) socio-economic research, planning and projections;
- (c) fiscal, monetary and financial issues at the national level; and
- (d) least developed and land-locked countries.

## Surveys and reviews

20. The major task carried out under this heading is the preparation, in response to various resolutions of the General Assembly and the ECA Conference of Ministers, of the annual Survey of Economic and Social Conditions in Africa. The objective of the Survey is twofold: to see how effective internal and external policy measures have been in producing solutions to the problems encountered in African countries; and to respond to the provision of the International Development Strategy for the Second United Nations Decade calling for a biennial systematic appraisal of progress at the national, regional and international levels in achieving the targets of the Decade.

21. Accordingly, the Survey of Economic and Social Conditions in Africa for 1976/1977 and the fourth biennial review and appraisal of economic and social performance in the African region for 1977/1978 revealed that economies of the countries of the African region continued to be dominated by fluctuations in the economic fortunes of developed countries. On the one hand, the oil-exporting countries had the strongest trading position, raising their balance-of-payments surplus from \$US 5.12 billion in 1976 to \$US 5.5 billion in 1977. On the other hand, the non-oil-exporting countries had managed only to reduce their deficit from \$US 7.36 billion in 1975 and \$US 5.86 billion in 1976 to about \$US 4.5 in 1977.

22. The non-oil exporters managed to achieve this favourable performance because of good rains, which boosted the agricultural production of coffee, tea, cocoa, tobacco and cotton and also because of the rise in the price of these commodities in world markets during 1976 and part of 1977.

23. However, the group of countries among the non-oil-exporting countries which do not produce or export these commodities, mainly Africa's least developed countries, had to rely largely on increased flows of foreign aid and capital thus to cover their widening trade gap.

24. The 1976/1977 Survey, part I, included a special study on education and employment in Africa, whilst that of 1977/1978 included the fourth biennial review and appraisal of progress of economic and social performance in the African region during the Second United Nations Development Decade.

25. The special study on education and employment published in 1976/1977 gave an overview of the existing situation and problems and attempted solutions and case studies of reforms in Ethiopia, Algeria, Botswana, Senegal, the United Republic of Tanzania, Mali, Egypt, Zambia and Kenya. Among the recommendations of the study was that regarding the revision of the formal and non-formal education system and curricula to make them more relevant to the job opportunities available with a view to increasing productivity of the labour force as a whole.

26. Part II of both the 1976/1977 and 1977/1978 Surveys were also completed covering a review of economic and social conditions in most individual member countries of the region. None the less, over and above the preparation of the Survey, the subprogramme is intended also to

render, on request, advisory services to assist member countries in the preparation of their annual surveys and/or reviews and appraisal reports as well as provide on-the-job training in this field.

#### Socio-economic research, planning and projections

27. The secretariat's work programme under this subprogramme emanates from various resolutions of the General Assembly and of the ECA Conference of Ministers, including the Commission's work programme as adopted by the Conference of Ministers at Kinshasa. The subprogramme is however rather ambitious in view of the resource constraints facing the secretariat, particularly in the field of staffing, despite efforts to obtain resources from within and outside the United Nations.

28. The justification for the subprogramme lies in the fact that, during the period 1970-1978, the African region as a whole recorded an annual GDP growth rate of under 5 per cent - well below the International Development Strategy target of 6 per cent for the Decade and hardly enough to raise living standards of the populations whose annual average growth rate is around 2.8 per cent. In fact, only the four oil-exporting African countries have clearly achieved GDP growth above the target set by the International Development Strategy.

29. This general indicator, therefore, summarizes the demands made in planning in order to produce enhanced growth prospects in future. In response to this, during 1977, the secretariat concentrated its efforts on preparation for the seventh session of the Conference of African Planners, which was held at Addis Ababa from 11 to 18 December 1978 whose themes were appropriately concerned with current issues which are central to raising the future social and economic performance of the African countries. These are planning for the indigenization of African economies, planning for environmentally sound development and the search for a strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade in the African context.

30. As expounded in the study on indigenization, prepared by the secretariat, indigenization is a means for achieving self-reliance and self-sustained growth. These important objectives of indigenization seem to be somewhat overlooked perhaps because of the fact that they are long-term processes requiring as they do more policy instruments than mere indigenization. A successful and carefully thought-out indigenization programme would among other things entail the fullest participation of the people concerned in the development process.

31. An effective indigenization strategy should be preceded by in-depth capacitation and imaginative studies of existing and future political, economic and social problems and their anticipated spread effects. This is essential because too great a sacrifice in efficiency and productivity may render indigenization ineffective and could retard the achievement of self-reliance and self-sustained growth. The idea here is to minimize the cost since indigenization is unavoidable not only for concentrating decision making in the hands of nationals but also for training them to run their own country effectively. Another essential objective of indige-

nization must be a strenuous drive to increase productivity. The more a country is able to improve the quantity and quality of its output from existing and potential factor mix, the more economic independence and self-reliance it is able to achieve.

32. Although indigenization has common features, problems, objectives and benefits, it is difficult to suggest a general approach for the simple reason that countries have different structures of resource endowment, availability of indigenous management, technical expertise, political commitments and financial resources. More specifically, it is necessary to avoid thinking of indigenization in a static fashion and in isolation from the economic structures and development strategies. Indigenization must be, first and foremost, part of a process of restructuring the economy to ensure sectoral integration, appropriate linkages, participative development, regional integration and more inward orientation in order to achieve self-sustained growth and economic independence.

33. The formulation of the strategy for Third United Nations Development Decade entailed building a general standard projection model with variants suitable for application in African countries in accordance with the request contained in General Assembly resolution 3508(XXX), the analysis of parameters for a representative sample of countries including discussions of scenarios as a method of estimating alternative growth possibilities which are likely to be achieved during the remainder of the 1970s and during the 1980s. However, the secretariat's efforts in this regard were hampered by the lack of an efficient data base in many countries and by manpower, computer and financial constraints.

34. Valuable collaborative effort was obtained from the various substantive divisions of the secretariat in the preparation of documentation on indigenization of the African economies; from UNEP in the preparation of papers on planning for a safe and productive environment; and from ILO in planning for basic needs - a theme to be discussed at a Seminar on Alternative Patterns of Development and life Styles scheduled for early 1979.

#### Fiscal, monetary and financial issues at the national level

35. The availability of domestic financial resources still remains limited in a large number of African countries to the extent that in the efforts of Governments to raise public capital spending the tendency is to resort to heavy borrowing from the banking system with serious inflationary consequences and erosion of the value of the national currency unit. The thrust of the work of the secretariat was therefore on the role of financial institutions in the mobilization of domestic resources, particularly domestic savings, and their deployment in productive uses, for which studies on the growth and structure of financial institutions have so far been completed on Ethiopia, Kenya and the United Republic of Tanzania. Other studies under way to be presented at future seminars and workshops include national development banks as instruments of economic development and the role of non-banking financial institutions in the mobilization of financial resources.

### Least developed and land-locked countries

36. In February 1978 the Executive Secretary set up an Interdivisional Committee on the least developed countries whose terms of reference are:

- (a) To supervise the formulation, development and review and appraisal of the policies, strategies and programmes of ECA designed to assist the least developed African countries;
- (b) To establish priorities for ECA's special programmes and projects for the least developed African countries and to harmonize, co-ordinate and monitor their implementation;
- (c) To undertake, in collaboration with the MULPOCs, periodic methodical analysis and evaluation of progress in the least developed African countries with a view especially to identifying difficulties encountered in programme implementation and to making appropriate recommendations on ways and means of overcoming these difficulties;
- (d) To review and evaluate progress in the implementation in Africa of the special measures in favour of the least developed countries; and
- (e) To monitor activities at the international level on the least developed countries and to advise on relating to outcome of such activities to ECA's policies and programmes for the least developed African countries.

37. The secretariat of the committee is entrusted to the Socio-Economic Research and Planning Division. The other members of the Committee are the Chiefs or the designated representatives of all substantive divisions, offices and centres of the ECA secretariat.

38. The activities of the secretariat in respect of these countries during 1977 and 1978 appear in a separate document before the Conference (E/CN.14/699).

### EDUCATION AND TRAINING

39. This subprogramme aims at making African education and training systems contribute more effectively in preparing manpower for economic and social development. During the period under review the operational thrust was in four principal areas: policy guidelines; development of local training capability; institution building and strengthening; and training of personnel.

#### Policy guidelines for education and training systems

40. With the technical co-operation of the African-American Scholars' Council, four country case studies on the development of non-formal education for manpower preparation were completed in respect of Kenya, the United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia and Botswana. The purpose of the studies was to determine the nature and extent of national non-formal education programmes, their funding and effectiveness in manpower training. The studies were later followed with a regional symposium on non-formal



education for rural manpower development which was held from 28 August to 8 September 1978 with a view to promoting intensified support for rural development and manpower training through non-formal education and to evolving guidelines for a regional programme of action in this field. UNICEF, FAO, the German Foundation for Developing Countries and the Commonwealth Fund for Technical Co-operation were associated with the implementation of the Symposium.

41. In May 1977 a regional conference on training development was held in Dar-es-Salaam (United Republic of Tanzania) to review problems of training and fellowship development. It worked out an appropriate instrument for the development of training policies and the co-ordination and funding of training at the national level and it also considered Conference of Ministers resolutions 306(XIII) and 318(XIII) and ways to implement their requirements. The training policy guidelines and mechanism recommended by the conference are being further refined and localized in subsequent and future national training development workshops.

#### Development of local training capability

42. Sustained efforts continued to be made to assist member States in developing local capability for manpower training. The effort in this area has been made effective by the generous financial grants regularly offered by the Netherlands Government for the the training of African instructors and educationists, using African training institutions. Several subprojects have been developed, including individual fellowships, national and regional instructors training workshops, training policy development seminars, as well as management educators and accountancy teachers programmes. During the review period one regional and six national trainers workshops (Somalia, Zambia, Swaziland, the Sudan, Senegal and Chad), each of five weeks duration, were organized and 132 trainers and educators were trained. The courses emphasized training methods, use of audio-visual and other aids, determination of training needs and systems approach to training. Under the same programme 24 individual and group training fellowships were awarded. Future programme development will emphasize review and up-dating of national training policies, funding of training, national mechanism for promoting and co-ordinating training and the development of staff development officer cadres.

#### Institution building and strengthening

43. In addition to the training of trainers and instructors which helps to strengthen the work of training institutions, action has also been taken to strengthen the programme of existing institutions as well as to create new ones in specialized fields where training facilities are either weak or non-existent. Project 9.262.29 has been designed to achieve this objective although many of the activities initiated under the project during 1977 were limited to project planning, preparatory work and resource mobilization.

44. In early 1978 two feasibility studies were initiated with resources made available by Nigeria through the United Nations Trust Fund for

African Development. One study was on a proposal to establish subregional graduate schools of business management and finance and the other on the establishment of an African Institute for Higher Technical Training and Research. Two field missions visited 16 and 18 African countries respectively to consult with Governments, institutions and chambers of commerce and industry in order to determine needs and assess local potentials and national facilities for the possible hosting of multi-national training and research programmes. These institutions are being promoted on the basis of African collective self-reliance and co-operation in developing and utilizing specialized training facilities in manpower development. The field mission reports have been made available to member States and subregional and regional intergovernmental expert group meetings have been organized (graduate schools meeting in September 1978 and the Higher Technical Institute meeting in November 1978) with the aim of reaching a consensus on the location and programme of both institutions. Action has been taken to initiate preliminary programme activities in collaboration with two African universities in respect of graduate fellowships in management education for the 1978/79 academic year. In respect of the North and Central African subregions intergovernmental expert group meetings on the graduate schools are scheduled for March/April 1979.

45. Two multinational management training institutions are also being promoted. One relates to the planned conversion of the East African Management Institute, Arusha (United Republic of Tanzania), to a sub-regional institution that will cater for the management training needs of the 16 countries of East and Southern Africa and provide specialized training, research and consultancy services for African public and private sectors. At the request of ECOWAS, ECA is assisting with work on a proposal for the establishment of a bilingual Institute of Management and Public Administration for West Africa which will train high-level administrative and management personnel, appropriately oriented to the goals and manpower needs of that subregion. Further implementation action, including a workshop in October 1978 to pool ideas for the design of the Institute, will be taken in full collaboration with ECOWAS, ILO, UNESCO, UNIDO, etc. Other possible areas of promoting multinational training programmes and co-operation in developing subregional specialized training institutions are being investigated in collaboration with the Gisenyi and Yaounde MULPOCs and UNESCO with the aim of undertaking field studies to assess the feasibility of developing a subregional Centre for training in the use and local development of laboratory and other instructional equipments.

46. The Distant Education Programme for Africa has been developed with technical co-operation from the Netherlands Government. The programme aims at strengthening the capability of African ministries of education, universities and other institutions in developing effective programmes for training personnel and democratizing education through the use of correspondence and other mass media techniques. The main programme activities during the period under review were concentrated on consultancy and study missions, development of institutional linkages, dissemination

of information and the development of prototype courses for the training of correspondence educators. An important publication by the programme is "Universal New Educational and Cultural Approach to Develop Economically" (UNECADE) which spells out what the programme offers and what it needs to be operational. The programme has provided technical guidance to Egypt to develop a pilot programme which, if successful, could be used to serve North Africa and the Middle East. The coming years will be devoted to making the programme really operational if resources can be found; assisting institutions to develop and expand their programmes; and training correspondence educators.

#### Training of personnel

47. The training of Africans to meet manpower requirements has continued to be a major preoccupation of ECA.

48. In compliance with Conference of Ministers resolution 318(XIII) a new training programme, the Expanded Training and Fellowship Programme for Africa, was established in 1978. The programme aims at training 8000 Africans in specific manpower demand areas over a five-year period. It requires the full participation of member States in providing training places, scholarships and fellowships as well as the financial support of non-African Governments and organizations to achieve the set target. The programme was considered in detail and approved for implementation by the eighteenth meeting of the ECA Executive Committee. Member States have since been informed of the programme and project personnel have been recruited, while efforts at mobilizing resources for its implementation are continuing. It is envisaged that as the programme develops it will lend support to the training and staff development programmes of various African multinational and regional training and research centres and institutions.

49. Two study tours on economic integration were organized in 1977 with funds made available by USAID. The first tour for six economic co-operation officials lasted six weeks with extensive visits to Latin America and Western Europe. ECLA played a major role in planning and co-ordinating the Latin America leg of the tour. The second study tour was for six officials of the West African Clearing House. The main interest was the organization and operation of financial clearing house arrangements in other regions. The tour extended to South and Central America, Europe and Western Asia, lasting six weeks. UNCTAD played a major role in ensuring the success of the study tour and, in addition to assisting with planning and co-ordination, also provided the Chief Co-ordinator for the tour. Two other study tours in economic integration had been planned for 1978 in the fields of industrial planning and common market arrangements but, whereas nominations for these programmes have been received, prospects of funding are still uncertain.

50. ECA played a facilitator's role when, in 1977 at the request of Uganda, the secretariat successfully negotiated with the National Insurance Corporation of Nigeria, which provided at its own cost the services of four Nigerian insurance experts to conduct an intensive

training course in Kampala for Ugandan insurance personnel.

51. The Training Information Notice, a quarterly publication providing information on training and fellowship opportunities open to Africa, together with the biennial bulletin on ECA training programmes, resumed publication in June 1977 after a lull of 18 months due to staff resignation and recruitment difficulties. In a related activity sets of questionnaires were despatched to all member States around September 1977 to secure detailed information on their scholarship conditions and institutional training facilities in compliance with Conference of Ministers resolution 306(XIII), on co-operation in manpower development and utilization, which, inter alia, called upon member States to provide increased scholarships and reserve more places in their institutions for the training of nationals of other African States. Response to the questionnaire was poor, but ECA intends to publish whatever is received by the end of 1978.

52. A further training promotion activity under the subprogramme was in respect of an advisory mission to Botswana, Lesotho, Swaziland and Zambia during July and August 1977 undertaken by the head of the government accounting service in Kenya. It was designed to assess the situation and process of localizing accountancy training, secretaryship and related vocations and provide practical guidance in further measures that could be taken to accelerate the localization of professional training and qualifications in the countries visited.

Job analysis, skill multiplication and adult learning

53. The Conference of Ministers, in resolution 318(XIII), paragraph 3, directed that the secretariat, in collaboration with the ILO, UNIDO and other appropriate agencies, should "undertake basic research and experiments in methods and techniques of job analysis, job breakdown and adult learning, suitably adapted to African conditions, for use in accelerated training and mass skill formation in industry and other sectors." Justification for such a study is found in the need to find ways of helping the growing masses of school leavers and of adult illiterates to acquire vocational skills on a massive scale in order to ensure their employability as well as provide industry, agriculture and other sectors the much needed improved operative skills. Accordingly, the study is aimed at a careful appreciation and evaluation of the effectiveness of various experiments and programmes that have been or are being carried out in African and other countries specially designed to analyse and simplify job processes with a view to facilitating the acquisition of new skills by both adults and youths.

54. As a preparatory action for initiating the study and related experiments the secretariat communicated the text of the resolution referred to above to the ILO, UNESCO, WHO, FAO and UNIDO and invited them to make available to ECA their knowledge and documentation on the subject and to consider collaborating with the secretariat in taking joint action. Although very useful background information was received from these agencies, there was no evidence that the type of study and experiments have already been undertaken in African countries. Further

action could not be taken largely because of resource constraints in terms of staff and funds.

55. Action on the project has been planned in two phases. Phase I, November 1978 through April 1979, will involve a comprehensive desk study of relevant documents and reports on the subject. Communications will be sent to ECLA, ESCAP and OECD to request case studies evaluation reports on relevant experiments. On the basis of this study an inter-agency meeting will be convened in May 1979 to evaluate the outcome of the preliminary study, define the scope of the task to be achieved, determine cases to be studied and experiments to be performed and agree on the formation of a task force to execute the project and their contribution thereto. Phase II of project implementation involves the recruitment of consultants for the task force and the carrying out of the field study and experiments, analysis of findings and preparation of the study report. This second phase is scheduled for completion by December 1979.

### HUMAN SETTLEMENTS

56. During the review period the secretariat's activities centred on three subprogrammes, namely (a) development of the building materials and construction industries (see the section of this report dealing with industrial development); (b) policies, strategies and programmes for housing, building, physical planning and urban development; and (c) promoting the efficient utilization of resources for housing and for rural infrastructure in integrated rural development.

#### Intergovernmental Regional Committee on Human Settlements

57. Another important activity was the convening at Addis Ababa from 2 to 6 October 1978 of the first meeting of the Intergovernmental Regional Committee on Human Settlements pursuant to the resolutions of Habitat : United Nations Conference on Human Settlements, which were endorsed by the United Nations General Assembly in its resolution 32/162 and by the Conference of Ministers of the Economic Commission for Africa in its resolution 316(XIII).

58. At that meeting the secretariat was asked to clarify the proposal to create a regional centre for human settlements. In view of the uncertainty as to the meaning of the words "unit" and "service" as used within the United Nations system, the Committee subsequently decided that it was too early to establish a regional centre on human settlements.

59. In the course of its meeting, the Committee decided that :

- (a) The Intergovernmental Regional Committee should comprise representatives of all States members of the Commission and should hold annual meetings; its rules of procedure should be based on those of the Commission;
- (b) The Committee was to submit its decisions to the Conference of Ministers for consideration and inclusion in the over-all programme of work of the Commission;

- (c) The responsibilities envisaged in respect of the Committee and its officers, as discussed in document E/CN.14/HUS/28, should be passed on to the Human Settlements Unit established within the secretariat of the Commission;
- (d) Pending a decision on the creation of a regional centre for human settlements, its functions should be assigned to the Human Settlements Unit. The usefulness of creating a regional centre should depend on the progress made in connexion with human settlements at the regional level. The Human Settlements Unit was to have the competence to negotiate with countries and organizations concerned on problems relating to human settlements with a view to obtaining the assistance it needed to implement its programmes and projects; such negotiations would be conducted in agreement with the Economic Commission for Africa in accordance with a mutually agreed procedure;
- (e) Moreover, to enable it to fulfil its terms of reference, the Human Settlements Unit was to enjoy as much autonomy as possible within the framework of the restructured Commission. The Committee therefore urged the Executive Secretary of ECA to take the steps needed actually to implement the decisions contained in General Assembly resolution 32/162 and in Conference of Ministers resolution 316(XIII). The Committee also requested the Executive Secretary to report it at its next session regarding the measures taken in application of those decisions;
- (f) Although it was felt that, in view of the existing organs of the Commission, there was no need to establish a permanent technical council of experts for human settlements, the Human Settlements Unit could, in case of need, call upon specialized working groups to consider given problems relating to specific aspects of regional policy or the programmes of work;
- (g) At the national level, the work of the Human Settlements Unit was to be supported by the establishment by Governments of national advisory committees of a permanent nature or similar machinery in the field of human settlements for the purpose of :
  - (i) Considering the goals and objectives of national policies and strategies relating to human settlements;
  - (ii) Identifying shortcomings and formulating possible solutions to them;
  - (iii) Collecting and analysing data on all aspects of the development of human settlements; and
  - (iv) Proposing priority areas of action and maintaining contact with the secretariat of the Intergovernmental Regional Committee on Human Settlements, both directly and through the intermediary of the Multinational Programming and Operational Centres (MULPOCs).

Promoting the efficient utilization of resources for housing and for rural infrastructure in integrated rural development

60. In connexion with the new administrative arrangements concerning assistance to African countries in the field of human settlements, the secretariat participated in a series of meetings attended by representatives of the Centre for Housing, Building and Planning and of other regional commissions. The meetings afforded an opportunity for studying the best ways of making rational use of the resources available to those organizations.

61. The secretariat continued to encourage the establishment of housing co-operatives and self-help building associations in the region with the assistance of the International Co-operative Housing Development Association (ICHDA). Missions were sent to the countries of East and Southern Africa with a view to providing the assistance required to organize housing co-operatives and self-help construction activities and to establish housing finance services. These activities led up to a seminar on co-operative and low-cost housing for the lower income sectors which was organized at Maseru (Lesotho) in 1978 jointly by ECA, ICHDA, UNEP and the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation (UNHHSF).

Other related activities

62. The secretariat signed an agreement with UNEP and UNHHSF for the execution of a 30-month interregional programme in the field of human settlements technology. The programme is designed to help research establishments in the region to undertake studies and demonstration projects in the field of building materials. To that end, a joint ECA/UNEP/UNHHSF mission visited existing research institutions and selected eight countries (Algeria, Gabon, Ghana, Kenya, Morocco, Nigeria, the Sudan and Zambia) where the studies could be carried out.

63. In accordance with the wishes of member States, the secretariat paid special attention to the joint ECA/UNIDO/OAU Programme for the Development of the Construction and Building Materials Industries. On the basis of a project document prepared by the secretariat, a field mission composed of a team of African experts visited eight African countries. The Team of Experts completed the first round of a sectoral review and project identification exercise covering the construction and building materials subsector which was approved by the fourth Conference of African Ministers of Industry. Details on activities in this area are given in the section of this report devoted to industrial development.

64. The secretariat participated in the Ad Hoc Interagency Meeting on Human Settlements which was held at Geneva from 7 to 11 March 1977 and in the meeting of the Organization of Arab Towns and Cities which was held at Rabat (Morocco) from 6 to 11 June 1977. It also participated in an ad hoc meeting of experts of the choice of appropriate construction techniques and submitted a document containing ideas on factors which should determine the choice of appropriate building and public works techniques in Africa at the national level.

## INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT

65. The industrial development programme of the Commission is a reflection of the aspirations of African States for greater processing of their raw materials locally and the acceleration of industrial development in order to raise the people's standard of living through greater self-reliance at the national and collective self-reliance at the regional level. In fact, these are the objectives which emerge from resolution CM/ST/12/XXI of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of OAU containing the African Declaration on Co-operation, Development and Economic Independence adopted at Addis Ababa on 24 May 1973 as well as the "Revised Framework of principles for the implementation of the new international economic order in Africa, 1976-1981-1986" (E/CN.14/ECO/90/Rev.3) adopted at the fourth meeting of the ECA Conference of Ministers.

66. The activities of the secretariat in industry were reviewed by the Ministers of Industry at their fourth conference held at Kaduna, Nigeria, in November 1977 which, inter alia, recommended that priorities be given to industrial policies, food and agro-allied industries, building materials and construction industries, engineering, basic metals and chemical industries in that order.

### Industrial policies

67. The tendency of the import-substitution industrial policies to increase rather than reduce the cost of industrialization and industrial dependence on imported intermediate inputs, technology, technical and managerial inputs, foreign finance and the concomitant discouragement of linkages among industrial projects and upstream processing of Africa's raw materials has been recognized by most African countries in recent years. This has given rise to the necessity for frequent review and appraisal of industrial policies and strategies if the African region, which has the lowest share of world industrial production at 0.6 per cent, is to rise to 2 per cent by the year 2000. Hence, the objective of the secretariat's activities in industrial policies is to assist member States in formulating intra- and inter-sectorally integrated African industrial policies and programmes in order to facilitate the promotion of industrial development, regional co-operation and international negotiations, thus promoting and safe-guarding the collective interests of African countries.

68. Following Conference of Ministers resolution 319 (XIII), the recommendations of the third meeting of the Follow-up Committee on Industrialization in Africa in November 1976 and the decision of the fourth Conference of African Ministers of Industry in November 1977, the focus of activities in industrial policies during the period under review has been on arrangements to convene a symposium in April 1979 on industrial policies and strategies for individual as well as collective self-reliance in the period 1979-2000. Thus, the secretariat's activities have included provision of guidelines for the organization of national



workshops to prepare for the symposium, the organization of an ad hoc meeting of experts drawn from Benin, Egypt, Kenya, Madagascar, Mali, Nigeria, Sierra Leone, the Sudan, Uganda, the United Republic of Cameroon, the United Republic of Tanzania and Zaire, which was held at Addis Ababa in July 1978 for synthesising the common issues, as well as the establishment of a task force of four intergovernmental experts for preparing the basic working documents for the symposium. In preparing the basic documents the task force was supported by the secretariat and visited a cross-section of countries in order to assess the thinking of Governments on specific policy options.

#### Development of basic industries and intra-African co-operation

##### (a) Chemical industry development programme

69. Chemical, metal and engineering industries constitute the core of the basic industries and they are also the Achilles' heel of African industrialization prospects. The objective of the chemical industry development programme is, therefore, to assist African countries in formulating sectoral policies, programmes, targets and actual projects aimed at developing integrated chemical industries. The on-going programme therefore focuses on basic chemicals, petrochemicals, fertilizers, pesticides and pharmaceuticals and the programme is also geared to upgrading national capabilities in chemical project design and analysis and to securing an inflow of bankable projects and their implementation.

70. Following the restructuring of the chemical industry programme, which was approved by the Follow-up Committee on Industrialization in Africa in November 1976, the efforts of the secretariat in 1977 were largely focused on utilizing already available resources for gathering more information on the subject matter as well as discussing with selected African Governments in order to facilitate the first major effort of the secretariat in the development of integrated chemical industries.

71. During 1978 the secretariat recruited specialists in the area of pharmaceuticals, pesticides, petrochemicals and fertilizers and mounted field missions to the United Republic of Tanzania, Nigeria, Egypt, Gabon, the United Republic of Cameroon and the Upper Volta for an in-depth study of the current characteristics of the chemical industry sector, examination of its capability for further development and identification of tentative priority areas with a view to formulating an integrated development plan for the chemical industry. Consequently, in order to combine the medium-term and immediate needs of countries, national and multinational projects were identified out of which prefeasibility and promotional activities will be undertaken during 1979-1980.

72. Nevertheless, since the programme covered only a cross-section of the countries, field activities are to be followed by extensive consultations with African Governments as to their priority areas, concrete projects, training needs and co-operation ventures. These consultations are expected to take place also at the level of expert working groups as well as with development corporations and financial institutions within member States. Consequently, it is expected to submit the results of these

consultations on specific projects and priorities to the MULPOCs for implementation.

73. Training requirements in the chemical and engineering industries have also been identified in a limited number of countries and the findings are to be followed up with wider country coverage and the preparation of manpower profiles for the sector as a basis for the formulation of manpower development projects and of training programmes at the national and regional levels within the context of the Commission's manpower and training programmes.

(b) Metal/engineering industry development programme

74. The engineering industry in a modern economy is viewed in the Lima Declaration and by the secretariat as constituting the most dynamic industrial sector supplying goods to agriculture, transport and communications, chemical and construction industries as well as to itself and other industries. It is further viewed also as the basic sector for securing effective control over and exploitation of natural resources and the transfer, adaptation and development of technology and is clearly related to the development of small-scale industries through sublicensing, subcontracting and supply of equipment. No practical engineering skills and expertise can be developed without the growth of the engineering industry itself. It is also the sector in which the African region is weakest judging from the relative share of the African region in world output of metal and engineering industry which remained unchanged at 0.2 per cent in the 15 years from 1955 to 1970.

75. In response to the vital role of this sector, the secretariat abandoned the ad hoc project approach and instead concentrated on the preparation of a preliminary master plan for integrated development of the sector with special reference to the upgrading of existing and potential nodes and project development activities within the framework of integrated development. Thus during 1977 and 1978 field activities were undertaken to identify the characteristics of the industry, gaps and priorities in which specific national and multinational projects were identified with special reference to the development of machine tools and domestic production of spare parts, components and maintenance facilities. For this purpose, the first field mission organized by the secretariat covered ten countries and its findings will be examined by a series of a ad hoc expert meetings some time in 1979 in order to widen the scope of information on projects and the needs of this sector.

76. During the review period, the execution of the metal/engineering industry development programme benefitted from the financial resources of the African Trust Fund. Nevertheless, owing to difficulties in securing supplementary resources in time, specific studies in local manufacture of spare parts and components and possibilities for subcontracting in metal/engineering industries could not be carried out.

(c) Food and agro-allied industries development programme

77. The development of agro-allied industries in Africa, which was

accorded the highest priority by the four Conferences of African Ministers of Industry, has been a subject of considerable discussion especially in view of the increasing food deficits, the need for self-sufficiency, intra-African trade in food and the importance member States attach to the satisfaction of basic needs. During 1976-1977 the Advisory Group offered pre-investment assistance to 18 countries in the form of market surveys and studies on food and agricultural industries with a view to identifying new projects and to exploring possibilities for further development of these industries on a national and/or multinational basis.

78. During the second half of 1977, several consultations were conducted among FAO, UNDP and ECA in an effort to define the outlines of a project which would respond to basic food needs previously neglected in pursuit of external export priorities and also promote operational activities on a multicountry and subregional level. During 1978 field activities were undertaken in seven countries and questionnaires sent to all African countries through UNDP offices with a view to determining the priorities of Governments in this sector for 1978-1981. Among the areas of highest priority identified for the development of self-reliance in the production of staple foods are the cereal processing industries (with emphasis on sorghum and millet); vegetable oil processing; and fruits and vegetable processing. A broad programme of work embodying these priorities and the types of assistance required by countries has been drawn up in a project document submitted to UNDP for assistance during the period 1979-1981.

79. Among the important projects not implemented during the period are those on the structure of technology in this sector and possibilities for complementarities and specialization among African countries.

(d) Forest-based industries development programme

80. It has been estimated that African countries possess about 8 per cent of the standing volume of closed forest in the world, yet in 1973 they produced only 0.4 per cent of wood-based panels, 0.8 per cent of sawn wood and 0.2 per cent of wood pulp. During the past decades African countries concentrated their programmes in this sector on the production of raw materials for export in the form of sawn logs and veneer, sawn wood, pulp wood and wood-based panels with little attention to secondary industries such as joinery, woodworking, furniture and habitat. During the period 1974-1975, UNCTAD has estimated that Africa earned an annual average of \$US 644 million from exports of raw materials but 30 to 50 per cent of the price of woodworking represents transport costs.

81. The focus of activities in this programme, which is organized by FAO and ECA with financial support from UNDP, has now been redirected to the integration of two aspects of forest industries, namely, raw materials production and secondary forest aspects with a view to increasing the value added retained by the African countries.

82. Activities in this programme included a field review and appraisal of objectives of the ECA/FAO Advisory Group for Forest Industries

Development in Africa which was completed in July 1977. During 1978 questionnaires were sent out to all African countries to determine their priorities within the context of an integrated programme in this sector so as to include them in the reformulation of the new programme for the period 1979-1981. The questionnaires were supplemented by field visits to the United Republic of Tanzania, Madagascar, Mozambique, Swaziland, Zaire, Gabon, Nigeria, Ghana, Mali and Morocco. As a result, among the priorities included in the new programme are assistance to African countries for the development of medium- and small-scale forest industries and also assistance for building up national, multinational and regional technical, management and other capabilities. During the period under review a project document for 1979-1981 was formulated and submitted for approval by FAO and UNDP. The necessity to review and reformulate the programme delayed some specific projects planned for 1978 such as the preparation of models for small-scale integrated forest industries plants.

(e) Development of building materials and construction industries

83. The building materials situation in Africa is characterized by some contradictions. While the region is well endowed with raw materials which are suitable for local use, imports of building materials constitute from 50 to 60 per cent of the total construction costs in almost all countries of the developing Africa. Similarly, some commodities are exported from certain regions (such as wood from West Africa) while other regions experience chronic shortages in wood and wood products (such as North Africa). The modern construction sector in the region is dominated by foreign companies which utilize capital-intensive methods while the economic and social needs of the region call for labour-intensive methods. Likewise, the region is heavily dependent on foreign expertise and skills in the planning and design professions. The combined effect of all this is a declining supply of housing, rising costs and inadequate environmental conditions in human settlements. The objectives of the programme are to increase self-reliance in the satisfaction of the basic needs of the population through such activities as strengthening policies and programmes for the development of building materials and construction industries; the development of appropriate institutional machinery including financial institutions and project development and production within the framework of human settlements.

84. The main activities during the period under review included an assessment of major obstacles of a number of carefully selected samples of countries, identification of national and multinational projects and areas of intra-African complementarity. These activities covered: Burundi, Lesotho, Gabon, Benin, Togo, the Niger and Ghana. The preliminary report on these activities was noted by the Conference of African Ministers of Industry at Kaduna in November 1977 in resolution 8(IV). Subsequently, a working group of African specialists in building materials and construction industries evaluated the work already accomplished at a meeting held at Addis Ababa from 17 to 21 July 1978 and elaborated on the targets and priority projects which would enable the African region to achieve self-sufficiency in building materials by the year 2000. Their

deliberations formed the basis for a UNDP-financed regional programme in building materials for the period 1978-1981. Among the follow-up actions in 1979 will be the convening of a meeting of African financial institutions and building and construction development corporations to determine the modalities for the implementation of specific projects and modalities for intra African co-operation.

#### Intercountry institution building

85. A self-sustaining industrialization process as recommended in E/CN.14/ECO/90/Rev.3 entails, as one of its major inputs, increasing indigenization of the technical engineering design capabilities for new products, parts, components and tools and the redesign of products in use to suit local socio-environmental needs, skills and resource endowment. One of the means for developing these technical capabilities is through the creation of national and regional institutions for these purposes as an integral part of industrialization policies and integrated industrial branch programmes.

86. In response to resolutions 1(IV) adopted at the fourth Conference of African Ministers of Industry at Kaduna in 1977 a mission visited Madagascar, Swaziland, Zaire, Nigeria, the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, the Upper Volta, Uganda and Egypt in 1978 to evaluate engineering design capabilities and needs in Africa and consult with Governments regarding the feasibility of launching the African Centre for Engineering Design and Manufacturing. An intergovernmental expert meeting convened on October 30 to 2 November 1978 considered the project prefeasibility report and recommended the establishment of the Centre. When established the Centre is expected to contribute to the development of local engineering products, understanding of manufacturing processes in metal working, forging and foundries through technical assistance and the establishment of national centres. As part of an integrated approach, the Centre will also undertake training on product and engineering design, manpower requirements and development for the African region. The project will complement the Regional Technological Centre by filling the missing link between technological knowledge and blueprints and concrete engineering products. The implementation of this project was supported by UNDP during 1977 and 1978 and is being supported by financial resources from the African Trust Fund.

87. Dependence on external resources and experts in carrying out preinvestment activities especially for large projects and multinational projects is likely to hamper the acceleration of industrialization and collective self-reliance in industry. In compliance with resolution 3(IV) of the fourth meeting of the Conference of African Ministers of Industry, work is continuing in connexion with the implementation of the project on the African Industrial Development Fund in collaboration with OAU, ADB and UNIDO. Towards this end an inter-organization meeting attended by OAU, ADB and UNIDO was convened by ECA on 15 and 16 February 1978 to consider the modalities for the implementation of the project. The meeting decided to consult African Governments and recommended that the field consultations should cover Ethiopia, the Ivory Coast, Rwanda, the

Sudan, Togo, Tunisia, Uganda and the United Republic of Cameroon. UNDP provided \$US 80,000 to finance preparatory activities on the design and implementation of this project.

88. The fund is expected, inter alia, to achieve two objectives, namely:
- (a) to ensure that resources are available for industrial prefeasibility activities; and
  - (b) to strengthen regional financial capability in conducting pre-investment feasibility studies for high priority multinational projects which do not meet the conventional criteria of financial institutions with a view to promoting industrial co-operation among African countries and increasing effective control over their actual resources. The findings of the mission will be considered first by a meeting of intergovernmental experts before being submitted to a meeting of Plenipotentiaries early in 1979.

#### Industrial co-operation

89. Document E/CN.14/ECO/90/Rev.3, Conference of Ministers resolution 319(XIII) and resolution 10(IV) adopted at the fourth Conference of African Ministers of Industry all reiterated the critical role accorded to industrial co-operation by African countries. It is now well known that the power of the transnational corporations to control and exploit raw materials and other natural resources in the world derives primarily from their simultaneous command directly or through their affiliates of a package of complementary capabilities including finance, technology, management, marketing skills and the knowledge of sources and costs of alternative raw materials and other inputs across the whole world. Similar capabilities should be developed and organized in the African region within the context of African multinational corporations.

90. In this connexion the secretariat carried out a field study on the possibility of the establishment of African multinational corporations in various industrial branches. The study reviewed past efforts, existing patterns of industrial co-operation among African countries, and analysed the wide range of possible modalities for industrial co-operation among national industries and a preliminary strategy for establishing African multinational corporations. The report, which was examined by the Follow-up Committee on Industrialization in Africa in 1978, will be considered in several other forums before being forwarded to the Heads of State and Government of OAU. Thereafter consultations will be held among specific national industries to determine specific areas and modalities for co-operation.

#### Investment promotion

91. During the period under review the secretariat continued its investment promotion activities through the dissemination of information on projects and preinvestment activities. In this connexion information was distributed, primarily on request, to 77 recipients in 1977 and 33 recipients in 1978 in Africa, North America and Asia.

92. An innovative approach for the dissemination of investment information obtained from member countries was also initiated in 1978 whereby project information sent to the secretariat is distributed within the African region and elsewhere. So far 10 African countries, Tunisia, Kenya, Egypt, Nigeria, Malawi, the United Republic of Tanzania, Mali, Sierra Leone, the Upper Volta and the United Republic of Cameroon, have taken advantage of this additional service.

#### INTERNATIONAL TRADE AND FINANCE

93. The activities of the secretariat during the period under review can best be considered under three broad headings, namely:

- (a) Intra-African trade and finance;
- (b) Trade and financial relations with non-African countries; and
- (c) Matters relating to transnational corporations.

##### Intra-African trade and finance

94. Intra-African trade continued to stagnate, accounting for approximately 4.25 per cent of Africa's total trade, with petroleum constituting the most important single item. While new economic groupings have been emerging over the last two years or so and will probably have beneficial effects on intra-African trade expansion, their impact has not yet been such as to offset the negative repercussions which the break-up of older groupings has had on this sector. Major and long-standing obstacles, including those of an institutional, infrastructural, monetary or policy nature, continue to exist and the removal of those barriers requires sustained, varied and concerted efforts on the part not only of Governments but also of export promotion councils, chambers of commerce, mass media, etc. There is need to exploit all existing opportunities, including the intra-trade possibilities that may result directly from co-operative ventures and multinational industries or joint production schemes in the field of agriculture.

95. Against this background, secretariat's activities were aimed at assisting member States in expanding trade among themselves both within and among the various subregions. Trade promotion activities within the subregions were conducted essentially within the framework of the MULPOCs.

96. In the case of the East and Southern African countries covered by the Lusaka MULPOC, activities were initiated at the direct request of and on the basis of specific recommendations and directives by the senior officials and Council of Ministers of the MULPOC.

97. Multidisciplinary missions comprising experts in the field of agriculture, industry and transport, in addition to those in the field of trade and payment problems, were sent out to 13 countries in the East and Southern African subregion with a view not only to collecting information on existing trade flows among the interested countries and on obstacles which stand in the way of trade expansion, but also to exchanging views with senior government officials on concrete and alternative ways and means,

including institutional ones, for promoting trade among themselves.

98. It is on the basis of the findings of these field missions that proposals were made, inter alia, for the establishment of a Preferential Trade Area and a Clearing and Payments System among the 17 countries of the East and Southern African subregion. These proposals were adopted by the Lusaka MULPOC Council of Ministers in November 1977. Accordingly, the secretariat was requested to prepare a number of papers including a "Draft Lusaka Declaration of Intent and Commitment to the Establishment of a Preferential Trade Area for Eastern and Southern African States", "Draft terms of reference of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Team" and an "Indicative draft time-table for the work of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Team". These were adopted, with some modifications, by an extraordinary meeting of officials of the ministries of trade, finance and planning of Eastern and Southern African States and the first Extraordinary Conference of Ministers of Trade, Finance and Planning of Eastern and Southern African States held at Lusaka on 28 and 29 March and 30 and 31 March 1978 respectively.

99. The Intergovernmental Team met at Addis Ababa from 27 to 30 June 1978 and adopted the principles for the establishment of a Preferential Trade Area for Eastern and Southern African States as a first step towards the creation of a subregional common market.

100. At the request of the first Extraordinary Conference of Ministers of Trade, Finance and Planning, the meeting of the Intergovernmental Team was preceded by two series of missions which visited 15 out of the 17 countries in the subregion with a view to briefing and having discussions with senior governmental officials on the draft principles prepared by the secretariat and generally paving the way for the negotiations.

101. The Intergovernmental Negotiating Team then met again in early November 1976 and considered draft protocols on rules of origin and on transport and communications prepared by the secretariat as well as commodities which could be traded within the Preferential Trade Area.

102. It will be recalled that Conference of Ministers resolution 322(XIII) on multilateral trade negotiations among African countries essentially called for the convening by the Conference of African Ministers of Trade of a meeting of the Intergovernmental Committee of Experts on Trade and Development, whose establishment was envisaged at the fourth meeting of the OAU African Ministers of Trade "in order to prepare for the launching at the beginning of 1978, by the above mentioned Conference, of multilateral trade negotiations between African countries on the basis of studies already undertaken in this field by the ECA secretariat." The meeting of the OAU Intergovernmental Committee of Experts on Trade and Development did not take place and was not therefore able to prepare for the launching of the negotiations. However, as has been stated above two meetings of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Team on the Treaty for the Establishment of a Preferential Trade Area for Eastern and Southern African States were held. As the other MULPOCs



develop their activities the field of trade, more such negotiations are expected to take place in the near future. The lessons to be drawn from the experience of the intra-subregional negotiations may then well provide a useful basis for the launching of inter-subregional, i.e. regional multilateral trade negotiations.

103. The implementation of Conference of Ministers resolution 323(XIII) on bilateral trade consultations between African countries is the subject of a separate report (E/CN.14/INF/94).

104. As for the Yaounde and Gisenyi MULPOC countries, a fact-finding multidisciplinary mission similar to that sent to East and Southern African States was mounted. In addition to gathering information on trade flows and obstacles to trade expansion, the intention of the mission was to try to determine what kind of institutional framework would be most likely to assist in substantially promoting trade among the interested countries, having due regard to the role which could be played by existing groupings, such as UDEAC and the Economic Community of the Great Lakes.

105. As for the North African subregion, the secretariat was represented at the inaugural meeting of experts of the North African MULPOC, held at Tangiers from 15 to 18 March 1978. Draft terms of reference and a detailed outline of field studies on intrasubregional trade expansion to be undertaken in countries of the subregion were presented to the Sectoral Meeting of Experts held in November 1978 and submitted for adoption to a Meeting of Plenipotentiaries held in early 1979.

106. ECA also assisted in the organization and servicing of a seminar sponsored by the Association of African Trade Promotion Organizations on the subject of trade promotion in North Africa.

107. The secretariat's activities for the West African subregion have essentially taken the form of assistance to ECOWAS. At the request of the ECOWAS secretariat, ECA was formally designated co-ordinator of the ECOWAS trade, customs and monetary affairs project. As such, the secretariat not only has been responsible for supervising studies carried out by other agencies such as UNCTAD and the International Trade Centre and ensuring the over-all coherence thereof but it has also been directly entrusted with a number of studies. These included studies of both recorded and unrecorded trade flows which called for extensive desk research as well as field missions. It is hoped that the technical information and the recommendations contained in the studies will enable the countries of the subregion to start effective trade negotiations in 1979.

108. In addition, the secretariat was represented at the inaugural meeting of the Niamey-based MULPOC held on 16 and 17 June 1978. Furthermore, ECA, in co-operation with the Centre Ivoirien du Commerce Extérieur (CICE), organized a seminar at Abidjan from 18 to 23 September 1978 on concrete ways and means of promoting intrasubregional trade in West Africa.

109. In furtherance of Conference of Ministers resolution 300(XIII), the General Assembly of the Association of African Trade Promotion Organizations met in April 1977 and elected both the bureau and the Secretary-General of

the Association. Since then, close co-operation has been maintained with the secretariat of the Association through meetings aimed at the co-ordination of work programmes and participation in each other's training activities.

110. Further, through its quarterly "African Trader", which is circulated not only to ministries of commerce, but also to chambers of commerce, export promotion councils and other relevant institutions, the secretariat has been endeavouring to remedy the lack of information which has long been identified as one of the main obstacles to intra-African trade. Through this medium readers are made aware of intra-African trade opportunities for possible exploitation.

111. For the first time, an African Trade Directory is being prepared, which will make it possible for readers to have readily available information on present and potential importers and exporters of African goods. The first issue of the Directory is expected to be published in 1979. Moreover, initial steps have been taken to launch a Regional Trade Intelligence Unit aimed at making systematic information available on best sources of supply, including African ones, for African imports.

112. A series of studies aimed at identifying products which could be traded among African countries were completed. Several concrete possibilities relating inter alia to wood products, meat and meat products, coffee, textiles, wines and vegetables, etc. were investigated.

113. Despite complementarity among the various ecological zones in the region, intra-African food trade has not increased in the past decade, owing not only to poor and insufficient transport facilities, but also to tariff and non-tariff barriers. Food imports have thus been steadily increasing in most countries.

114. In addition to the measures to be undertaken at the domestic level to improve transport and storage facilities, more effective subregional and regional co-operation is clearly needed to bring about an increase in food production and expand intra-African trade in food commodities.

115. One of the possible areas for immediate action is meat and meat products for which a substantial market exists in the region, while a number of African producing and exporting countries are finding it increasingly difficult to sell their products to traditional buyers in the developed world. Steps are now being taken to convene a meeting of African meat importing and exporting countries with a view to working out concrete arrangements and mechanisms to facilitate trade in these products. Similar steps are planned to be taken in respect of other selected products in the next few months, should financial and other resources become available.

116. Lastly, work has started on feasibility studies concerning the establishment of African commodity exchanges, financed from the African Trust Fund. The first phase of the project is expected to be completed by the end of the first quarter of 1979. Desk research has also been completed on another major project relating to the establishment of an

African common market, but resources for subsequent phases are not yet available.

117. As regards intra-African finance, action was geared to assisting relevant existing institutions to improve or widen their operations and to helping to create new ones, having in mind the crucial role which such institutions should play in the effective promotion of intra-African trade. Thus, in co-operation with UNCTAD, a study tour was organized for members of the Exchange and Clearing Committee and senior officials of the West African Clearing House (WACH) to clearing institutions in Asia and Latin America with a view to familiarizing them with the experience of these older institutions and enabling them to assess their relevance for WACH. Similarly, another study tour to selected Eastern European countries was organized as part of a UNDP-financed preparatory assistance project to WACH for which ECA was designated executing agency.

118. Concerning other institutions, a study has been completed on the role of commercial banks in intra-African trade promotion for a seminar organized by the Association on African Central Banks.

119. As mentioned earlier, the secretariat prepared a paper on the establishment of a clearing and payments scheme for countries in the East and Southern African subregion as part of the major project on the establishment of a Preferential Trade Area in this subregion. Another paper was also prepared on the modalities of an agreement for the establishment of a clearing house for the Central African subregion at the request of the Central African Subregional Committee of the Association of African Central Banks.

120. While the share of African exports to developed market economy countries declined from 82.45 per cent in 1976 to 81.16 per cent in 1977, that of imports went up from 79.82 to 81.62 per cent during the same period, thus accentuating the already excessive geographical concentration of African trade and EEC's share of these imports substantially increased from 47.62 per cent in 1976 to 50.29 per cent in 1977. As for trade with other developing regions, the share of African exports and of African imports declined from 11.86 to 9.38 per cent and from 14.41 to 12.65 per cent respectively during the corresponding period. While African exports to Socialist countries of Eastern Europe went down from 4.2 to 3.03 per cent, the reverse took place in so far as African imports from these countries were concerned, since the corresponding figures were 4.42 and 4.51 per cent.

121. In the international finance field, perhaps the most crucial development over the last two years has been the marked aggravation of the debt burden of member States which went up from about 38 billion United States dollars in 1975 to more than 43 billion in 1977.

#### Integrated Programme for Commodities

122. Pursuant to Conference of Ministers resolution 292 (XIII), the secretariat assisted member States both in their preparations for meetings and during the actual meetings, with a view to enabling them to derive

maximum advantage from the Integrated Programme for Commodities.

123. ECA was involved in the preparation and the servicing of two meetings on tropical woods and of a meeting on cotton organized by UNCTAD to discuss and work out appropriate measures and techniques to achieve the objectives of the Integrated Programme, determine the financial implications of the proposed measures, recommend the required follow-up action through the negotiation of agreements regarding these commodities and prepare draft proposals of such agreements for the consideration of Governments and for use in commodity negotiating conferences. Papers discussing the particular situation and problems of African countries in respect of the two above-mentioned commodities were submitted to African delegations.

124. Staff members also attended the two sessions of UNCTAD's Negotiating Conferences on the Common Fund within the framework of the Integrated Programme for Commodities, where much use was made of the ECA paper on the "Establishment of a common fund to finance commodity stocks : some possible consequences for African countries". ECA staff also serviced the African Group meetings which were held in conjunction with the two sessions of the Negotiating Conference.

125. Furthermore, jointly with OAU and UNCTAD, ECA organized an African Regional Meeting on the Common Fund at Arusha (United Republic of Tanzania) from 6 to 8 October 1977. Its main purpose was to work out an African stand on the proposed Common Fund in preparation for the meetings of the Group of 77 and the second session of the global Negotiating Conference on the Common Fund. The latter adjourned on 2 April 1977 owing to the lack of agreement between developing and developed countries over the constituent elements of the Fund, including its objectives and purposes, financing needs and structure, source of financing, mode of operations, decision making and fund management. At the time of writing, the Secretary-General of UNCTAD has been holding consultations with a number of developed countries with a view to the possible resumption of the Negotiating Conference.

#### Multilateral trade negotiations (MTN)

126. The second African Regional Seminar on MTN was held at Addis Ababa from 12 to 16 December 1977. It was jointly organized by ECA and the UNCTAD/MTN Interregional Project. The purpose of the seminar was to review the current issues in MTN and their implications for African countries, to discuss subjects of special interest to African countries and to assist African countries to harmonize their policies and strategies with regard to the negotiations. The participants made a number of recommendations regarding the objectives, strategy and future action which African countries should adopt in the remaining critical stages of the negotiations.

127. Since then, the secretariat has been issuing Newsletters aimed at informing African countries, most of which are not attending the negotiations, of the latest developments therein, and assisting African delegations at Geneva in harmonizing their stands.

#### First ministerial session of the Trade and Development Board

128. ECA, jointly with OAU, serviced the meetings of the African Group held at Geneva in conjunction with the third (ministerial) part of the ninth special session of the Trade and Development Board held at Geneva from 6 to 11 March 1978. The outcome of the latter has been assessed in a paper entitled "External debt problems : Possible impact on the African countries of the recommendations of the first ministerial session of the Trade and Development Board" (E/CN.14/ECO/153) which was presented to the Executive Committee meeting in October 1978.

#### Fifth session of UNCTAD

129. ECA assisted in organizing and servicing the OAU African Ministers of Trade meeting preparatory to the fifth session of UNCTAD held at Addis Ababa in 1979. A paper reviewing and assessing progress or lack of progress in implementing the decisions of previous sessions of UNCTAD was presented to the Executive Committee meeting in October 1978. It is also intended to put the paper before the meeting of the Conference of Ministers of Trade.

#### Trade with Socialist countries of Eastern Europe

130. Trade between developing Africa and the Socialist countries of Eastern Europe is relatively small in comparison with trade between African countries and the developed market economy countries. On the African side, trade with CMEA countries has a tendency to concentrate mainly on a few countries. Commodity-wise, trade between the two groups of countries is based mainly on exports of primary products from African countries to CMEA countries.

131. African countries have repeatedly expressed their strong desire to intensify their trade and economic co-operation with the Socialist countries of Eastern Europe.

132. Pursuant to UNCTAD resolution 95 (IV), the secretariat of UNCTAD recently elaborated an UNCTAD/UNDP interregional and regional project for the development of trade between developing countries and Socialist countries of Eastern Europe. The project, in the preparation of which the regional commissions made a most valuable contribution, will be implemented during the period 1979-1981.

133. The secretariat of ECA is planning to set up, within the framework of the interregional project, an African regional project for the development of trade and economic relations with the Socialist countries of Eastern Europe. The main activities under that project would include:

- (a) a study on prospects for the development of trade and economic relations with Socialist countries;
- (b) the organization of two seminars and two study tours in 1979 and 1981; and
- (c) the preparation of a final document including proposals and recommendations for the development of trade and economic relations between African countries and Socialist countries.

#### Economic co-operation among developing countries

134. In furtherance of the Mexico Programme of Action on Economic Co-operation among developing countries, studies on existing and potential trade and on the development of joint import procurement policies between African countries on the one hand and Latin American countries on the other have been completed.

135. These drafts will be finalized, on the basis not only of comments and inputs to be received from ECLA, but also of field visits to selected African and Latin American countries. Once completed, the studies are intended to be submitted to expert group and intergovernmental meetings for the holding of which additional resources will be required.

136. The first in what is expected to be a series of studies on existing and potential trade between African and Asian countries has been completed in co-operation with ESCAP. Close co-operation is maintained with UNCTAD for the implementation of the over-all programme. A second study was also completed on the creation of a Developing Countries' Payments Union which is being used as background material for the UNCTAD study on payments linkages among developing countries.

137. In collaboration with OAU, ECA serviced the African Group meetings which were held in conjunction with both the first (September 1977) and the second (April 1978) session of UNCTAD's Committee on Economic Co-operation among Developing Countries.

#### Matters relating to transnational corporations

138. The Joint ECA/CTNC Unit on Transnational Corporations was established within the secretariat pursuant to Economic and Social Council resolutions 1908 (LXII) and 1913 (LVII) establishing the Commission on Transnational Corporations, as part of the United Nations regional programme relating to transnational corporations. It began its activities in October 1977 and is now fully operational. The joint Unit is charged, inter alia, with the following main responsibilities: to assist African countries in developing national and multinational policies and capabilities relating to transnational corporations; to conduct studies and analyses on economic, social and institutional issues relating to transnationals; develop contact with, and monitor the activities of African governmental and non-governmental organizations in order to identify problems and needs related to transnationals and to assist these organizations in meeting them; and to assist the Centre on Transnational Corporations in its work on transnationals including the establishment of a Code of Conduct on transnational corporations and the identification of areas of co-operation with other regions.

139. The secretariat's work programme in the field of transnationals is designed to take into account the following main broad categories:

(a) the need to inform African policy makers, the indigenous business community, as well as the general public on transnationals in Africa and their affiliates, subsidiaries and partners; where they are located; in what fields they are currently engaged; what factors determine their

financial and investment decisions; and how their operation affect Africa's economic development process and more specifically, employment, foreign exchange, balance of payments, technology application and the creation of managerial skills;

(b) the need to have a broad agreement on the nature and problems associated with the structure and operations of transnationals in this region and the ways in which their activities can be regulated at national, interregional and regional levels;

(c) the need to evolve a common African stand relating to negotiations with both transnationals and their home Governments with a view to strengthening the bargaining position of individual member States as well as of the region as a whole; and

(d) the need to evolve effective measures for developing co-operation between the African region and other developing regions of Asia, Latin America, the Caribbean, the Pacific and the Middle East.

140. The African region, unlike the regions covered by ECLA and ESCAP, has yet to develop an awareness, especially at policy-making levels, of the structures, operations and impacts of transnationals on the various economies. Consequently, in order to develop effective work programme and priorities in this field, the Joint Unit emphasizes the collection and analysis of information such as investment laws and regulations affecting transnationals, banking and exchange control regulations, mining legislation and contracts and international subcontracting and procurement. Such information would be placed at the disposal of African Governments, the indigenous business community, research institutions and the general public to show how transnationals affect the day-to-day life styles of the African people, as well as the development process. Although there are formidable problems in this regard, the Joint Unit is making satisfactory progress. Work has also started on the preparation of profiles on major transnationals in Africa giving factual information concerning the whole range of their operations in Africa. The secretariat believes that, with that type of information, African Governments would be in a position to deal effectively with transnationals.

141. As a result of the interlocking nature of the operations of transnationals, an immediate objective of the Joint Unit's work programme is to co-ordinate its activities with the work of other divisions within the secretariat so as to evolve a comprehensive approach to transnationals in the African region. Another immediate objective is to identify the key operational areas such as investment, financing, production, marketing and distribution and the application of science and technology, which are currently the monopoly of transnationals so as to determine which of these functions can effectively be undertaken by African indigenous enterprises. Such a move, if effectively implemented, would begin to reduce the degree of Africa's dependence on transnational corporations.

142. The preparation of studies on transnationals constitutes an integral part of the secretariat's activities, especially in the early stages of this work, since the future activities would largely depend on the

reserves of knowledge which can be gathered about the corporations. As a starting point, a draft paper was prepared on transnational corporations and economic development in Africa in the 1980 which attempts to identify the main issues in Africa in this regard and how they should be resolved. The Joint Unit proposes to conduct in-depth sectoral and subsectoral studies intended to sharpen Africa's focus and perception on transnational activities in major specific manufacturing industries such as food processing, banking, agro-business enterprises, fertilizers, petrochemicals and pharmaceuticals. Studies are currently underway on banking, tourism and balance of payments. In collaboration with the secretariats of ECLA and ESCAP, an interregional project on transnational corporations in primary export commodities is being implemented. The object of the project is to study (a) the factors determining the relative bargaining positions of host Governments and transnational corporations and (b) the resulting distribution of gains between host countries and transnational corporations. In the African region, coffee, cocoa, cotton, copper and bauxite have been initially selected as part of the inter-regional study. It is hoped that the project will reveal areas in which indigenous manufacturing enterprises can make inroads in this field thereby helping to promote increased trade in primary commodities and related finished products directly among developing countries themselves.

143. Within the framework of self-reliance and economic co-operation among developing African countries, the Joint Unit's work programme includes studies intended to determine the structure of relationships between transnationals and regional, intergovernmental economic groupings. To this end, a comprehensive study on the impact of transnationals on intra-African trade and economic co-operation has been initiated. Such a study would be important in assisting member countries to develop a common African stand on transnational corporations.

144. Transnational corporations' merchandising and advertising has had serious adverse effects not only on the establishment of indigenous capabilities in manufacturing and distribution but also in socio-cultural behaviours, especially in consumption habits and consumer preferences. This is particularly more pronounced in the pharmaceuticals, cosmetics, baby food and beverages industries. In order to throw light on some of these sectors, the Joint Unit, in collaboration with the African Training and Research Centre for Women (Division of Social Development), has initiated two studies on activities of transnationals in the baby food and beverages (soft drinks and breweries) industries. The purpose of these studies is to determine the impact of transnationals on incomes, employment and health aspects in selected African communities and eventually to adopt effective policies to deal with the adverse impacts of the corporations' activities in these sectors.

145. Technical and advisory services to African Governments and institutions will constitute an important aspect of the Joint Unit's work as its staff resources grow. Currently most of these services are being provided by the Centre on Transnational Corporations in New York. In the past, assistance was given in relation to the preparation and evaluation



of a draft off-shore oil and gas concession agreement, forestry and forestry industries development and hotel and tourist complex. The technical and advisory services include workshops and seminars on specific issues or sectors relating to transnationals. A Workshop on Mining Legislation and Mineral Resources Agreements, sponsored by Headquarters in co-operation with the Commonwealth secretariat, was held in Botswana in October 1978, at which the Joint Unit was represented. In future, work will also focus on assisting countries to prepare their negotiating positions in respect of agreements in related fields. Attention will also be given to the establishment of institutional machinery for dealing with transnationals.

146. The Joint Unit's work programme is also seen as supporting the work of Centre on Transnational Corporations in its efforts to create a global framework for dealing with such corporations. Consequently, the Joint Unit participated in meetings of the chiefs of various transnationals units within the United Nations system in February 1977 and September 1978. The purpose of these meetings was to co-ordinate the work of the Centre with the joint units as part of a continuing dialogue to devise effective means of assisting member States, and especially developing countries, to meet the challenge posed by transnationals.

#### MANPOWER

147. The manpower subprogramme is largely concerned with human resources input in development programmes and more specifically with promoting the assessment of manpower requirements and better utilization of available human resources. During the biennium activities concentrated on the preparation of manpower profiles for the basic industries; promotion of indigenous consultancy services; publication of the directory of African specialists; and specific manpower studies.

##### Manpower profiles for basic industries

148. Conference of Ministers resolution 319(XIII) on accelerated industrialization in Africa required the secretariat, inter alia, to give due attention to the development of industrial manpower. Accordingly, during the biennium sectoral manpower studies in respect of the basic industries were initiated. It had been planned that a manpower analyst be included in each of the industrial study missions that were initiated by ECA in late 1977 and during 1978. Most of 1977 was spent on the search for African manpower experts. There have been difficulties in securing the services of technically competent and experienced manpower analysts and in securing funds to make such joint missions possible. None the less, the industrial study missions which went to the field in 1978 were provided with guidelines with which to obtain country data on manpower requirements in the specific industrial branches studies. It is envisaged to initiate manpower analyses and the preparation of manpower profiles in respect of the engineering and chemical industries from August 1978 and to organize subregional workshops for manpower planners on approaches, techniques and requirements in respect of both industries

by the first quarter of 1979. Financial support from UNDP and co-operation from ILO and UNIDO have been requested in implementing these activities.

#### Development of indigenous consultancy services

149. In 1977 a field study and promotional mission was undertaken to 10 West African States with the aim of determining the factors constraining the growth of indigenous consultancy services and their requirements; identifying their location and fields of competence as well as exploring with them the possibility of co-operation at the national and subregional levels through pooling expertise and providing common services in order to make their operations more efficient and effective. This was in line with the approved ECA work programme. As a follow-up to the study mission report and recommendations, an Association of West African Consultancy Organizations was formally established at Abidjan in September 1977. A similar study and promotional mission was planned for East and Southern Africa early 1978 but, because the consultant assigned to the job was unable to discharge his task, alternative arrangements had to be made to initiate the field study by the third quarter while the follow-up meeting has been rescheduled for early 1979.

#### Directory of African Specialists

150. A 434-page 1978 Supplementary Directory of African Specialists and Consulting Organizations was prepared and widely distributed in July 1978. For the first time the Directory contained entries of qualified African refugees living and working within or outside Africa. The purpose of the Directory is to facilitate the identification and recruitment of African experts and consultants by African Governments and organizations, United Nations and other organizations and agencies and thereby expose African experts to greater challenges and experiences. It is intended to give more emphasis to technical co-operation in future editions of the Directory. To this end the collaboration of the MULPOCs has been sought for concerted action in seeking entries for a new edition in 1979.

#### Other manpower studies

151. With the financial co-operation of ECWA, a study on the "brain drain" in Egypt, the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Algeria, Tunisia, Morocco and Mauritania was undertaken in May-June 1977 to determine national policies, programmes and other measures for inducing qualified nationals living and working abroad to return home or go to other African countries in order to participate in development efforts. A report on the study was issued and a more detailed follow-up study of the problem in respect of Egypt and the Sudan was initiated in August 1978. Further case studies on the same problem in selected West and Central African countries were initiated in late 1978 and it is intended to use these studies for manpower workshops planned for 1979.

152. Preparatory action was taken on studies now at different stages of implementation relating to other manpower problem areas such as policies and programmes in public/private co-operation and industry/training

institutions; co-operation in manpower development; adequacy and effectiveness of manpower planning machinery in African countries; desk study and field mission to assess policies and programmes for the development and operation of educational and career guidance services in selected African countries; and innovative developments in manpower training and utilization, especially with regard to indigenization objectives.

153. The secretariat participated in a three-man mission to Guinea-Bissau and Cape Verde at the invitation of the two Governments to assess the manpower and employment situation and urgent training requirements. An African manpower expert has been identified to join a follow-up mission for a more comprehensive manpower survey if the Governments should so request.

### NATURAL RESOURCES

#### Remote sensing

154. By its resolution 313 (XIII), the fourth meeting of the Conference of Ministers endorsed the decision of the Intergovernmental Meeting on the Establishment of a Regional Remote Sensing Satellite Ground Receiving and Data Processing Centre in Africa, which met at Addis Ababa from 28 September to 1 October 1976, to establish (a) two regional receiving and processing stations at Kinshasa and Ouagadougou and, in due course, an additional station to cover areas not covered by the above facilities; and (b) five regional trainer and user assistance centres at Nairobi, Cairo, Ile-Ife, Kinshasa and Ouagadougou.

155. The resolution also authorized the Executive Secretary to enter into agreements with donor countries and Governments and/or centres where remote sensing facilities were to be located. The Conference of Ministers accepted with appreciation the offer of the Government of the Upper Volta to host a meeting of plenipotentiaries at Ouagadougou.

156. In order to implement the Remote Sensing Programme for Africa there have been four technical committee meetings consisting of representatives of USAID, the Canadian Government, the French Government, the Government of the Upper Volta and ECA, to draw up a detailed programme of work for the implementation of the Ouagadougou Training and User Assistance Centre as well as the Receiving Station. At the third meeting, which took place in Paris in July 1977 complete agreement was reached on the modalities for implementation, as well as on funding. For the next five years, the three donor countries have agreed in principle to allocate the following sums for the Ouagadougou Centre: United States, \$US 4,324,000, France, \$US 2,063,000 and Canada, \$US 5,383,000, making a total donor contribution of \$US 11,770,000. By December 1977, two staff members were on board at Ouagadougou, and at the fourth meeting of the Technical Committee, held at Ouagadougou from 12 to 15 July 1978, it was noted with satisfaction that the first batch of students had arrived for training, and that the sensitization visits by staff members of the Centre to a member of West African States had met with success.

157. Detailed consultations have also taken place between the United States State Department, ECA and the Governing Council of the Regional Centre for Services in Surveying and Mapping, with a view to discussing modalities for the establishment of the Training and User Assistance Centre at Nairobi. As a result agreement was reached whereby the United States, through USAID, would allocate a sum totalling \$US 2,440,000 for the next three years. The Director for the Centre as well as three other staff members are already in their posts and arrangements are in hand for further recruitments. Equipment has already arrived at Nairobi.

158. Discussions have taken place with authorities at Cairo, Ile-Ife and Kinshasa, with a view to seeing how best the three centres that had to be set up in these countries can be fully launched.

159. Contacts have been made with bilateral donors other than those mentioned above and considerable interest has been expressed by these donors and in one case tangible contributions have been promised.

160. The Meeting of Plenipotentiaries to set up the African Remote Sensing Council and to discuss modalities for orchestrating the development of the centres took place at Ouagadougou, the Upper Volta, from 26 to 29 September 1978.

#### MINERAL RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT

161. The main activities of the secretariat during the period under review concentrated mainly on (a) assistance to Governments in the establishment of subregional mineral resources development centres; (b) preparatory work for the First African Regional Conference on the Development and Utilization of Mineral Resources, to be convened by ECA during the first half of 1979; (c) organizing and convening, in co-operation with the Government of the USSR, a seminar and study tour for African geologists on new exploration methods in Tashkent during August 1977; and (d) the preparation of limited studies relating to mineral resources development activities within the African region.

##### Subregional mineral resources development centres

162. In practically all the African countries the national institution dealing with mineral resources prospecting and evaluation lack the necessary capability because of inadequate resources including personnel, specialized laboratory equipment for various mineral identification tests, field mineral prospecting and evaluation equipment, training facilities for the upgrading of skills of technical personnel and research facilities for the development of appropriate technologies needed for mineral resources activities.

163. To alleviate those national deficiencies, the Conference of Ministers by resolution 205(IX) of February 1969 called upon member States to establish multinational institutions for prospecting, evaluating and carrying out the necessary investigations on mineral resources in their countries.

(a) East African Mineral Resources Development Centre

164. During 1975 the countries of the East African subregion agreed to establish the East African Mineral Resources Development Centre at Dodoma in the United Republic of Tanzania, to serve Botswana, Comoros, Djibouti, Ethiopia, Kenya, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Mauritius, Mozambique, Seychelles, Somalia, Swaziland, the United Republic of Tanzania, Uganda and Zambia. The agreement for the establishment of the Centre became effective in June 1976, after it was ratified by Ethiopia, Mozambique and the United Republic of Tanzania. Subsequently, by Conference of Ministers resolution 297(XIII) on economic co-operation in the field of mineral resources, those countries which had not signed and ratified the agreement on the establishment of the Centre were called upon to give full political and material support to the institution.

165. The secretariat, in collaboration with the host country, continued to seek the active support of the countries of the subregion and potential donors for the project and to undertake preparatory work for the inaugural meeting of the Centre which was convened in Dar-es-Salaam in September 1977. Comoros became the fourth founding member of the Centre when it ratified the agreement for the establishment of the Centre at the inaugural meeting.

166. The inaugural meeting of the Centre was attended by representatives of ten countries of the subregion (Botswana, Comoros, Ethiopia, Lesotho, Malawi, Madagascar, Mozambique, Seychelles, the United Republic of Tanzania and Zambia). The signatory countries constituted the Governing Council of the Centre.

167. The meeting approved, inter alia, the basic documents constituting the legal framework for the activities of the Centre, its objectives, programmes and budget. Moreover, the meeting elected the Bureau of the Centre composed of the United Republic of Tanzania (Chairman), Botswana (Vice-Chairman) and Ethiopia (Rapporteur General). The ECA secretariat was requested to continue to be temporary secretariat of the Centre until such time as the Centre had its own secretariat.

168. Immediately after the inaugural meeting of the Centre, a meeting of potential donors was convened by ECA. Support for the project was expressed by such donors as Belgium, Denmark, the Federal Republic of Germany, Italy, the United Kingdom, UNDP, UNESCO and UNIDO.

169. As a temporary secretariat, ECA has, in co-operation with the host country and the Bureau of the Centre, continued to seek the support of the countries of the subregion in the project; mobilize funds from both participating countries and donors; recruit key short-term consultants or long-term staff for the Centre and convene two Bureau meetings in Addis Ababa (January/March 1978) to review the progress of the project and decide on strategies for its speedy implementation.

170. The Director General of the Centre was appointed during June 1978 and the Chief Technical Adviser is expected to commence his duties with the Centre during the last quarter of 1978.

171. As of the time of writing the Centre had received contributions of funds as follows: Ethiopia \$US 25,000; United Republic of Tanzania, \$US 27,000; Mozambique \$US 31,680; UNDP \$US 92,000 and Belgium, \$US 61,000--the first four for 1978 and the last for 1977.

172. The Government of United Republic of Tanzania has also informed ECA that its supplementary contribution to the Centre of nearly \$US 125,000 has been approved by Parliament and would be available to the Centre upon request.

173. The Centre's budget for the next four and a half years called for contributions from participating countries and donors amounting to \$US 4 million and \$ 6 million respectively. The ECA secretariat continues to mobilize the needed resources from the relevant sources.

**(b) Central African Mineral Resources Development Centre**

174. A field survey to determine the requirements of the Central African subregion countries in mineral resources prospecting and evaluation was undertaken by the secretariat during 1978 and it is expected that ECA will convene a meeting of experts from these countries during February 1979 to discuss the report and decide on the location of the Centre which will cover Angola, Burundi, Central African Empire, Chad, the Congo, Equatorial Guinea, Gabon, Rwanda, United Republic of Cameroon and Zaire. It is anticipated that this Centre will develop faster than that the East African Centre which was a pioneer experiment in this field.

**First Regional Conference on the Development and Utilization of Mineral Resources**

175. The preparatory work for the first Regional Conference on the Development and Utilization of Mineral Resources commenced in earnest during the period under review. Field missions to a number of countries in all the subregions of Africa were undertaken to brief country representatives on the modalities for preparing country papers and to collect data and information for the preparation of basic documents.

176. It is hoped that country inputs and the documents to be prepared by ECA or external bodies will enable the Conference to know, however roughly, the endowment of the region's mineral resources, current and near future development trends, the weaknesses of the sector and the manner in which improvements could be introduced. The project is being implemented through resources from the African Trust Fund.

**Seminar and Study Tour for African Geologists on new exploration methods**

177. The Seminar and Study Tour was successfully organized by ECA in co-operation with the USSR Government in Tashkent during August/September 1977. Nineteen African countries took part in this project which dwelt on the modern methods and future trends in the prospecting and evaluation of mineral deposits with particular reference to Africa. After the Seminar, a number of field trips, mainly to mineral development sites, were conducted. This project was financed by the USSR roubles contribution to the United Nations.

### Preparation of mineral resources development studies

178. An Economic Survey of Mining in Africa was prepared during the year as a contribution to the Survey of Economic and Social Conditions in Africa.

179. The lack of extrabudgetary resources and the additional responsibilities of the staff with the increase in the operational role of the secretariat has decreased the capability of the secretariat to undertake some of the studies which were intended to be produced in the period under review.

### ENERGY

180. In compliance with Conference of Ministers resolution 305 (XIII), during the period under review, activities relating to energy resources concentrated on three subprogramme elements : (a) development of conventional energy resources of Africa; (b) development of electrical energy in Africa, including rural electrification; and (c) development of non-conventional sources of energy in Africa, which accounted for over 50 per cent of the secretariat's activities in this field.

181. Under the subprogramme element "Planning and optimum development of energy resources in Africa", assistance was given to member States in the formulation of integrated energy policies in the evaluation, development, exploitation and use of energy resources and in multinational co-operation. Mention may be made of the countries members of the Great Lakes Community and of the Liptako-Gourma Integrated Development project for which the third phase of the project was prepared.

182. An inventory of energy resources was initiated by collecting key data. Preparation of an Atlas of Energy Resources in Africa was started and five sheets out of 16 were prepared, up-dated in the field and sent for printing. This is a four-year project and will continue in 1979 and 1980. The existing electric energy map of Africa was up-dated as part of an ongoing project.

183. As far as the establishment of a Regional Energy Committee is concerned, a briefing note was prepared. As the establishment of a Regional Committee should be preceded by the establishment of sub-regional standing committees on Energy, a project was prepared for the Central African subregion. It was suggested that the establishment of the subregional committees and of the regional committee should be financed from the OPEC Special Fund for developing regions with support from UNDP.

184. In response to Conference of Ministers resolution 309 (XIII), preparation of a study on the establishment of an African Petroleum Institute started with a write-up of a "Survey of existing facilities and future needs in Africa for education, training and research in the field

of fuel science and technology with special reference to petroleum and its derivatives".

185. Guidelines and financial implications for the establishment of an African Documentation Centre on Energy Resources, were prepared. However it was subsequently decided to include the project in the ECA Data Bank, but the collection of data on energy continued.

186. Under the subprogramme elements "Development of electrical energy" and "Rural electrification and development of energy equipment for rural use", assistance was provided on the interconnexion of grids in West and Central Africa through active participation in the Abidjan meeting and advisory services were offered on the interconnexion of grids in East Africa. In order to support the establishment of institutions for training in the field of electrical energy, consultancy services were secured and data concerning manpower needs at all levels for the electricity undertakings and water supply companies were obtained and analysed; these activities will continue in 1979. Data to assess the possibilities for the manufacture, on a multinational basis, of electrical equipment suitable to the needs of the African countries was collected and will continue to be collected in 1979. Demand for electricity in Africa was forecast and will continue in 1979. The collection and systematization of data necessary for the preparation of the "Study on methods of improving the organizational and operational aspects of electrical energy development" was initiated and will continue in 1979.

187. A "Technical and economic study of interconnexions between national networks in the East and Southern Africa subregions" was also prepared.

188. In the development of non-conventional sources of energy, advisory services were given on the development and utilization of solar, wind and biogas energies on request to 10 African countries, namely : Burundi, Cape Verde, Ethiopia, Liberia, Malawi, Sierra Leone, Somalia, the Sudan, the United Republic of Cameroon and the United Republic of Tanzania.

189. A solar energy library was established, country files were prepared and technical and commercial data on solar energy were assembled within the secretariat.

190. A five-year project on the promotion of solar energy in Africa was prepared. The project provides a wide range of activities covering strengthening of existing R & D centres; training; establishment of measurement centres; demonstration of solar infrastructure and equipment and convening of seminars, the first of them with a view to establishing an African Solar Energy Organization. The organization of two solar exhibitions in Africa was initiated.

191. A list of training institutions in solar energy was prepared and five fellowships for training in solar energy were secured. A project for training nine Africans in solar energy with assistance from USAID was prepared and is under implementation .



## WATER RESOURCES

192. Under Conference of Ministers resolution 308(XIII), the secretariat provided advisory services in respect of the planning and development of groundwater resources by conducting missions (a) to the Lake Chad region to evaluate ongoing projects, to collect data and to prepare terms of reference for a second multidisciplinary team to undertake comprehensive studies of an integrated development programme for the Lake Chad Basin Commission and draw up related project proposals; (b) to the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya to advise the Government on the rational use of groundwater for irrigation taking into account the low recharge to the groundwater aquifers; (c) to the Central African Empire to collect information and submit proposals for reorganizing the hydrogeological service, strengthening the governmental services dealing with water and starting a programme for the collection and evaluation of hydrological data; (d) to the Gambia to promote the application of modern techniques in drilling and to propose groundwater projects; and (e) to Somalia to advise on the establishment of a hydrogeological service. Similar advisory hydrogeological missions were also undertaken to Zambia, Malawi, Uganda, Guinea-Bissau and the United Republic of Cameroon.

193. Survey and study missions on groundwater resources were carried out in the Niger, the Central African Empire and Somalia and came up with the following findings and recommendations. The evaluation of groundwater projects in the north of the Niger revealed that groundwater exploitation has limited possibilities for expansion. The study in the Central African Empire showed that the feasibility studies for the development of groundwater near Kabo were insufficient and have resulted in the wrong choice of drilling equipment. For Somalia, it was recommended that geophysical exploration of the area should be intensified and efforts concentrated on test drilling on aquifers of unconsolidated material, with preference in the base regions of granitic mountains.

194. With regard to the establishment of a multinational water resources development institute in the West African subregion for research, planning and training, a questionnaire to identify the needs for improving existing facilities and to establish an institute was circulated to Governments of the West African subregion. The questionnaire is to serve as a basis for a mission to be organized to hold discussions with Governments, educational institutions and research bodies.

195. A project document on the studies on underground water resources in arid countries of Africa and the preparation of hydrogeological maps was submitted for bilateral technical assistance by the Algerian Government and USAID. The objectives of the project are to conduct surveys which will lead to a more precise knowledge of the groundwater resources in Africa, produce maps which will be of use to planners and decision makers and use this resource rationally for the economic development of the region.

196. In accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 2115 (LXIII) which called upon the regional commissions to convene regional meetings to obtain the views of States members of the United Nations on the follow-up to the United Nations Water Conference at the regional level, the African Regional Meeting was successfully convened by ECA at Addis Ababa from 2 to 6 October 1978. Action recommendations were issued for subsequent submission to the third special session of the United Nations Committee on Natural Resources dealing with water. The action recommendations covered a wide spectrum of activities in the field of water resources development and management and identified project proposals to be implemented in the African region. Proposals were made for the establishment of an intergovernmental committee on water for the African region, strengthening the water resources unit in ECA, setting up an African regional interagency water resources board and strengthening the capabilities of the existing regional water organizations and creating new ones to promote co-operation in the field of shared water resources.

197. Upon the joint request of the Governments of Kenya and Ethiopia, terms of reference for consultants to undertake preliminary investigations and studies of development projects in the Dawa River sub-basin were sent to the Governments concerned. The objectives of the project are planning the Dawa River basin for irrigation, power development, drinking water supply and the related use of surface and groundwater with a view to expanding the development of the region and establishing settled agriculture in order to alleviate the problems of food shortage and to raise the standard of living of the people.

198. A project document on the planning of water resources development in Lake Tanganyika basin was submitted for financing under the United Nations Trust Fund for African Development. The objectives of the project are the integrated land and water resources development of Lake Tanganyika basin, including the control and regulation of the Lake for the beneficial use of the riparian countries.

199. A project document on the preparation of a compendium of major international rivers in Africa was prepared and submitted for financing under the United Nations Trust Fund for African Development. The long-term objectives of the project are to undertake studies of international rivers and lakes in Africa to identify and report on the possible scope for development and to encourage exchanges among countries sharing common river basins; and to share experiences in planning, development, regulation, management and conservation of water resources. This project initially aims at studies on 17 major international rivers in Africa (Senegal, Gambia, Volta, Ouene, Niger, Ogoue, Congo, Okvango, Orange, Limpopo, Save, Zambezi, Buvuma, Juba, Schabelle and Nile) with a possibility of covering all international rivers and lakes of Africa in the future.

## CARTOGRAPHY

200. Due to the extreme shortage of technical personnel in the secretariat, activities were concentrated mainly on domestic services, such as the preparation of maps and charts which were attached to the various reports prepared by the secretariat and on active participation in conferences, meetings and seminars which were relevant to its approved programme of work.

201. During the two academic years 1976/77 and 1977/78 the Regional Centre for Training in Aerial Surveys, Ile-Ife (Nigeria), admitted 22 and 21 students respectively for the photogrammetric operator's course and photogrammetry at technicians' level from the following African countries: Senegal, Burundi, Somalia, Uganda, Zaire, Nigeria, Zambia, Kenya, Algeria, Central African Empire, the Niger and Ghana. The Governing Council of the Centre held its ninth and tenth meetings at Lagos and Ibadan (Nigeria) in April 1977 and April 1978 respectively and the secretariat chaired both meetings. At the tenth meeting the Council considered among other matters the Centre's five-year development plan (1979-1983) which comprised physical and curriculum developments.

202. In February and March 1978, two members of the Governing Council visited ten countries (Sierra Leone, the Ivory Coast, Guinea, Senegal, the Niger, the Upper Volta, Mali, Liberia, Benin and Togo) to increase awareness of the facilities for training in aerial surveys at the Centre and to solicit full political and material support on the part of more African countries.

203. The number of participating countries remained four as it was at the time of inception of the Centre. This situation adversely affected the growth of the Centre as expansion programmes that could be accommodated were confined to those within its resources.

204. The African Association of Cartography held its second Council meeting at Algiers from 7 to 12 November 1977. The working papers for this meeting were prepared by the secretariat which was also represented at the meeting, where important decisions were taken for closer co-operation between it and the Association. In June 1978 the Association approached the secretariat for assistance in establishing a cartographic centre in the Congo for training photogrammetric operators and photogrammetrists at technicians' level. The secretariat is still working on this request.

### Preparation of maps and charts

205. During the period February 1977 to July 1978, the drawing office prepared 103 drawings for maps and charts and distributed 720 sheets of maps published by the secretariat to organizations both inside and outside Africa. The Map Documentation and Reference Centre received 934 maps and other cartographic publications, and published five quarterly accessions lists which were sent to its correspondents.

206. The data collected on geodetic and topographical mapping in respect of the cartographic inventory for Africa project were analysed and treated; the indexed map sheets for the first block covering the Niger, Nigeria, Benin, Togo and the United Republic of Cameroon were due for publication in December 1978. Cartographic work on a second block covering Kenya, Uganda, Rwanda, Burundi and the United Republic of Tanzania reached an advanced stage and the indexed map sheets are likely to be published in April 1979. The expert on the project went on mission to selected African countries in July and August 1978 to collect cartographic data in respect of the remaining ten blocks. The secretariat provided inputs such as research co-ordination and the services of two draughtsmen in accordance with the Memorandum of Grant Conditions entered into with the Government of Canada which provided a grant of \$Can. 449.705 for the project.

207. The secretariat participated in the third United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names which took place at Athens in September 1977. It prepared panels of exhibits and drawings for the first International Trade Fair which was held at Lagos (Nigeria) in December 1977 and mounted a pavillion. The exhibits and drawings brought out clearly the role of ECA and its activities in the economic development of Africa.

208. The Congo approached the secretariat for assistance in strengthening its newly established cartographic organization following the withdrawal of technical assistance in cartographic services by France. As a first step the secretariat sent a mission to Brazzaville to assess the requirements and a report has been prepared.

209. All arrangements have been concluded for the convening of the fourth United Nations Regional Cartographic Conference for Africa to be held at Abidjan, the Ivory Coast, from 30 April to 12 May 1979.

210. The number of contracting countries at the Regional Centre for Services in Surveying and Mapping, Nairobi (Kenya) remained five as at the time of its inception. These are Kenya, Uganda, the United Republic of Tanzania, Somalia and Malawi. Out of these only Kenya and Uganda have been active financial participants. Lack of adequate financial resources has therefore adversely affected both the physical and the curriculum development of the Centre. The Governing Council held its fourth, fifth and sixth meetings in Nairobi in July 1977, December 1977 and June 1978 respectively and the secretariat was represented on each occasion. The Centre sponsored some students from the East African subregion who took part in the Gravity Workshop 1978 held in Nairobi in November 1978. The Remote Sensing Training and User Assistance Centre financed by USAID is co-located with the Centre following an agreement signed between the Governing Council and USAID.

#### HUMAN ENVIRONMENT

211. During the period under review the secretariat convened a regional

seminar on the human environment at Addis Ababa from 17 to 25 January 1977 which was attended by 21 African member States to discuss constraints in the African region in implementing the recommendations of the Stockholm Conference and decisions of the various Governing Council meetings of the United Nations Environment Programme. The Seminar made specific recommendations in the field of the human environment which focused especially on assisting African countries to strengthen existing environmental secretariats and assisting countries to establish new ones where these do not exist.

212. In February 1977 a joint programming exercise was held between UNEP and ECA at Addis Ababa. At this meeting agreement was reached to convene joint seminars on alternative patterns on development and life styles in Africa and to hold subregional seminars and workshops on ecological principles for development for ministers and senior government decision makers from 15 African countries. A project document was signed whereby UNEP will provide resources to strengthen the Environment Unit of ECA for a period of two years. It was also agreed to follow up this joint programming exercise with future sectoral meetings to identify specific projects on which the two organizations could work together.

213. The secretariat participated in the preparatory meeting for the United Nations Desertification Conference at Algarve, Portugal, for the Mediterranean countries and at Nairobi for sub-Saharan Africa. This was followed by participation in the United Nations Conference on Desertification which was held at Nairobi in August 1977. Both the preparatory meetings and the global Conference on Desertification recommended the establishment of green belts north and south of the Sahara, exploration that would lead to discovery of underground water resources in Africa and the use of modern techniques for monitoring the process of desertification. These were to be carried out jointly by UNEP, the regional commissions and other United Nations agencies. In this regard ECA participated in the interagency meeting held in Paris in 1978 to devise ways and means to implement the recommendations of the Desertification Conference.

214. During the same period the secretariat provided comments on substantive topics to be discussed by the Governing Council of UNEP which were included in the final document which UNEP presented to two sessions of the Governing Council in 1977 and 1978.

215. During the last quarter of 1977 the secretariat organized a seminar at Addis Ababa for participants from countries in Africa which had not yet created environmental secretariats to study a joint ECA/UNEP report of a mission which had visited over 15 African countries in 1976 so as to formulate plans for starting their environmental machineries. This seminar was followed by a study tour to Ghana, Senegal and Egypt to enable participants to study the workings of already established environmental organizations in Africa. The participants wrote reports on their experiences and expressed the hope that as a result of the tour ECA and UNEP would assist them in establishing their own environmental organizations. During

the same period, as a result of joint efforts by ECA and UNEP, 21 African countries had established either ministries, councils or secretariats for the human environment. All these organs reflect national priorities and concerns as far as the human environment is concerned.

216. Studies were conducted in updating the situation of the human environment in Africa under the titles "The problem of water supply in Africa", "The rural/urban situation in Africa", "Tourism and the African environment" and "The question of refugees as this affects Africa". An agreement was drawn up to convene a seminar of African lawyers at which existing legislation in various African countries relating to the human environment would be studied and appropriate recommendations made.

### POPULATION

217. During the two years under review, Africa's population continued to grow at a rate of 2.8 per cent per annum with the total increasing from 424 million to 448 million. During the period, a good number of African countries completed their censuses under the African Census Programme thus enabling more countries to have a more accurate view of their total population and its characteristics, which form indispensable inputs for development planning. The main problems to which the secretariat, in line with the work programme, addressed itself during the biennium related to creating awareness about the population situation in the region and the need to integrate population and population policies in the process of planning for socio-economic development; the preparation of studies to facilitate an understanding of the dynamics that underlie the population trends which affect socio-economic development in the region, training for socio-economic development in the region and the training of personnel both at United Nations regional institutes and at national institutions for population work in the region.

### Population policies and programmes within the framework of economic and social development

218. In furtherance of the project aim of assisting the countries of the region in the implementation and evaluation of national population policies and programmes as an integral part of and aid to economic and social development, the secretariat continued with the macro-micro case studies project, a programme which involved the preparation of country case studies on the relation between population and socio-economic development. Four studies were completed during the period on Kenya, Benin, Zaire and the Niger. Additional country case studies were commissioned for Morocco and the Upper Volta. Continuing the task of creating awareness at the country level on the issue of population and development, follow-up national seminars were held during the period in Mauritius (1978) and Senegal in February 1979. Three such seminars were originally planned for the biennium but the one for Madagascar was postponed at the request of the Government. The case study project as well as the national seminars were financed by UNFPA.

219. The secretariat also undertook and completed a study on "L'échange de la main-d'oeuvre entre la Côte d'Ivoire et des pays voisins du Sahel : Base d'une approche en vue de l'étude de la situation d'interdépendance des économies de la sous région". The study on the role of international organizations in the implementation of family planning programmes and their impact in the region originally planned for 1976 was completed late in 1977.

220. Among the activities undertaken mention should be made of the analysis of African Governments' replies to the third United Nations Inquiry on Population and Development and assistance in the preparation and administration of the fourth Inquiry. These inquiries aim at finding out how far Governments have or intend to integrate population variables and policies in the process of development planning. They form part of the means being used by the United Nations to monitor the implementation of the World Population Plan of Action. Also important are the regional inputs to the work on monitoring of population trends and policies as well as work on review and appraisal of the World Population Plan of Action which is being undertaken by the United Nations.

#### Population dynamics and economic and social development

221. In the secretariat's continuing efforts to achieve its aims in the project area of population dynamics and economic and social development, it assisted the Congo in the analysis of mortality data for Brazzaville and in the preparation of a project request for submission to UNFPA for the funding of the establishment of a National Centre of Statistics and Economic Studies. Assistance was also rendered to Mali in the organization of its first national population census and in the preparatory work for the analysis of the census data; and to Senegal in the identification of areas of assistance in the field of population in collaboration with UNFPA and in the formulation of a project request for a National Seminar on Population and Development for submission to UNFPA for funding. Mauritius was assisted in the analysis of fertility data from the 1972 census. In collaboration with the United Nations Population Division (New York) the secretariat also assisted that Government in the evaluation of its family planning programme.

222. Continued assistance was given to Nigeria in conducting a series of demographic surveys to provide information for the planning of the country's new capital. This assistance was rendered throughout the biennium in collaboration with the Regional Institute for Population Studies. Four surveys have so far been completed namely : Survey of federal civil servants in Lagos; Survey of industrial, commercial and other non-public service establishments; Demographic household survey of Lagos; and Survey of public space requirements and linkages. This project, which has so far cost nearly \$US 200,000, is being directly financed by the Government of Nigeria. This is a unique operation which, apart from the insight and experience gained, is expected to contribute to the secretariat's programme on human settlements.

223. As part of a comprehensive plan for assisting the countries of the region in the analysis of recently completed censuses, the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya was assisted on request in the preparation of a monograph on "Population growth and patterns of fertility and mortality in the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya" as part of the analysis of the 1973 national census. Missions were also undertaken to the Ivory Coast, the Gambia and Sierra Leone in connexion with the analysis of census data which has been held up unduly in many of the countries that participated in the African Census Programme because of delays in the data processing stage of the censuses. At the subregional level assistance was given to UDEAC in the preparation of technical documents for a Seminar on Vital Registration. The Seminar which took place at Libreville (Gabon) in May 1977 was attended by a member of the secretariat.

224. As part of its continuing effort to create a better understanding of the dynamics that influence population trends in the region, the secretariat completed three different studies on : Fertility differentials among different occupational groups in Africa; Mortality level patterns and differentials and trends in North and East Africa respectively; and the Relationship between marriage and fertility. Studies on types, volume and trends in migratory movements and on international migratory trends in selected African countries were also started but could not be completed.

225. Work was started on a field study which aims at helping to understand the interrelations between infant mortality and childhood mortality, socio-economic factors and fertility in Africa. The field work of the first project was started in Zambia in 1978 and is expected to be completed in 1979. The project is being implemented by the secretariat in collaboration with the Statistical Office in Zambia, with funds provided by the Ford Foundation (\$US 35,000) and UNFPA (\$US 10,000). This study, apart from the results that will emerge from it, will also help to test the methodology for such studies.

226. A number of studies could not be undertaken for lack of resources. These include the study on the demographic aspects of labour force in Africa including trends in female participation rates (1978); Study on the demography of nomadic population (1978); Study of subfertility and infertility in the Central African subregion and their policy implications (1977); and the Study of marriage in Africa, its changing patterns and relationship to fertility.

227. The objectives of the work programme in the field of population information were further enhanced with continued publication of the quarterly African Population Newsletter, and African Population Studies, No.3 of which was submitted to printers. Work was also completed on the 1978 edition of the Demographic Handbook for Africa and the third edition of the African Directory of Demographers was published. In response to Conference of Ministers resolution 230 (X) a draft manual on demographic concepts and definitions suitable for Africa was completed in close



collaboration with experts in the countries of the region and the Conference of African Demographers.

228. In the area of conferences/seminars, the third session of the Conference of African Demographers was held at Dakar from 19 to 24 February 1978 with the Government of Senegal providing host facilities. The secretariat also organized the fifth Regional Interagency Co-ordination Meeting on Population and fifth Meeting of Non-United Nations Organizations interested in Population Work in Africa at Dakar, Senegal, in February 1979.

229. Apart from these meetings which were the direct responsibility of the secretariat, the secretariat also collaborated with ILO, WHO, UNFPA, ECWA, WFS and African universities and research institutions in the servicing of and contributed papers to meetings organized by these organizations. Papers presented at some of these meetings included "Present experiences in mortality data collection and analysis in African countries", submitted to a WHO seminar in Alexandria (Egypt) in November 1977; "Evaluation, adjustment and analysis of migration data" presented at a workshop organized by the Regional Institute for Population Studies in Accra in 1977; and "Demographic configurations of the less developed countries" presented to a Seminar on Population Issues in Planning Metropolitan Lagos organized by the University of Lagos and the Lagos State Ministry of Planning. Under the sponsorship of UNESCO, OAU and ECA, a Meeting of Experts on the Role of Communication Media and Information Services in Population-Oriented Development Programmes in Africa was organized in Nairobi in November 1978.

230. The secretariat also participated in a meeting organized by UNFPA in Nairobi in January 1979 to establish a strategy for intercountry activities for the sub-Saharan region; to develop a common approach in terms of programming, concepts and procedures with a view to encouraging programme development and to improving the co-ordination of regional advisory services in sub-Saharan Africa in order to facilitate inter-sectoral and multidisciplinary approaches as well as interagency actions.

#### Regional training and research

231. The interest in the training of personnel for the Governments of the region still remains paramount because of the shortage of personnel at the national level to undertake the relevant studies needed for planning.

232. The need for continued UNFPA assistance to regional training institutes to enable them to alleviate this problem was stressed by an evaluation mission which visited the three regional institutes in the region.

233. In pursuance of these objectives the secretariat continued in collaboration with United Nations Headquarters to backstop the activities

of the Regional Institute for Population Studies, Accra, Ghana, the Institut de formation et de recherche démographiques, Yaoundé, United Republic of Cameroon, and provided some assistance to the Cairo Demographic Centre, Egypt, through the provision of staff members to deliver lectures at the institutes in Accra and Yaoundé and supervise trainees in the preparation of dissertations; the announcement of courses and invitation of trainee nominations from the countries of the region; participation in the meetings of the governing councils and advisory committees of the two institutes; recruitment of consultants for the institutes; submission of the budgets of the institutes to UNFPA; and the participation in the meetings of the Advisory Committee of the Cairo Demographic Centre.

234. Furthermore, assistance was provided to the East African Statistical Training Centre, Dar-es-Salaam, where staff members gave lectures in demography to the trainees of the Centre. Similarly, the Ethiopian Family Guidance Association was assisted in its quarterly training programme by a staff member who delivered lectures on basic demography and the role of family planning in development to the trainees in 1979 and 1978.

#### PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION, MANAGEMENT AND FINANCE

235. This programme aims at assisting African Governments in developing improved administrative, managerial and financial capability for effective development planning and plan implementation. During the biennium under review the main thrust in programme implementation was: studies in governmental structures and administrative reforms; studies and training courses in budgeting, taxation and financial management; public enterprises management; and procurement and supply management, detailed activities of which are reviewed below.

##### Government structures and administrative reforms

236. A study which continued during 1977 on innovative developments in the structure and operations of local governments in Nigeria, Sierra Leone, Liberia and the Gambia was completed by the first quarter of 1978 and the report issued to the countries concerned. It is intended, subject to the availability of funds, to use these case studies for subregional workshops in 1979 on local administrations as instruments of development.

237. From late 1977 information and data for coping with development tasks began to be collected on organizational patterns, functions and effectiveness of various governmental structures in Africa and elsewhere. These will be analysed and operational experiences compared with the aim of working out guidelines for African Governments in their efforts to reform their public services and create new structures to meet the development challenge. It is expected that the resulting studies will provide basic working materials for the organization of subregional

workshops on governmental structures and administrative reforms during 1979.

238. A review study on public administration and finance problems in African countries was undertaken in 1977 as a contribution to the United Nations Expert Group Meeting on Public Administration and Finance for Development which was held at Geneva in September 1977. ECA also collaborated with the African Association for Public Administration and Management which sponsored a Round Table on African Public Enterprises: Prospects for the 1980s, which was held in August 1978 in Freetown (Sierra Leone). ECA presented a paper to the Round Table on "The challenge of the 1980s for African public services" sketching strategic areas for administrative reform action in order to cope with future development tasks as well as another study was on the administrative and managerial aspects of indigenization.

239. In the field of administrative reforms a sensitization seminar on administrative reform was organized for high-level officials in Kigali (Rwanda) in July 1978 and in August a study tour for French-speaking senior African administrators on administrative reform in Senegal was carried out. A total of 20 senior officials from ten African States took part in the study tour. The Government of France extended technical co-operation to ECA for the implementation of both activities, while the Government of Senegal co-operated fully in making its experience and facilities available for the study tour programme. The United Nations Public Administration and Finance Division provided resource persons for the latter activity.

240. Studies and follow-up action on the proposed African Centre for Advanced Public Policy Analysis and Strategic Studies could not be initiated during the biennium partly because of resource constraints and partly for want of clear consensus on the desirability of the project.

241. At the request of member States consultative advisory missions were undertaken to the Gambia, the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Nigeria, Sierra Leone, Burundi, Seychelles, Senegal, Chad and Zambia on various aspects of administrative problems and related personnel training.

#### Budgeting, taxation and financial management

242. In the management of public finance for planned development, consultative and advisory missions were organized to countries which requested them including training courses in programme and performance budgeting, financial management, tax policies, legislation and administration organized in Zambia and Mauritania in 1977 and in the Sudan, Somalia and Morocco in 1978. The International Monetary Fund supplied working documents while the German Foundation for Developing Countries, the Commonwealth Fund for Technical Co-operation, the United States and Columbia University provided resource persons for the Lusaka training course. The German Foundation also assisted with the implementation of the Somalia

national workshop. During the biennium at least 120 budget and tax officers participated in ECA-sponsored training courses and workshops. In the Seychelles a three-man mission during May/June 1978 endeavoured to identify priority training needs in the public service and appraised urgent financial and budget management problems.

243. A number of studies were also undertaken to provide policy guidelines in support of training courses. These included case studies of African countries' experiences in using presumptive tax assessment techniques in taxing small traders; development of techniques and procedures for effective co-ordination of the budget and the plan; expenditure control, auditing and financial reporting in the United Republic of Tanzania, Kenya and Sierra Leone; improvements in budgetary systems and management in selected African countries; and preparatory work related to a proposal for the establishment of a Regional Training and Research Centre in Taxation.

#### Public enterprises

244. While a shortage of staff has precluded more substantial work in the field of public enterprise management, action was taken to review the role and problems of African public enterprises and spell out new dimensions for their operation in relation to economic integration activities. The result of this study was presented to the Regional Seminar on Technical and Managerial Problems of African Public Enterprises, which was held in Yaoundé (United Republic of Cameroon) from 7 to 14 August 1978. The German Foundation, IDRC of Canada, the Foundation for International Training for Third World Countries, AAPRAM, the State Agencies Development Co-operation Organization of Ireland and CAFRAD all collaborated with ECA in organizing the Seminar. The Government of the United Republic of Cameroon played a major role not only in providing host facilities but also in providing administrative and technical support services. The Seminar was attended by about 60 managing directors of African public enterprises or their deputies. The Seminar agreed on a framework and guidelines for the organization of future follow-up meetings and negotiation workshops aimed at fostering co-operation among African public enterprises and evolving new dimensions for their development role.

245. A study on the use of group consultancy services for improving efficiency and effectiveness in the management of African public enterprises which was scheduled for 1978 had to be deferred for lack of expertise and adequate provision for consultants. The study will be taken up in 1979, resources permitting.

#### Purchasing and supply management

246. The ECA/SIDA Purchasing and Supply Management Project for Africa has been operational since 1975 and has been funded by SIDA. It is designed to assist African States in developing efficiency, effectiveness and professionalism in their procurement and material management

services and to foster co-operation and intra-African trade in this regard. The principal tasks during the biennium concentrated on further consultative, advisory and study missions and efforts to mobilize support for the formal inauguration of the African Purchasing and Supplies Organization, (APSO). Nearly two thirds of all member States have been visited by the project personnel. During 1978 advisory missions were undertaken to ten countries.

247. The project has yet to achieve its main objective despite the appeal in Conference of Ministers resolution 307(XIII) which called on all member States that have not yet subscribed to the constitution and membership of APSO to do so and to give it material and financial support for the realization of its objectives. At the time of preparing this report only five member States had signed the constitution. It is planned to renew efforts to secure the required constitutional quorum during 1979 and to convene the inaugural meeting as soon as the quorum is reached. The project will continue to collaborate with UNCTAD and the International Trade Centre.

248. Both in this subprogramme area and in other activities initiated under public administration, management and finance, ECA has constantly received the collaboration of the United Nations Public Administration and Finance Division and it is intended to continue to improve on this mutual co-operation.

#### SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

249. Within the framework of the objectives of the Economic Commission for Africa, the programme of work in science and technology has the primary objective of assisting in the development of technologies consistent with national policies and suited to the needs and conditions of the African countries, and in the application of such technologies to national development. The programme involves the local generation of science and technology and the selection, transfer and adaptation of technologies obtained from external sources, with due regard for the development of the human and material resources required for the success of the programme as well as the promotion of co-operation among countries and relevant agencies.

250. The secretariat has been fully involved with the activities leading up to the establishment of an African Centre for Technology. The project itself originated from the decisions of African ministers of trade, industry, and education, and particularly from the decision of the fourth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, which in resolution 87(IV) requested ECA and OAU, in collaboration with UNCTAD, UNIDO, UNESCO and WIPO, to convene a meeting of plenipotentiaries in 1977 to establish an African Centre for Technology. Early in the second half of 1976 the secretariat set in motion inhouse discussions on issues related to the Centre followed by consultations with OAU and other agencies, out of which a programme of preparatory activities evolved.

251. The secretariat took part in the following activities: organization of an inventory mission, which visited 17 African countries between April and June 1977 to seek Governments' views about the Centre and to identify the problems and issues pertaining to transfer of technology in the region; preparation of the report of the interagency mission; organization of an interagency meeting in Addis Ababa from 5 to 10 September 1977 to review the mission's report; and convening of an Intergovernmental Meeting of African Experts in Arusha, United Republic of Tanzania, from 3 to 8 October 1977 to review the interagency report and prepare final recommendations on the Centre.

252. The recommendations of the Intergovernmental Meeting of African Experts were considered by a meeting of African Plenipotentiaries held from 10 to 14 November 1977 at Kaduna, Nigeria, where the final decision was taken on all aspects relating to the establishment of the Centre, except the location. The African Regional Centre for Technology was thus established, its constitution having been acceded to by 25 African countries. An ECA mission was sent out in early February 1978 to the eight countries which were candidates for hosting the Centre to evaluate the facilities and services they proposed to make available to the Centre. The report of this mission was to assist the Council of the Centre in the selection of the location of the Centre.

253. The first session of the Council and the first meeting of the Executive Board of the African Centre for Technology were held in Arusha, United Republic of Tanzania, from 8 to 11 May 1978. The Executive Board considered questions such as the organization of the secretariat of the Centre, including its staff, and a draft programme of work and budget for 1978 and 1979, including the formula for contributions by States members of the Centre and the host country. The recommendations of the Executive Board were then submitted to the second session of Council which was to consider them and select a host country for the Centre. The second session of the Council and the second meeting of the Executive Board of the Centre convened in November 1978 subsequently selected Senegal as host country.

254. The following preparatory activities have been undertaken: (a) member States have been invited to comment on the report of the Mission to assess the facilities of countries desiring to host the Centre; and (b) advertisements for the post of Executive Director of the Centre and directors of the various divisions have been circulated to member States universities, institutions, etc., within the region.

255. Financing for the preparatory activities has been provided principally by UNDP and UNESCO. The following United Nations bodies and specialized agencies also have contributed: UNCTAD, UNIDO, FAO, ILO and WIPO. Financing for the operations of the Centre consists of a regular budget obtained from contributions by member States and a subvention from OAU, supported by a UNDP assistance project covering the period 1978-1981 as well as assistance from agencies within the United Nations system.

256. Since its operations embrace the transfer, development and adaptation of technology in the whole region, the Centre will be directly involved in action programmes arising out of the African regional meeting and the global United Nations Conference on Science and Technology for Development. The Centre will also have strong linkages with other technological organizations within and outside the region, and particularly the African Regional Organization for Standardization (ARSO), the Regional Centre for Engineering Design and Manufacturing and the Arab Centre for Technology.

257. The United Nations Conference on Science and Technology for Development (UNCSTD) is being convened pursuant inter alia to Economic and Social Council resolution 1897 (XVII) and General Assembly resolutions 3362 (S-VII) and 31/184.

258. The secretariat prepared a budget and programme for the preparatory period of the Conference lasting from January 19, 1978 to early 1979 which were submitted to the Office of Science and Technology, United Nations Headquarters, in the expectation that they would be taken into account in the allocation of resources for the preparatory activities in the African region. A more detailed programme of the various regional activities leading to the World Conference was considered and adopted in part at the meeting of the Intergovernmental Committee of Experts for Science and Technology in January 1977.

259. Work continued in 1977 under the guidance of the ECA Steering Committee for UNCSTD. Preparatory Committee Report No. 43 (A/32/43) was circulated to member States, their embassies in Addis Ababa and all science and engineering faculties of African universities. The Intergovernmental Meeting of the African Experts on Aspects of Technology Development, sponsored by ECA in Arusha, United Republic of Tanzania, from 3 to 8 October 1977, considered background papers prepared by ECA and selected five subject areas, took decisions as to the nature and organization of the Regional Meeting and was informed by a representative of UNCSTD secretariat of manpower and financial provisions for the preparatory activities.

260. The secretariat also participated in the first and second sessions of the preparatory Committee in New York and Geneva, the fourth session of the Committee for Science and Technology for Development, the ACC Subcommittee on Science and Technology, the regional commissions meeting in New York, the informal Meeting on the Network for Exchange of Information and Transfer of Technology, etc., and conducted dialogues with African focal points in the Gambia, Malawi, Botswana, Lesotho, Guinea, the United Republic of Tanzania, Kenya, Zambia, Gabon, Swaziland, Madagascar, Nigeria, Ghana, Liberia, the United Republic of Cameroon and Senegal regarding preparations for UNCSTD through correspondence and by visits.

261. The African Regional Meeting of UNCSTD was held at Cairo from

24 to 29 August 1978 and took decisions regarding the review and finalization of the African Regional Paper including a Programme of Action for submission to the World Conference. Following the African Regional Meeting the secretariat revised the regional paper and mounted follow-up activities in the region prior to the global Conference in 1979.

262. ECA collaborated fully with the UNCSTD secretariat in New York in the execution of preparatory activities for which the UNCSTD secretariat had provided resources including two regional advisers, consultants, a co-ordinator and a bilingual secretary, as well as the expenses of pre-session and post-session documentation.

263. Following close consultations between ECA and the International Development Research Centre (IDRC) of Canada on the subject of technology policy instruments, a joint IDRC/ECA Conference/Workshop on technology policy instruments was convened at Kericho, Kenya, from 14 to 19 December 1977. The meeting, which was attended by representatives of IDRC, ECA and seven English-speaking African countries, offered an opportunity to exchange views among policy makers, planners and scientists on ways in which technology intervenes in the development process. The discussions were based on reports of the science and technology policy instruments project which had been conducted in the developing countries under the auspices of IDRC. The meeting selected a few areas in which African participants expressed considerable interest for follow-up, and consultations are under way to identify African researchers and research institutes to undertake the research topics which will soon be agreed upon by the countries concerned.

264. The secretariat completed preparations for the fourth meeting of the Intergovernmental Committee of Experts for Science and Technology Development from 24 to 28 January 1977. Among the issues considered by the meeting were the following: review of the African Regional Plan for Application of Science and Technology to Development; preparations for the forthcoming United Nations Conference on Science and Technology for Development; and establishment of an African Regional Centre for Technology. The Committee also held extensive discussions on practical measures for the promotion of technology within the African region. The question of the future of this Committee was referred to the fifth meeting of the Conference of Ministers by the Executive Committee at its nineteenth meeting held at Arusha in October 1978.

265. The secretariat assisted with the organization and servicing of the twelfth and thirteenth meetings of the African Regional Group of ACAST, which were held at Addis Ababa from 17 to 19 October 1977 and 15 to 17 May 1978 respectively. Both sessions considered the progress of preparatory activities in Africa for the United Nations Conference on Science and Technology for Development and made proposals to achieve more productive results from activities planned at the national and subregional levels. The twelfth session also made proposals on the modalities for the review of the African Regional Plan for the Application of Science and Technology to Development, whilst the thirteenth meeting reviewed and



commented on the draft Regional Paper prepared by ECA for submission to the African Regional Meeting on UNCSTD.

266. The thirteenth meeting further reviewed ECA's programme of work in science and technology for 1980-1983 and urged the Executive Secretary and the Conference of Ministers to take the necessary steps to ensure that the Science and Technology Unit was strengthened in 1979.

267. Concerning assistance to countries, Territories and multinational groupings in designing measures and facilities for presenting R & D, technical innovation and diffusion with special reference to industrial development, agricultural transformation and integrated rural development, the secretariat conducted a mail poll of all African universities to ascertain how the various skills concentrated at their universities have been of service to the industries nation-wide or in the university environs. The secretariat would like to follow this initial survey with concrete suggestions to both the universities and industry.

268. A representative of the secretariat attended the fourth and fifth sessions of the Interagency Task Force on Information Exchange and the Transfer of Technology which were held in New York in February 1977 and Geneva in September 1977 respectively to exchange views on the modalities of establishing a network for exchange of technological information. In a related activity the secretariat undertook a preliminary survey of technical information resources in selected African countries by means of field missions which visited four African countries during August/September 1977. The report of the survey would be taken into account by the Interagency Task Force in formulating its programme of assistance to the region in the field of technological information.

269. A representative of the secretariat participated in the informal meeting on the network for exchange of information and transfer of technology held in New York on 8 June 1978. The meeting discussed mechanisms for the exchange of scientific and technological information and development experience and agreed that regional commissions should assume greater responsibilities in undertaking the preparatory activities for the network if financial resources could be made available; regional commissions should also suggest subject areas for ACAST's consideration of a pilot implementation network. It was felt that this latter activity could be better handled at the regional meetings on UNCSTD.

270. ECA collaborated with the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) in the establishment of the Industrial Property Organization of English-speaking Africa, the headquarters of which is located in Nairobi, Kenya. The objectives of the organization include the promotion and harmonization of industrial property, laws and practices that would enhance the economic development of the States members of the organization, establishing related common services and promoting the training of personnel in the field of industrial property laws and practice. ECA and WIPO jointly provide the interim secretariat of the organization and prepared

model laws on trade-marks, patents and industrial designs suitable for the needs of the States members of the organization for their consideration and adaptation.

271. The first session of the Council of the organization was held in Nairobi from 2 to 5 May 1978. At this session the Council decided that a Patent Documentation and Information Centre should be established within the framework of the organization, and that ECA and WIPO, as interim secretariat, should continue their efforts to mobilize resources from external sources for the implementation of the Centre.

272. It was also decided that the first budget of the organization should be for the year beginning from 1 January 1980 and that contributions from member States should be proportionate to the formula applied for their contributions to the budget of the United Nations. The Council further decided that the Director of the organization should be appointed at its next session, to take office as from January 1980 to coincide with the first budgetary year. Until the Director has been appointed, ECA and WIPO should continue to provide interim secretariat office.

273. The two patent documentation and information centre, one for English-speaking countries (Nairobi) and the other for French-speaking (Yaoundé) are expected to have close links with the African Regional Centre for Technology to ensure that the important role of patents in technological development is adequately achieved.

274. With reference to the African Regional Organization for Standardization (ARSO), at its fourth meeting the Conference of Ministers of ECA adopted resolution 315 (XIII) by which ECA was requested to continue its secretariat support to ARSO.

275. In accordance with that resolution and on the request of the ARSO General Assembly, the ECA secretariat will assume the role of the interim secretariat for ARSO until its own secretariat becomes operational. A provisional bank account was opened in Addis Ababa to allow countries to pay their contributions. The ECA secretariat organized the second meeting of the ARSO Council from 11 to 14 January 1978 at the ECA headquarters, although only four countries had ratified the ARSO constitution as against the minimum requirement of eight. The meeting requested ECA to continue its secretariat assistance to ARSO and authorized ECA to recruit, on behalf of ARSO, a secretary to assist with secretarial work. The ARSO President has since paid \$US 10,000 to ECA to cover the expenses which might be incurred.

276. A UNDP assistance project for the initial operations of ARSO has been proposed by UNIDO.

277. With regard to the development of manpower for science and technology, a project has been developed for restructuring existing curricula in technology in universities in Africa. The project has the objective

of exposing the engineering student to more factory-level practical experience while still at university so as to make him more useful to industry immediately upon graduation. This is to be achieved by the establishment and operation of production workshop units in faculties of engineering at the universities. Finance is being obtained from relevant funding agencies for this project.

278. The secretariat jointly with UNESCO has prepared a project on the development of marine science and technology in Africa. This project will lead to the establishment of two centres of marine science and technology, one for maritime States in East Africa, and the other for maritime States in East and West Africa better to explore and exploit their marine resources, to develop indigenous manpower in these countries in marine science and technology research, and to promote co-operation among the countries in each of these subregions in the development and utilization of their marine resources. Finance for this project is being sought from relevant funding sources.

### SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

#### Integrated rural development

279. The secretariat's strategy for the late 1970s and the 1980s recommends inter alia that efforts should be concentrated on the development of the African rural infrastructure in order to help to expand employment opportunities in the construction of rural road networks, telecommunications, housing, power supplies, the construction and improvement of rural townships, water works, irrigation and canals; to provide health, nutrition and educational services; and to promote rural industries. Secondly, the expansion of the African rural infrastructure is expected to have an appreciable impact on agricultural production, especially to meet the increased demands engendered by both increased employment and earning power and the needs of new rural and urban industries, thus opening new markets. The third role expected to be played by the development of African rural infrastructure, as put in the ECA strategy, "involves its contribution to the physical integration of the national socio-economic system".

280. Since the ECA/FAO programme evaluation exercises in 1964 and 1975, the secretariat's integrated rural development programme has been reformulated in order to concentrate on (a) interdisciplinary studies and action projects relating to socio-economic problems encountered by national and local governments in the process of rural development, e.g., obtaining sufficient land and its improvement for better production; obtaining water for irrigation and for domestic purposes; obtaining credit facilities for production purposes; feeder roads for access to market centres and marketing and distribution facilities; health and nutrition; rural technology; and mass communication facilities; and (b) interdisciplinary advisory facilities to member States to generate the development of active rural life and rural institutions.

281. A two-month training mission on the mobilization of rural communities for self-help projects was undertaken in Chad during the first quarter of 1977. A prefeasibility study on integrated rural development of the Mbeya and Rukwa regions of the United Republic of Tanzania and the northern province of Zambia was also undertaken by an interdisciplinary team from the secretariat in co-operation with the Lusaka-based MULPOC in December 1976 and a report issued in July 1977.

282. The secretariat participated in an eight-week mission to Senegal, the Upper Volta and Mali to undertake a study on popular participation in development in the Sahelian area. The mission made a study of the Sahelian Governments' policies and advised on ways and means of increasing the participation of the local population in the development of their respective countries, in co-operation with the Permanent Inter-State Committee for Drought Control in the Sahel (CILSS) and the Club des Amis du Sahel.

283. Early in 1977, an Interdivisional Working Group on Integrated Rural Development was established with the collective responsibility for supervising and monitoring plan development and implementation. Its specific functions included the elaboration of policies, strategies and programme activities of the secretariat, as a basis for divisional and joint projects in rural development; the examination of resources available for project implementation; assistance to the monitoring division (Social Development Division) in constituting such interdisciplinary teams as might be deemed necessary to carry out country missions; ad hoc studies, etc.; and to receive and consider reports of activities in the field of rural development of the United Nations specialized and operating agencies as well as of international and national voluntary organizations.

284. During the period under review, the Interdivisional Working Group identified and established the secretariat's special programme in integrated rural development. A total of seven interdivisional and interdisciplinary projects were also designed and implemented under its auspices.

285. The secretariat continued to promote the co-ordination of its work in rural development with that of various national and international voluntary agencies sponsoring rural development programmes in Africa. Two main projects stood out in this field : (a) the Joint ECA/Panafrican Institute for Development (national) Seminar on the Methodology and Practice of Integrated Rural Development which was organized in Rwanda in June 1977 with assistance from Swiss Technical Co-operation, and (b) the Joint ECA/Konrad Adenauer Foundation Workshop on the Problems of the Effective Use of Radio Forums/Club in Rural Africa which was convened at Addis Ababa in December 1977 and which was attended by 39 participants representing 23 member countries and 12 observers from intergovernmental and international organizations.

286. The secretariat is now considering ways and means of organizing in

1979 a follow-up intergovernmental meeting on social implications and factors in the development of effective mass media for African communities, for accelerating development especially in rural Africa.

287. A comparative study of the organization, administration and financing of rural development in Africa was completed in mid-1978. This study was used as the basic background document at the Intergovernmental Meeting on Policy, Planning, Organization and Management of Integrated Rural Development, which took place at Arusha (United Republic of Tanzania) from 26 October to 3 November 1978.

288. The secretariat took the initiative in convening the Regional Inter-Agency Committee on Rural Development comprised of ECA, FAO, ILO, UNDP, UNESCO, UNHCR, UNICEF, UNIDO, WHO and OAU, with a view to promoting co-ordination of activities among these organizations in the field of rural development. In the same context, the secretariat participated in the fourth meeting of the ACC Task Force on Rural Development and in the Third Inter-Agency Meeting (Rome, March 1978), which discussed preparations for the World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development, scheduled to be held in 1979.

289. The third edition of the Directory of Activities of International Voluntary Agencies in Rural Development in Africa was published in the first quarter of 1978. As a result of a change in policy, the issue of the Directory in its present form has been discontinued. It is proposed that closer co-operation with Governments and national voluntary agencies be progressively reinforced, in order to encourage the establishment of national co-ordinating machineries and the compilation and issue of directories at the national level.

290. After the amalgamation of the two publications, "Rural Development Newsletter" and "African Women", a new quarterly bulletin, "Rural Progress" emerged.

#### Social policy, planning and research

291. Pursuant to Conference of Ministers resolution 295 (XIII), which in particular requested "the Executive Secretary to co-ordinate action leading to the establishment of the African Centre for Applied Research and Training in Social Development, in close co-operation with the Administrative Secretary-General of the Organization of African Unity, especially in regard to the implementation of resolution 3 (ii) of the second Conference of African Ministers of Social Affairs concerning the location of the Centre", the thirteenth session of the OAU Council of Ministers, meeting at Tripoli in February 1978, decided to locate the Centre at Tripoli (Libyan Arab Jamahiriya). Negotiations on host country facilities were started in May 1978 and resulted in the signing of an agreement between the Centre and the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya regarding the establishment and support for the activities of the headquarters of the Centre.

292. The host Government pledged to defray the cost of 50 per cent of the administrative budget of the Centre. A project document containing all the data and financial implications of the Centre was circulated by the secretariat to member States, UNDP and other prospective donors, in order to assist the Centre in its activities.

293. In response to the resolution adopted by the second Conference of African Ministers of Social Welfare (Alexandria, January 1977), on the establishment of the Centre, 13 member States (Burundi, Egypt, Ghana, Kenya, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Mali, Morocco, the Niger, Senegal, Sierra Leone, the Sudan, the United Republic of Cameroon and Zaire), acceded to the agreement establishing the Centre.

294. Arrangements were in hand to make the Centre operational immediately including the recruitment of the Executive Director and other staff. A programme of work for the Centre was drawn up, starting with a short training course in social planning and administration for policy-making and senior government personnel.

295. A survey of social trends and major social development problems was undertaken with the help of a consultant in 1978. The study is expected to serve as the main working document for the third Conference of African Ministers of Social Affairs at Lome (Togo) in 1979. It is also to be used for preparation of the African chapter of the United Nations Report on the World Social Situation, as well as for the secretariat's Survey of Economic and Social Conditions in Africa.

#### Youth and social welfare

296. The secretariat's youth programme is designed to assist member States to plan and develop programmes that focus on the development and utilization of the vital youth resources to the best advantage of both the youth and their respective countries. It also involves the formulation of guidelines to assist member States in promoting and developing youth policies and programmes, particularly those aimed at increasing youth employment opportunities and promoting youth training programmes.

297. Owing however to lack of resources, over-all activities in this field during 1977 and 1978 were limited to only two desk studies and an evaluation of some aspects of national youth programmes. The two studies - "National youth services programmes and their impact on national development", and "A survey of youth policies, programmes and training requirements in Africa" - were completed in draft form, but field work was required to up-date the data and authenticate the information before they were finalized.

298. The secretariat also prepared a list of youth organizations in African countries with a view to assisting in the establishment of direct contact with youth organizations at the national level, facilitating dissemination of information between youth organizations and the

secretariat, and ensuring a two-way traffic of ideas and experiences between the secretariat and the youth in the region.

299. The secretariat participated in an Inter-Agency Task Force Meeting on Youth held at Geneva from 9 to 11 May 1978. Among the main objectives of the meeting was the formulation of a project for a joint United Nations Training Workshop for Youth Leaders and Youth Workers in Southern Africa. Other considerations included channels of communication between the United Nations and youth organizations, and how these could be made more effective.

300. As a follow-up to this meeting, representatives of the United Nations Volunteers, UNDP and ECA would visit a number of countries in the southern African subregion in 1979 for consultations with member States and leaders of liberation movements with a view to ascertaining their needs and how best these could be met.

301. In the field of social welfare, the secretariat cosponsored a Subregional Seminar on Family Welfare as a Development Strategy, organized by the International Association of Schools of Social Work at Nairobi, Kenya, from 7 to 11 February 1977. The Seminar came out strongly in support of social welfare programmes covering public health, maternal and child health, nutrition, home economics, adult education, agriculture, etc., as a major tool for achieving broad socio-economic development objectives.

302. A study of family welfare and development in Africa was completed and a monograph entitled "Family welfare and development in Africa" (E/CN.14/SWSA/11) was issued in May 1978.

303. In pursuance of its policy of co-operation and collaboration with other agencies operating in the African region, the secretariat initiated and concluded a memorandum of understanding with the International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF), providing for collaboration in a number of family welfare projects and co-operation in planning, financing and implementation of joint projects.

304. The secretariat, in co-operation with UNICEF and other organs of the United Nations system, succeeded in drawing up a detailed programme for the observance of the International Year of the Child in 1979. A manual of child development, family life and nutrition, specifically prepared for trainers in the rural areas, was published as one of ECA's contributions for the Year.

305. In the field of social welfare training, the secretariat continued extending technical advice and support to and participated in the programme activities of the Association for Social Work Education in Africa (ASWEA). It participated in a Workshop on the Role of Social Development Education in Africa's Struggle for Political and Economic Independence (April 1977) and in an Expert Group Meeting on the Development of a Training Curriculum in Family Welfare (May 1978).

African Training and Research Centre for Women (ATRCW)

306. Of primary concern to the secretariat in the coming years is the progressive integration of African women and girls in national development efforts - as essential human resources for development - in accordance with the Commission's strategy for the implementation of the new international economic order in Africa (E/CN.14/ECO/90/Rev.3). This concern was made manifestly clear with the holding of the first Regional Conference on the Implementation of National, Regional and World Plans of Action for the Integration of Women in Development, organized by the secretariat at Nouakchott, Mauritania, from 27 September to 2 October 1977 and attended by over 70 participants, representing 35 member States and 41 observers from international and non-governmental organizations as well as from Governments outside the African region. Prominent on the agenda was the item "Women and the new international economic order", for which the publication "The new international economic order: What roles for women" (E/CN.14/ATRCW/77/WD3) was produced.

307. The Nouakchott Conference adopted a resolution establishing the African Regional Co-ordinating Committee, for the purpose inter alia of "assisting in building up institutions and programmes specially designed to promote the participation of women in development". The first meeting of the Committee, which is scheduled to take place in March 1979 at Rabat, Morocco, will comprise officers elected from the subregional committees of the MULPOCs. This is in line with the trend to decentralize the Centre's activities to the subregional and national levels. During 1978, the inaugural meetings of the Subregional Committees on the integration of women were held at the Lusaka-based MULPOC (19-21 June 1978), the Yaounde-based MULPOC (10-12 July 1978), and the Niamey-based MULPOC (30 November - 14 December 1978). At these subregional meetings, officers and representatives of the Co-ordinating Committees were elected and programmes of work for each of the Committees were established. Following the inaugural meetings of the committees on women and development in each MULPOC, workshops on project planning and implementation were held for women leaders. Similar Committees are planned at the Gisenyi and Tangiers MULPOCs.

308. The long-range objective of ATRCW has been to assist member States to raise the standard of living of the families in the region, especially in rural areas, through the improvement of skills and opportunities for women so that they can participate more effectively in the development of their countries. This objective has been translated into a number of programme areas, the highlights of whose activities for the biennium 1977-1978 and those planned for 1979, are discussed below.



### National machineries

309. During 1977, three-day seminars on national machineries for the integration of women in development were held in Mauritania and Mali with the financial assistance of USAID. At those seminars the secretariat, assisted by national teams, explained the aims of national machineries and helped with the establishment of suitable co-ordinating machinery for programming and implementation. In that year, ATRCW also published a 30-country survey of national machineries for the integration of women and a report on national commissions and women's bureaux. In 1978 a similar seminar was held in Burundi and consultations were concluded concerning seminars to be held in Swaziland, Rwanda, Benin, Sierra Leone, Liberia and Botswana in 1979. Twenty-six national machineries are now operating national with local (rural) programmes in their respective countries.

### Appropriate technology

310. The Centre's appropriate technology activities have been assisted by the Intermediate Technology Development Group (ITDG), UNICEF and the Ford Foundation. Activities have concentrated on research, pilot projects, training and study tours, assistance to member States and the collection and dissemination of information. In 1977 a survey was undertaken of traditional technologies that could be adapted for use throughout the region and a report on the subject was published at the end of 1978. With the assistance of the United Nations Voluntary Fund for the Decade for Women, UNICEF and the Ford Foundation, research on traditional technologies was also carried out in Ethiopia in 1978 and was planned for 1979 in Ghana, Egypt, Morocco and Tunisia. During 1977 and 1978, UNICEF-funded pilot projects aimed at introducing new and improved technologies in selected villages were carried out in the Upper Volta, the Gambia, Senegal, Mauritania, the Niger and Kenya.

311. A major area of need is for improved water supplies and the secretariat published a socio-economic study on improved village water supplies in Ethiopia, as a result of which a project for co-operatives for village women has been formulated for implementation in 1979.

312. Given the importance of women as food producers, the secretariat has undertaken studies of women and technology in agriculture in Nigeria and Ghana with funding from the Rockefeller Foundation. A rice development project is also under way in Sierra Leone.

313. With regard to training workshops and study tours, in 1977 the secretariat organized two national workshops on technology for extension workers in Kenya. A village technology study tour for government officials from the Gambia and Sierra Leone to Kenya was arranged in 1978. The secretariat also secured a scholarship to send a village technologist to the Intermediate Technology Development Group and sponsored the study of a Gambian technologist in Ghana.

314. In its efforts to disseminate information on village technology in 1978 the secretariat published a monograph on appropriate technology for African women with illustrations and references for further investigation. A paper entitled "The role of women in the utilization of science and technology" was prepared as a background document for the African Regional Science and Technology Meeting held at Cairo in August 1978 and two staff members attended the Expert Group meeting in preparation for the Cairo Meeting, held at Yaoundé in July 1978.

#### African Women's Development Task Force

315. This project is designed to encourage technical co-operation among developing countries. In 1977 a Task Force Volunteer conducted a tie-dye training course in Lesotho and returned in late 1978 for a follow-up course and the establishment of a demonstration centre. The Task Force also rendered assistance on request to the Upper Volta, Mali and Mauritania. Many other requests were received in 1977-1978 and in mid-1978 arrangements were being made to satisfy them. The Task Force Officer undertook fact-finding missions to Zambia, the United Republic of Tanzania, Botswana, Lesotho, Swaziland, Ghana, the Niger, Senegal and the Ivory Coast to assess possibilities for Task Force operations. The Task Force Officer also met with the Director of the United Nations Volunteer Programme (Geneva) to discuss the co-ordination of activities and the avoidance of duplication.

#### Training, study tours and scholarships

316. During 1977, with assistance from FAO and Belgium, the secretariat held national seminars for trainers to improve the quality of the rural milieu in the United Republic of Cameroon, Senegal and Mauritania. A specialized seminar on women and co-operatives was also held in the United Republic of Cameroon in November 1977. In co-operation with UNFPA, FAO and UNICEF, study tours on population and family life were organized in Kenya, Sierra Leone and Togo. Further specialized workshops were held in Kenya in 1977 and in Madagascar, Rwanda and Mauritania in 1978.

317. A major innovation in the ATRCW training programme in 1978 was the inauguration of a three-month in-service training programme for intermediate-level rural trainers in nutrition and rural development for French-speaking countries at the Panafrican Institute for Development in the United Republic of Cameroon in September 1978. It was also decided to strengthen the six months' course in nutrition offered at the Institute.

318. In response to a priority recommendation of the ATRCW Review Mission in March 1978, the study tour programme of ATRCW was extended to women journalists from the region who visited the Centre in September 1978 and toured centres of major interest in the region.

319. Another element of training that was initiated during the period under review was in the area of non-formal education for girl school leavers. ATRCW co-operated in the sponsorship of a Regional Symposium on Non-Formal Education at Addis Ababa in August-September 1978.

320. A third new direction in training activities in 1978 was the initiation of a series of workshops on project design, planning, management and evaluation referred to above.

#### Research

321. In addition to the action-oriented research described above, ATRCW entered several new areas of research during the period under review. With the assistance of the Ford Foundation, a study of women and the law was completed in Nigeria and plans were finalized for a study of women, the law and agrarian reform in Mozambique.

322. One of the major barriers to the integration of women in development is the lack of statistical data on their participation in the economic and social sectors of national life. Research was therefore initiated on socio-economic indicators of the integration of women in development in the United Republic of Tanzania, Kenya, Mali and Liberia. In an effort to compile available data, the secretariat published Women and development in Africa : An annotated bibliography in 1978. With a grant from the Ford Foundation, further research on available socio-economic data was to be undertaken in Nigeria, Egypt, Chad, the Niger, the Upper Volta, Togo, Lesotho, Botswana and Swaziland.

323. A survey of day-care facilities in Tunisia, Egypt and Ghana was published in 1978. A handicrafts and small-scale industries survey of Tunisia, Mali and Benin was undertaken for the seminar held in Madagascar in November 1978. With the assistance of the Voluntary Fund for the Decade for Women, the Centre also sponsored research on women's groups in Kenya.

324. The Centre took positive steps to strengthen its ties with research institutions and organizations in the region. A joint meeting to plan unified research directions took place with the Association of African Women on Research and Development at Dakar in October 1978. This was preceded by a research meeting at the UNICEF Regional Office at Nairobi in September of that year. A working relationship was also established with CILSS on research project design and a consultant is to be made available to CILSS in 1979.

#### Communications, information and publications

325. In 1978 the Centre initiated research on mass communications in an attempt to discern how women were presented and represented in the mass media in the region. Research in this field is currently under way in the Niger and Liberia and is to be extended to one more country in 1979. The study visit of women journalists to ATRCW mentioned above is

also part of this endeavour. Staff members also took part in 1977 in a video tape recording course, with instruction furnished by UNESCO, with the aim of using this medium in training courses and making teaching tapes.

326. In co-operation with other United Nations agencies, the Centre participated in a UNESCO/UNICEF Seminar on Communications for Social Development at Nairobi in March-April 1978 and a staff member led the UNICEF/UNESCO Seminar-Workshop on Broadcasting in Support of Women's Participation in Rural Development, also at Nairobi in May 1978. Further communication activities were in preparation in conjunction with UNESCO.

327. The Centre published various other documents in addition to those already mentioned above.

#### Handicrafts and small-scale industries

328. The ECA/ILO joint project on handicrafts and small-scale industries was inaugurated in July-August 1978 with financial assistance from SIDA. Its first activities included the planning of the Seminar on Handicrafts and Small-Scale Industries held in Madagascar in November 1978 and participation in the UNIDO meeting on women and industrialization held at Vienna in early November.

#### Miscellaneous

329. A review of the Centre's activities was undertaken in March 1978 by a Review Mission conducted by donor agencies and consultants which made recommendations for future policy and programme direction. The Centre's activities will now move more towards interdivisional activities and the Centre has drawn up a proposal outlining present areas of co-operation between ATRCW and other divisions of the secretariat and listing suggestions for improving and extending such co-operation.

✓ 330. The secretariat created an Interagency Working Group on the Integration of Women in Development in March 1978 bringing together representatives from nine United Nations agencies in the region. The Centre is securing a consultant to collect and synthesize data on women and development programmes being carried out in the region by international and intergovernmental agencies under the auspices of the working group.

#### Newly liberated areas and areas still under colonial domination

331. ATRCW undertook missions to Guinea-Bissau in 1977 and Mozambique in 1978 in order to determine needs of women in those countries and what assistance the secretariat could render. Representatives from Mozambique, Angola, Guinea-Bissau and Cape Verde attended the first Regional Conference in Nouakchott in 1977. Representatives of liberation movements from Namibia, South Africa and Southern Rhodesia attended, as observers, the inaugural meeting of the Lusaka-based MULPOC Committee on the Integration of Women in Development in June 1978 and participated in the Workshop on the Planning and Implementation of Project Proposals.

## STATISTICS

332. African statistics have improved during the last two years but the position is still far from being satisfactory. In order to attain an integrated system at the national and subregional levels, the main requirements are: (a) to improve the collection of data direct from households, establishments and other units for which a major new programme has been initiated; and (b) to promote greater participation of data users in the evaluation of national statistical programmes, calling for closer collaboration between statistical offices, other branches of government and the private sector.

333. During its tenth session, the Conference of African Statisticians initiated changes in the statistical work programme from the aggregative systems - national accounts approach, etc. - towards improvement of basic data collection in which the Conference felt emphasis should be on measuring the quality of human life and obtaining related socio-economic data, an idea which constitutes the basis of the African Household Survey Capability Programme described in detail below.

334. Other topics to which the Conference has recently devoted special attention are statistical training, recommendations for the 1980 round of population censuses and the development of permanent national household survey capabilities, details of which are given below.

335. A reassessment of the terms of reference and the modalities of operation of the Conference of African Statisticians to take account of such development trends as the new international economic order and the impact of new technology and concepts was suggested by the Executive Secretary of ECA at the Conference's tenth session. This assessment was necessary because of the need for (a) a physical quality of life index and related indicators in Africa, (b) the development and redeployment of industrial capabilities, and (c) the purpose of making African statisticians more responsive and innovative.

336. In the light of these considerations, the Conference concluded that it could achieve a more operational role by (a) exploiting the good possibilities which exist for regional technical co-operation, and (b) assuming direct responsibilities for some aspects of statistical development within the region.

### Statistical Training Programme for Africa

337. A Working Group to review statistical training needs in Africa met in August 1977 basing its discussions on a report on these needs prepared by African consultants. Detailed estimates of the requirements led to the conclusion that the number of statisticians under training should be increased by about 60 per cent in order to cater for total national

requirements rather than just those of central statistical services as that expansion would counterbalance the persistent shift of professional statisticians from the central services to other branches of government and the private sector.

338. The principal requirements were identified and specific proposals made for expanded training facilities for the English-speaking countries although there is also an urgent need for assistance to the newly independent Portuguese-speaking countries and some additional courses for the French-language group have to be established. It should be noted that EEC and the Government of France have assumed major responsibility for the training of French-speaking statisticians.

339. The proposals of the Working Group were revised and endorsed by the Conference's tenth session in October 1977 and the programme approved by the ECA Executive Committee and later endorsed by African Governments, as a result of which UNDP agreed to finance a small regional supporting facility.

340. The next step will be to prepare a detailed calendar of operations for the Statistical Training Programme for Africa amplifying the arrangements already indicated in the over-all programme document, plus project documents for the component centres. It is worth noting that, based on available information, ECA's programme for the training of statisticians, which initially concentrated on the middle level and gradually shifted towards the professional field, has successfully trained 2,385 persons at the middle level and 1,548 at the professional level during the period 1961-1978. Throughout, UNDP has played a key role in supporting the statistical training programme in Africa.

#### National accounts, finance and prices

341. There has been some criticism of GDP as an economic indicator especially for some countries, for example those in Africa with a markedly skewed income distribution, uneven geographical distribution of economic activity and plural socio-economic structures. For these countries, it has to be acknowledged that for GDP figures to be meaningful they should be supplemented by national accounts data, disaggregated to any required level. These data sources provide the only comprehensive means of adding up the transactions of a nation, both internally and externally, and are the basis for economic forecasts.

342. Also the detailed statistics on such items as income distribution employment and production that the African Household Survey Capability Programme is expected to generate should provide clearer profiles of the economic structures of these countries.

343. Additionally, it is necessary to achieve a better understanding between producers and users of data probably in terms of a simplified presentation using day-to-day terminology.

344. For its regional economic survey and projections, ECA requires up-to-date national accounts aggregates for all African countries. United Nations Headquarters, the World Bank, FAO and other agencies also need similar data for the development of their own programmes. Official country data are normally received far too late for this purpose. The various agencies concerned have therefore made arrangements for exchanging the estimates they have been able to produce on the basis of data available to them in the absence of official figures.

345. A regional file on public sector statistics has been maintained, with summary reports being issued on an annual basis. It is one of the items which will be added to the computerized data base but it is in a less than satisfactory situation. Difficulties relate to coverage, definitions and the availability of basic figures and the file is a long way short of being able to provide comprehensive information on African public revenues and expenditures.

346. In price statistics the secretariat made progress in developing sectoral deflators which incorporate most of the scanty price data available in the region. Some support was given to the International Comparison Project (ICP) and work continued on the compilation of more analytical price data for selected commodities.

347. The Conference of African Statisticians agreed that price data should receive special attention because they are developing too slowly. Prices at different stages of distribution are needed in implementing some aspects of the new international economic order, and a concerted effort in this area will make ICP and its regional counterpart more meaningful. As an initial attempt to organize an operational activity from its own resources, the Conference undertook to appoint a working group which will examine African requirements for price statistics and determine the methods by which these data can be obtained. A number of countries have already agreed to prepare documentation for the working group and it is expected that the meeting will be held early in 1979. The secretariat has undertaken a survey of price statistics throughout the region. However, significant improvement in these data is dependent on the permanent field organizations of the African Household Survey Capability Programme.

#### External trade statistics

348. A regional inquiry into African external trade statistics practices was completed with the aim of providing guidelines for improving the timeliness, coverage, comparability and quality of these data. The inquiry revealed that African trade statistics are less satisfactory than had been thought. Follow-up action is being taken on a country-by-country basis and ECA is collaborating in an UNCTAD project to harmonize trade statistics in the ECCOWAS countries.

349. The secretariat also produced the draft first issue of Series C in

Foreign Trade Statistics for Africa containing analytical summary tables. With some development this publication can help to answer many of the current questions on intra-African trade, terms of trade and the marketing of selected commodities, but printing problems have to be overcome if the information is to be made available quickly enough to be useful. The exercise suggests an early need for microfiche equipment which is now competitive with printing and can significantly reduce postal costs.

350. By far the largest file in the regional data base will be that on external commodity trade. It is derived from national data reprocessed by ECA and the United Nations Statistical Office in standard currency and quantity units. All available African material has been assembled at Geneva as part of the global trade data base and copies of the African tapes will be available at ECA as soon as the computer section can cope with the additional workload.

#### Other economic statistics

351. Compilation of industrial and energy statistics continued in collaboration with the United Nations Statistical Office. A review of these data indicated problems of comparability and timeliness but countries are making an effort to extend the coverage of their industrial inquiries to include smaller establishments. The main requirements noted by the Conference of African Statisticians were the generation of a more active flow of data and a co-ordinated regional approach to the 1983 World Programme of Industrial Statistics. In addition it is necessary to look more closely at the problems of individual countries and this has been taken into account in the new staffing arrangements of the statistics Division effected during the reporting period. Recommendations developed by the United Nations cover basic data needs for industrial development. However, the position is kept under continuous review in the African region so that data collection and processing can be brought fully in line with special needs in this field.

352. A growing number of African countries are showing interest in the suggestion that agricultural statistics should increasingly be regarded as an integral component of comprehensive economic and social survey programmes. The subject of food and nutrition surveillance is another topic whose growing importance is realized.

353. Exchange of data between ECA and FAO was maintained. Agricultural information from FAO is an essential input to the regional national accounts estimates and the feed-back of the latter figures to FAO assists that agency in its economic evaluations.

354. Much of the data needs and structural changes for the implementation of these projects would be supplied by the continuing survey organizations of the Household Survey Capability Programme, when it becomes fully operational.

355. Other activities during the reporting period included the production



of preliminary methodological guidelines and data compilation on tourism, transport and distribution statistics.

#### Population censuses

356. The African Census Programme was initiated in 1971 and officially terminated at the end of 1977. At a cost of probably more than \$US 40 million - \$US 15 million from UNEFA and the remainder from participating countries - it was probably the largest statistical development operation so far undertaken. Its aim was to assist the 22 African countries which found it difficult to participate in the 1970 round of population censuses. The programme was successful not only in improving African demographic statistics but also in making a remarkable contribution to the establishment of statistical infrastructures. As of September 1978, one of the 22 countries still had to enumerate its population; in two others the operation unfortunately proved impracticable. UNEFA has agreed that the work should continue into the 1980 census round and four regional advisers will be available, plus supporting facilities at United Nations Headquarters.

357. Special studies undertaken by ECA include the enumeration of nomadic population, organization of post-enumeration surveys and a rather detailed review of African experience in the 1970 round of censuses. On the basis of this material the tenth session of the Conference of African Statisticians was able to formulate provisional recommendations for the 1980 censuses. However the Conference felt that a working group should be organized to consider the matter in more detail and this was done in July 1978. The meeting also provided the opportunity to remedy, at least on a tentative basis, the lack of regional recommendations on the demographic analysis of census data.

#### African Household Survey Capability Programme

358. Success of the census programme and the national expertise resulted in proposals for continuing data collection arrangements under the African Household Survey Capability Programme which the Conference of African Statisticians has been developing during its last three sessions. The essential requirement is improvement of national field survey organizations to provide continuing and integrated data on employment, production, income, consumption and expenditure, and related social and demographic characteristics.

359. African initiative in survey development was welcomed by the nineteenth session of the United Nations Statistical Commission and resulted in Economic and Social Council resolution 2055 (LXII) which calls for a global National Household Survey Capability Programme in which Africa is expected to play a leading role. A meeting of prospective international and bilateral donors was organized by the Statistical Office in collaboration with other international organizations in 1979.

360. The initiative is also gaining momentum in the African region and some 21 countries have reached an advanced stage in their preparatory work during the reporting period. In a few cases survey arrangements developed to the stage where they could be regarded as continuing and integrated programmes of data collection. The whole question of organizing survey programmes and the related sampling and other methodology under differing national conditions is now under intensive examination by both individual countries and the secretariat.

#### Other demographic and social statistics

361. There have also been recommendations dealing with migratory movements and there is a growing body of work on the development of civil registration systems. In addition an effort is being made to establish a demographic and social statistics data base for the region.

#### TRANSPORT, COMMUNICATIONS AND TOURISM

362. The implementation of the work programme of the secretariat in the field of transport, communications and tourism has been geared towards the study on the harmonization of transport and communications systems that the secretariat has carried out in the 16 States of West Africa on behalf of ECOWAS. Within the framework of this study considerable work has been undertaken covering all sectors of transport and communications with the result that some of the projects in the work programme have been merged with those undertaken for the ECOWAS study. It may therefore be considered that a number of projects approved by the Conference of Ministers at Kinshasa have been implemented or have begun to be implemented.

#### United Nations Transport and Communications Decade in Africa, 1978-1988

363. Since the last meeting of the Conference of Ministers by resolution 32/160 the General Assembly of the United Nations proclaimed the years 1978-1988 the Transport and Communications Decade in Africa. This was truly an unprecedented event, being the first time that the United Nations has made such a proclamation in respect of one single region. Indeed, there is no other sector which is so crucial for the various African countries and for the economic and social integration of the continent as the transport and communications sector.

364. As is well known, even after 20 years of independence, Africa still does not have its own transport and communications network. Frequently it is necessary to go through Europe in order to travel from one part of the continent to another. Telephone messages have to be transmitted through centres outside Africa and the postal services are very slow and not very reliable. As a result of the colonial heritage, the transport and communications system in Africa is more varied and more irrational than in other regions of the world. Transport and communications systems were established to facilitate exports of minerals and agricultural commodities to the metropolitan countries and over 95 per cent of

Africa's sea traffic is handled by shipping lines which are not African. Road links between countries are more often than not non-existent and where they do exist they are frequently not passable in all weather. Moreover the radial network of railways in African countries is further complicated by difference in gauges. As far as airlines are concerned most international traffic is carried by non-African airlines and most of the routes have Europe and America as their destination. Lastly, air freight operations among African countries are still at a rudimentary stage.

365. It is for these reasons that the Conference of Ministers of the Commission adopted resolution 291 (XIII) by which it recommended that the General Assembly, through the Economic and Social Council, should proclaim the years 1978-1988 the Transport and Communications Decade in Africa. On its part, the Economic and Social Council endorsed the resolution of the Conference of Ministers and, by resolution 32/160, the General Assembly proclaimed 1978-1988 the Transport and Communications Decade in Africa. By so doing, the United Nations and the entire international community recognized the need and even the urgency of ensuring the rapid development of this vital sector in Africa, the second largest continent in the world in terms of surface area.

366. In implementation of this resolution the secretariat convened an inter-agency meeting at Addis Ababa on 22 and 23 March 1978 to work out the general strategy for the Decade. The meeting adopted document E/CN.14/ECO/138/Rev.1 which contains the views of all the agencies concerning the strategy and plan of action to be followed for the Decade. It decided that to co-ordinate the activities envisaged for the Decade it would be necessary to establish some machinery such as a co-ordinating committee for which ECA would serve as secretariat. The committee should be composed of experts from the various organizations and agencies and specialists in the different modes of transport and communications.

367. Document E/CN.14/ECO/138/Rev.1 was then submitted for the consideration of the Executive Committee at its eighteenth meeting at Khartoum. So as to harmonize the views of international organizations and African countries concerning the objectives of the Decade, priorities and the plan of execution, the document was addressed to member States for their comments. The Executive Committee observed that Africa should take an active part in the implementation of programme for the Decade and that OAU should proclaim the Decade at the African level so as to ensure that the States of the continent were aware of it. The Executive Committee also stressed the need for Africa to be responsible for its own development firstly at the national level by stimulating thought and then at the regional level by taking into consideration national development options.

368. Document E/CN.14/ECO/138/Rev.1 was then submitted to the meeting of the Economic and Social Council at Geneva for consideration and adoption. In order to obtain the necessary political support for the

implementation of the programme for the Decade the fifteenth Assembly of Heads of State and Government of OAU considered the question and, by resolution CM/874(XXXI) Add. 7 Rev.1 which was adopted on this subject, the Administrative Secretary-General of OAU and the Executive Secretary of ECA were requested jointly to convene at the beginning of 1979 a meeting of African ministers responsible for planning and works in the field of transport and communications with a view to defining a global African strategy for the development of transport and communications, including telecommunications, and to prepare a detailed programme of action for the implementation of the Decade.

369. The secretariat is now in the process of preparing the outline of the programme for the Decade which will be composed of three complementary parts.

370. The first part of the outline will be a regional component covering the following questions:

(a) Internal surface transport networks (road, railway and internal waterway) with special reference to the situation of land-locked and semi-land-locked African countries;

(b) Current status and development potential of coastal shipping, ports and maritime transport with special reference to the situation of island countries;

(c) Current status of civil aviation and possibilities for improvement;

(d) The development of modern technology including the simplification of documentation for two or more modes of transport;

(e) Development potential in telecommunications and postal services.

371. The plan will also take account of regional and multinational problems affecting in particular manpower, technology, the liberalization of transport and so on as well as the need to develop intra-African transport for industry, natural resources, population movements, agriculture and food products, etc.

372. In the second part of the plan an attempt will be made to determine national priorities which, in the field of transport, will complete and modify regional programmes in the course of the Decade.

373. The third part relates to the development of transport and communications between Africa and other regions and in particular with other developing regions. This will cover basically maritime transport, telecommunications and civil aviation. A considerable amount of work has already been accomplished in these fields under the auspices of the United Nations and other international agencies and the secretariat is

making use of all available data in order to incorporate them in the regional plan.

374. The programme for the Decade will be drawn up and implemented in phases. For the first three years of the Decade a programme has been prepared by a group of 21 consultants in close collaboration with the staff of ECA. The programme will be considered initially by the co-ordinating committee for the Decade and will then be submitted for approval to the African Conference of Ministers responsible for Transport, Communications and Planning which will be convened jointly by OAU and ECA during the month of April 1979.

375. The implementation of the programmes and projects which fall within the framework of this strategy will require considerable resources which will have to be found primarily at the national and regional levels. In view however of the difficulties which African countries are currently experiencing, it is clear that without considerable action on the part of the international community in terms of providing services, equipment, capital and technology, the programme for the Decade can not be properly implemented. It is for the purpose of mobilizing such extra-African resources that the Secretary-General of the United Nations has been requested to convene a meeting of plenipotentiaries of donor countries in 1979.

#### Transport

376. Activities in this field cover maritime transport and ports, air transport, railways, internal waterways and lake transport and road transport. Because of the lack of staff and resources, it was not possible to implement all the projects which had been approved at the Kinshasa Conference. As is mentioned above, a number of projects were merged with those undertaken in the framework of ECOWAS and the Transport and Communications Decade in Africa.

377. It has nevertheless been possible to extend assistance to some States and to initiate certain studies. For example, a mission was undertaken to the United Republic of Cameroon to study rural roads in the Littoral province to open up the underprivileged parts of that region and a document entitled "Roads and tracks to open up the underprivileged parts of the Littoral Province (Nkam and Basse Sanaga)" was prepared.

378. Similarly, a six-man multidisciplinary mission from ECA visited the Lake Chad Basin Commission to evaluate the various projects of the Lake Chad Basin Commission and propose measures and projects for adoption in certain sectors, and particularly transport.

379. Two preliminary studies were carried out and submitted for financing with respect to the later phases. These were the project on automobile technology, vehicle repair and maintenance, and the project

on the economics and management of maritime transport, a justification study relating to the creation of theoretical and practical training establishments in the field of the economics and management of maritime transport.

380. Pursuant to ECA Conference of Ministers resolution 293(XIII) on semi-land-locked countries, a mission was undertaken to study the international transport and transit problems which Zaire is currently facing. A report and a study on the problems entitled "Republic of Zaire : International transport and transit problems" dated March 1978 was submitted to the Zairian Government. It was not possible to make further headway on this project for want of financial resources since no funds were made available for that purpose.

381. Pursuant to General Assembly resolution 32/93 of 13 December 1977 and resolution ECO(XVIII)/Res.7 of the ECA Executive Committee, a mission was sent to the Republic of Djibouti with the task of identifying the various transport problems facing Djibouti with particular reference to the following sectors: roads and road transport, rail transport, Djibouti port and maritime transport and Djibouti airport and air transport. The mission accomplished a considerable amount of work and prepared a study which was submitted to the Prime Minister of the Republic of Djibouti by the Office of Technical Co-operation.

382. ECA participated in the conference organized by OAU and AFCAC, with the participation of UNDP and ICAO, on the training of civil aviation personnel in Africa, the main aim of which was to pool the resources required for the creation of multinational training centres in the field of civil aviation.

383. On the request of the Secretary General of the ACP group, ECA decided to participate in a meeting on transport and communications which was one of the first measures taken by the ACP group to implement the provisions of the Suva Declaration of April 1977 defining the programme of action for intra-ACP co-operation. ECA presented a document on the strategy for the implementation of the Decade which served as a background document for the discussions on transport and communications.

384. In connexion with the implementation of Conference of Ministers resolution 299 (XIII), ECA participated in the first symposium of the Union of African Railways which was held at Abidjan. It outlined the main features and measures adopted for the implementation of the programme for the United Nations Transport and Communications Decade in Africa, with special reference to railways.

385. The meeting of the Committee of Transport Experts in Central Africa was held at Ndjamena, Chad, in March 1977 in accordance with resolution I of the Conference of Ministers of Transport of the Central African Subregion, held at Kinshasa from 8 to 11 September 1976. The purpose of the meeting was to examine, inter alia, the draft Constitution

of the Transport Co-ordinating Council and recommendations to the Conference of Ministers of Transport which was held the following week. The Committee's report was submitted to the Conference of Ministers in document CA/TCC/CEE/1 in which it is recommended that the Conference should adopt the draft Constitution as amended.

386. The Conference of Ministers of Transport of the Central African subregion adopted the report of the meeting of experts unanimously. Although the Conference was attended by seven countries in the Central African subregion, less than the minimum of five representatives were in a position to sign the Constitution at that time. After discussion, it was agreed that, on receipt of an indication that at least five member countries would be willing to sign the constitution and contribute financially to the Transport Co-ordinating Council on an annual basis, the secretariat would call a further meeting at which the Constitution would be signed, thereby bringing into being the Transport Co-ordinating Council of Central Africa. The Conference went on to discuss the outline programme of work for the organs of the proposed Council, to consider its financial implications and to make arrangements for the appointment of the Executive Secretary and the staff of the Council. Chad generously offered to provide temporary premises for the headquarters of the Transport Co-ordinating Council at Ndjamena on a rent-free basis until such time as a headquarters building could be constructed at Ndjamena on land bestowed as an outright gift from the Government of Chad.

387. It has not yet been possible to convene this conference at Ndjamena because the minimum of five countries members of the subregion which have agreed to sign the constitution has not yet been achieved.

388. The special problems of the land-locked and island countries of Swaziland and Mauritius respectively were discussed during missions in 1977 and participation in ECA projects 9.551.01, 9.551.29, 9.551.31, 9.552.01(i)(b), 9.553.01(a)(i) and assistance in transport facilitation were requested by these countries. Lack of appropriate resources has prevented further action being taken, except in the case of project 9.551.01 upon which a start has now been made.

389. Considerable efforts have been made to establish an African Transport Users Consultative and Advisory Council for the purpose of overcoming many impediments to transport planning, capital investment and organization in African countries. There has been a wide and positive response not only from member States but also from African commodity groups. Lack of funds retarded initial progress, but it is expected that this project will become one of the first to be completed under the Transport and Communications Decade in Africa programme.

390. Under the aegis of the International Standards Organization (ISO) and subsequently in collaboration with the newly formed African Regional Standards Organization (ARSO) considerable progress was made in assessing the economic impact of standard freight containers on the economy of

certain African countries, notably Nigeria, the Ivory Coast, Senegal and to a lesser extent Mauritius and Morocco. Further work is now in hand to assist land-locked countries to assess the potential benefit of using ISO freight containers which offer inter alia the best possibility so far for overcoming transit transport problems through maritime States. ECA has also contributed directly to the examination of concomitant problems including liability and insurance problems associated with freight containers used in international multimodal systems.

391. Concerning the ports sector, a conclusion was drawn from a previous analysis (E/CN.14/TRANS/INF/19 of 8 April 1978 and TD/B/C.4/152 of July 1976) and current efforts to establish the position of African ports in relation to the adequacy of their services that they have lacked proper utilization of the capacities and resources available rather than adequacy of the berthing space. It was established that African ports, with few exceptions, could handle at least double their traffic assuming that port operational and management efficiency is suitably improved. The problems of African ports such as the problem of port congestion arise more often from irrational and inefficient land transport, inadequate manpower training and professional skills and investment in new berths without assuring that back-up areas, port access and operating resources, cargo-handling equipment and warehousing space are able to service these berths and so on. That is why in the global strategy for the United Nations Transport and Communications Decade in Africa the emphasis in this field was placed on improved port operations efficiency and not merely on further expansion of physical port structure.

392. Taking account of the fact that many problems of African ports have common roots and their solution can best be found through concerted international efforts, ECA has created African port management associations, which have received recognition from African Governments. ECA provides continuous technical assistance and financial support to the associations in implementing their working programmes. A number of initiatives undertaken by the associations received support from UNCTAD.

393. At the request of the Ethiopian Government, a mission was undertaken by an ECA port expert to the Ethiopian ports of Massawa and Assab in January and March 1977 respectively. The prime objective of the mission was to identify the present position of the ports, their management and operational deficiencies and to recommend policies and means for their improvement.

394. Within the scope of the ECOWAS transport and communications co-ordination study, ports of 13 member States were visited between February and May 1978 with the objective of reviewing the facilities available, their organization and operational activities and identifying their basic problems and primary needs for further development and improvements. The findings, conclusions and recommendations of the mission will be reported to the ECOWAS secretariat.



395. A port operations seminar jointly sponsored by ECA and UNCTAD was successfully convened in the USSR in August 1978. A lecture on basic problems of African ports was delivered at the seminar by an ECA representative.

396. In view of the present state of surface transport in Africa, air transport, although more costly than surface modes, is considered to offer more inherent advantages for the acceleration of economic development in individual African countries as well as on the continent as a whole. African air transport's share of the world's total air freight (excluding South Africa) in 1975 was, however, only about 2 per cent although it had been growing over the period 1971-1975 faster than the world's total. In these circumstances, ECA's direct efforts to promote greater use of air transport in expanding the inter- and intra-regional international trade of African countries, which began in 1974 with the "Study of air freight potential in developing Africa", regrettably could not progress further owing primarily to the unavailability of the required staff. In 1978, the work has however been resumed and progress is now expected in this respect.

397. In addition, ECA provided on request technical assistance to member States and maintained co-ordination with international bodies concerned with civil aviation matters. At the request of the Government concerned, a mission was undertaken to Seychelles in January 1978. The primary objective of the mission was to assist the Government of Seychelles to finalize its civil aviation policy. An additional mission was undertaken in April to attend the tenth Annual General Assembly of the African Airlines Association (AFRAA) with the purpose of maintaining co-ordination in work of mutual interest for improving African air transport.

398. Furthermore, pursuant to General Assembly resolution 32/160 and ECA Conference of Ministers resolution 291(XIII), a programme has been prepared in collaboration with the relevant United Nations agencies to accelerate the development of the African air transport industry during the Transport and Communications Decade in Africa. With the co-operation of national authorities of African States, the plan is currently being implemented with national components for the Decade and concurrently efforts are being made to mobilize international financial and technical resources for the implementation of the plan. The opportunity offered by the Decade will indeed further accelerate the development of the African air transport industry with a view to promoting self-reliance to the maximum and to improving the contribution of the transport sector to the economic development of the continent.

#### International highways

399. There are at present five major trans-African highway projects which are being implemented on the continent, namely, (a) the Mombasa-Lagos Trans-African Highway; (b) the Lagos-Nouakchott coast road; (c) the Cairo-Gaberone East African Highway; (d) the Dakar-Ndjamena trans-Sahelian road; and (e) the Trans-Saharan highway.

400. Intergovernmental co-ordinating committees have been set up to design and co-ordinate not only the construction phases but also the studies and measures required for their rational utilization.

401. The five trans-African highway projects, which are at different states of advancement, account for a total length of 33,089 km, while their feeder roads account for 41,237 km.

402. In addition, ECA is currently undertaking a study of four new trans-African roads, namely (a) the Tripoli-Luanda highway which will eventually be extended to Windhoek when Namibia achieves its independence; (b) the Nouakchott-Cairo highway; (c) the Ndjamena-Massawa highway which will link up with the Dakar-Ndjamena highway and (d) the Beira-Lobito highway when Southern Rhodesia becomes independent.

403. The nine major trans-African highways will constitute the pan-African road infrastructure and will be linked up by feeder roads with a view to developing gradually a continental road network. These nine major highways and their feeder roads will represent a total length of 109,992 km, of which 49,284 km (48 per cent) is asphalted and 17,009 (17 per cent) gravel, and the remaining 35,629 km (35 per cent) being partially improved or unimproved earth road.

404. The final reports of the feasibility studies of the Kisangani-Bangassou and Kisangani-Kasindi sections of the Trans-African Highway in Zaire, financed by the Governments of Japan and Belgium, were received by the secretariat and forwarded to the Government of Zaire. The Governments of Belgium and Japan have been requested to assist in financing the engineering studies of the two sections. The Government of Belgium has kindly agreed to finance the engineering study of the Kisangani-Kasindi section but would like to receive a request for the study from the Government of Zaire. The secretariat has requested the Government of Zaire to submit its request for engineering studies to the Government of Belgium and also to the Government of Japan.

405. The Governments of France and the Federal Republic of Germany, which financed the feasibility studies of the Bossemblélé-Garoua Boulai section in the Central African Empire and the Foumban-Tibati section in the United Republic of Cameroon respectively have been requested to assist in financing the engineering studies of the two sections.

406. A member of the secretariat participated in the twenty-first meeting of the Trans-Saharan Highway Committee held at Algiers in March.

407. The secretariat has drawn Conference of Ministers resolution 298(XIII) of 28 February 1977 on economic co-operation in the trans-African highway projects to the attention of the Governments concerned, urging them to implement it.

408. Special reports on the major trans-African highways were prepared to serve as background documents for negotiations with prospective financing institutions and co-operating countries.

409. A study mission was carried with a view to making a preliminary study of the Cairo-Gaberone Trans-East African Highway and its feeder links.

410. The second meeting of the Cairo-Gaberone Trans-East African Highway Co-ordinating Committee was held from 13 to 16 March 1978 at Khartoum. The Committee, among other things, identified the substandard sections of the Highway for which assistance was still required; adopted a five-year (1978-1982) programme of work; recommended vehicle specifications and especially their axle loads, width, height and length; decided to establish a Trans-East African Highway Authority and adopted its constitution. The report of the meeting has been published as document E/CN.14/TRANS/138.

411. The Pan-African Conference on Highway Maintenance and Rehabilitation, organized by the secretariat in co-operation with the Governments of the United Kingdom, France and the Federal Republic of Germany was held from 22 to 29 November 1977 at Accra. Highway engineers from 36 African countries as well as from the three co-operating countries and the World Bank attended. The recommendations adopted by the Conference include : harmonization of road maintenance standards; preparation of a road-maintenance manual for Africa, taking account of the geographical diversity of the countries; establishment of a documentation centre responsible for the collection and dissemination of research results; the establishment of regional training centres and the strengthening of existing ones; and the establishment of regional institutes for highway research in each of the four subregions (See document E/CN.14/TRANS/134).

412. The seventh meeting of Mombasa-Lagos Trans-African Highway Co-ordinating Committee was held at Yaoundé (United Republic of Cameroon) from 13 to 18 November 1978. It was preceded by a meeting of experts who considered the proposals contained in the report on the study of legal and administrative barriers.

413. This co-ordinating committee meeting was one of the most important meetings. It examined the report on the current status of the Trans-African Highway and of its feeder links; the report on the study of the legal and administrative barriers to travel and trade along the Trans-African Highway. It signed the constitution, elected and appointed the Director General and the Deputy Director-General of the Authority. The site of the Authority is to be at Bangui (Central African Empire).

#### Communications

414. ECA's activities have focused on telecommunications projects since the lack of a specialist has prevented any action in the postal services

sector. A postal questions expert is to be recruited in the first quarter of 1979 and it will then be possible to implement postal projects.

415. Nevertheless, some projects have been implemented within the framework of the study carried out for ECOWAS.

416. In the past, mainly because of its dependent status, Africa's intercontinental and intra-African telecommunication circuits were invariably routed through European cities. This is changing and the Pan-African Telecommunications Network (PANAFTEL) and other subregional and national telecommunications development programmes since the post-independence era in the 1960s have contributed largely to the change.

417. The PANAFTEL network currently being implemented covers some 20,000 km of route and 18 international exchanges. Pre-investment surveys on another 5880 km of route and seven exchanges have been compiled and funds for their construction, some \$US 55 million (1978), are still being sought.

418. Further requests for surveys on an additional 16,000 km of route, largely from relatively newly independent countries, are under consideration. The relevant costs of these required studies are currently estimated at \$US 5 million (1978) and efforts are being made to raise this amount.

419. As part of the strategy for developing efficient and viable intra-African telecommunications, a regional manpower survey in telecommunications is to be undertaken under Netherlands bilateral assistance to establish the basis for further development work in telecommunications manpower.

420. An efficient regional network carrying intra-African and international traffic presupposes equally efficient and well developed national networks. Very few national networks in the region however can be said to be well developed at present. The present range of telephone density (a development indicator for telecommunications) for countries of the region is 0.1 to 6.5 telephones per 100 of the population as compared to the world average of 14.5 and, since 1962, the region's share of the world's telephones has declined from 1.4 per cent to 1.2 per cent in 1976. Some national plans exist for improvement and expansion, particularly into rural communities. However priorities accorded to telecommunication development in national plans are still relatively low. To achieve adequate national coverage and efficient services, the rate of investments in the telecommunications sector needs to be substantially increased from the present average maximum of 0.5 per cent of GDP to a mean average rate in the order of 1 per cent of GDP. The secretariat, in co-operation with other United Nations agencies, is providing assistance on request to Governments in reviewing existing plans and advising on improvements.

421. Clearly, a well developed and efficiently operated commercial telephone/telegraph network is an effective aid to the economic develop-

ment of any nation. Yet another form of telecommunication, namely broadcasting, is not so well accepted. But in most areas of the region where books and newspapers are few and illiteracy widespread, the transistor radio can undoubtedly be an effective auxiliary tool in social development programmes. There is a need to recognize broadcasting as an essential part of a developing country's infrastructure in the same way as railways, roads, harbours, electricity power supplies and others. Like educational institutions, a nation's public service broadcasting system represents a long-range investment which can yield results in the shape of an informed, motivated and skilled public.

422. Like the telephone and telegraph service, broadcasting needs to penetrate both rural and urban communities, the average number of receivers per 100 of the population needs to be increased from the present 7 to a figure nearer the world average of 30. Programme production facilities and signal delivery systems with nation-wide coverage at least cost to the national economy should be more generally available. Currently one radio transmitter in the region serves about 600,000 people as compared to an average of 150,000 in the rest of the world.

423. In accordance with its work programme for the biennium, the secretariat, in co-operation with other United Nations agencies with interest in the subject, is engaged on a search for low-cost solutions using "appropriate technology" as a viable alternative to traditional large-scale systems and technology in sound broadcasting especially for rural communities. It is also in accordance with Conference of Ministers resolution 310 (XIII) organizing a team of experts, in co-operation with the Organization of African Unity, the International Telecommunication Union and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, to undertake a study on the feasibility of a multipurpose satellite communication system including a multinational experiment on educational satellite broadcasting. Projects Nos. 9.556.03 and 9.556.06 therefore now form part of this major study.

424. The other important subsector of communications covered by the work programme of the secretariat is postal services. The general development picture here may also be indicated by the ratio of the number of inhabitants per post office and/or the distribution of post offices per square kilometre. In terms of the physical distribution of postal facilities, the African region is the least equipped: there is one post office to every 2,270 square kilometres as compared to 1,120 square kilometres in other "developing" countries and 54 square kilometres in "developed" countries.

425. In co-operation with the Universal Postal Union, the secretariat is to programme projects designed to improve and expand services through development of mobile rural mail services, development of postal services infrastructure in both urban and rural areas, development of mail routing and organization of multinational transit centres and staff training in connexion with the Transport and Communications Decade Programme.

426. For the biennium 1977-1978 main effort has concentrated on manpower needs and institution building. A joint meeting has been held with the Universal Postal Union, Organization of African Unity and "restricted" postal unions in the region to harmonize work programmes. A joint ECA/UPU subregional training course in administrative and financial management has been planned for English-speaking countries in the East and Southern and West African subregions for early 1979; similar courses were organized by UPU for French-speaking countries in the West and Central subregions in 1978.

### Tourism

427. Tourism is becoming an increasingly important sector in many African countries. Even in States in which other economic activities are more important, the contribution of tourism to the national economy is becoming far from negligible. In countries such as Kenya, Tunisia, Morocco, Mauritius and Seychelles, tourism has made important strides and become a leading source of export revenue.

428. International tourism is today the largest single item in foreign trade. Despite monetary instability and the slow economic growth experienced by other sectors, tourism has enjoyed and continues to enjoy a relatively high rate of expansion. According to the figures which have been compiled by ECA up to December 1976, and which are published in the annual bulletin "Tourism in Africa", the number of tourist arrivals in the ECA member countries increased from 4,800,000 in 1973 to 5,530,000 in 1976. This represents a total increase of 15.2 per cent in the period. Even if it is generally acknowledged that figures of international tourism receipts include a greater margin of error than tourist arrivals, the share of African countries is still relatively small in relation to the world total. However, the absolute amounts are significant. Total receipts from tourism for Africa reached 1,571 millions United States dollars in 1976 compared to \$1,296 millions for the previous year. This corresponds to an increase of 21 per cent. Even when inflation is taken into account, the growth rate is quite impressive.

429. ECA is aware of the fact that in some of its member countries tourism can become not only an important but also a relatively efficient earner of foreign exchange as well as a substantial contributing factor to income and employment. The Commission is also conscious of the fact that the majority of African countries are characterized by relatively rapid growth of foreign exchange requirements to meet their needs for accelerated growth. For many of them, tourism offers a good opportunity to bridge this gap.

430. It may be said that African countries fall roughly into four different categories as far as tourism prospects are concerned: there are those where tourism potential is limited and likely to remain so for all kinds of reasons; those where there is some possibility of advance but of a limited nature; those where tourism is of some importance and with proper

handling could become a very important factor in the economy (like the Gambia, the Ivory Coast, Mauritius, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, etc.); and there are the countries which already possess a relatively developed tourism industry such as Kenya, Morocco, Tunisia, etc.

431. To help African countries to derive maximum economic and social benefits from tourism and to promote its coherent development, the Economic Commission for Africa has carried out some comprehensive studies in the field of tourism. Cost and benefit studies have been made for Kenya, Seychelles and Tunisia. ECA has also carried out a feasibility study for a Hotel Training Centre in the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya as well as a study on marketing of tourism product in Africa.

432. The work of the Tourism Unit is at present mainly oriented towards providing short-term technical assistance to individual member countries and groups of countries. In this regard, it helped the National Office of Tourism of the Niger to establish for the first time a permanent system of tourism statistics in that country.

433. In recent years, ECA short-term technical assistance in the field of tourism has been provided in marketing, organization of travel promotion analysis of hotel operations, feasibility studies for hotel projects, preparatory studies for planning tourism development, estimates of manpower needs in the hotel and tourism industry, organization and participation in tourism seminars, etc.

434. The Commission organized in collaboration with the World Tourism Organization (WTO) the first Regional African Conference on Tourism and Economic Development in Banjul (the Gambia) from 16 to 19 October 1978. The Conference was convened in order to analyse the basic factors affecting tourism development with a view to securing broader participation of African States in the world tourism market and substantially improving tourism development and planning in the countries of the region.

435. ECA has always acknowledged the fact that tourism development and planning present a considerable challenge. As an industry unusually sensitive to influences other than purely economic ones, its development is more difficult to predict and to plan for than most other forms of industrial activity. And because of its structure, with a large number of very small units covering a wide variety of different servicing trades, it is an industry that puts unusual strains on the administrative machinery of any Government seeking to promote and guide its development. It is for these reasons that ECA has taken an active role in the past two years in assisting its members to plan for coherent rather than haphazard tourism development.

436. In order to secure data for its work, the ECA secretariat has established direct contacts with overseas travel wholesalers, international hotel chains, national statistical offices, the World Tourism Organization, etc. Some of the assembled material has been and is being published in the

annual bulletin on "Tourism in Africa" and in other documents.

437. As the development of transport and communications is a key factor in the growth of tourism, it is hoped that the implementation of the United Nations Transport and Communications Decade in Africa would greatly contribute to the development of tourism as well.



## Chapter IV

### PERFORMANCE OF THE SECRETARIAT AS AN EXECUTING AGENCY

1. The secretariat operated a regional programme of technical co-operation during the biennium 1977/78 which was financed from the following sources :

(a) Organizations within the United Nations system

i. United Nations Regular Programme of Technical Assistance to ECA. . . . .	1,611,000 <sup>1/</sup>
ii. United Nations Development Programme . . . . .	5,680,000
iii. United Nations Fund for Population Activities . . . . .	1,655,000
iv. United Nations Children's Fund . . . . .	418,000
v. Food and Agriculture Organization . . . . .	716,000
vi. United Nations Industrial Development Organization . . . . .	267,000
vii. United Nations Environment Programme . . . . .	387,000
viii. United Nations Voluntary Fund for the Decade of Women . . . . .	322,000
Total United Nations organizations . . . . .	11,056,000
(b) United Nations Trust Fund for African Development . .	1,334,000
(c) African Governments and institutions. . . . .	1,006,000
(d) Donor Governments and organizations . . . . .	3,972,550
Total resources .	17,368,550

2. Of the above sum, \$US 1,578,000 was set aside as programme support costs and the remainder, \$US 15,790,550, was programmed for direct assistance to African Governments. A description of the broad uses to which these funds have been put follows and table I, attached, provides pertinent information on the individual projects which comprise this programme of technical co-operation.

United Nations Regular Programme of Technical Assistance

3. As an executing agency, under the United Nations regular programme of technical assistance the secretariat has received an

<sup>1/</sup> The United Nations Regular Programme of Technical Assistance is derived from the United Nations regular budget.

allocation of \$US 1,611,000 of which \$US 1,261,000 is in convertible currency for regional and subregional advisory services and the equivalent of \$US 350,000 is in roubles. The convertible currency portion of the allocation has been used to finance the employment of regional advisers who give advice and assistance, on request, to member States in the following fields of activity of the secretariat: general economic development, economic surveys, natural resources, public administration and public finance, social development, statistics, transport and tourism, industrial development, and the field of economic co-operation through the Multinational Programming and Operational Centres (MULPOCs). The rouble allocation has been used to finance, in 1977, a seminar and study tour for African geologists which was held in Tashkent, USSR, from 15 August to 4 September 1977, and to finance, in 1978, a port operations seminar held in Odessa, USSR, from 7 to 19 August 1978.

#### United Nations Development Programme

4. The links forged in 1973 between the secretariat and UNDP in their joint and close co-operative effort to foster economic co-operation at the regional and subregional levels have been strengthened. During the period under review, UNDP formally designated the secretariat as executing agency for UNDP projects, approved a special programme of \$US 10 million for intercountry projects in Africa to be administered by the secretariat and continued to provide financial support to the MULPOCs to the tune of \$US 1,919,000 and to the African Institute for Economic Development and Planning (IDEP) in the amount of \$US 1,600,000.

5. The \$US 10 million intercountry programme supports projects in seven sectors - natural resources, science and technology, human resources, agriculture, industry, transport and statistics. The individual projects mirror the decisions and recommendations of legislative or technical development bodies directly or indirectly associated with the work of the Commission and reflect its two guiding principles in the context of Africa's place in the new international economic order. These guiding principles are (a) the promotion of self-generating and self-sustaining economic growth; and (b) an increasing measure of self-reliance; both are designed to place the region in a position to mount effective attacks on unemployment and mass poverty.

6. To review co-operation between ECA and UNDP, the UNDP Assistant Administrative and Regional Director for Africa visited the secretariat from 3 to 7 October 1978, where he held discussions with the Executive Secretary of ECA on ECA's strategy for development in the African region as well as on the problems which the secretariat faced in the implementation of its programmes and projects.

7. The following decisions, inter alia, were reached, at the end of the discussions:

8. As regards co-operation between ECA and UNDP, it was agreed that

instructions will be issued by the UNDP Assistant Administrator, Regional Director for Africa to the effect that:

(a) UNDP Resident Representatives in Africa should act more effectively as representatives of the secretariat at the national level;

(b) UNDP Resident Representatives should report to the Executive Secretary of ECA on the outcome of missions and progress being made in projects undertaken by the secretariat in their countries of assignment whether or not the missions and projects were financed by UNDP;

(c) All newly assigned UNDP Resident Representatives to Africa should visit the secretariat for briefing and the secretariat should be represented at the periodic agency briefings of UNDP Resident Representatives.

9. With respect to co-operation between ECA, UNDP, OAU and BADEA, it was agreed that ECA and UNDP should do all in their power to strengthen co-operation between them and OAU. In that connexion, a meeting of the Chief Executives of the three organizations should be held as soon as practicable. It was noted that, in spite of the agreement on co-operation between ECA and BADEA signed in February 1977, and the discussions held the same year between the UNDP Regional Director for Africa and the President of BADEA, very little had been accomplished by way of practical co-operation between ECA, UNDP and BADEA. It was therefore agreed that efforts should be made to ensure some progress.

10. On the Transport and Communications Decade for Africa, the UNDP Assistant Administrator and Regional Director for Africa reiterated UNDP's full support for the United Nations Transport and Communications Decade for Africa and it was agreed that the secretariat should keep UNDP fully informed of progress being made in the implementation of the Decade with a view to enabling the UNDP Administrator to submit to his Governing Council the reports expected from him.

11. After reviewing progress made in the establishment of the four MULPOCs in Africa, their work programmes and resources, the UNDP Assistant Administrator and Regional Director for Africa agreed to study the possibility of increasing UNDP contributions from \$US 200,000 per annum to \$US 500,000 for the Lusaka MULPOC, \$US 350,000 for the Niamey and Yaounde MULPOCs, and to \$US 250,000 for the Gisenyi MULPOC as from 1979, in order to enable the MULPOCs to achieve the necessary impact in promoting economic co-operation and integration in their respective subregions. In addition, UNDP would also earmark \$US 10,000,000 for intercountry projects of interest to countries of southern Africa. The secretariat prepared various related projects in transport and communications, natural resources and manpower training which will be submitted to the meeting of the Council of Ministers of the Lusaka MULPOC for its consideration in February 1979.

#### United Nations Fund for Population Activities

12. In addition to the funds provided towards the infrastructure of the secretariat's programme in population (\$US 617,000), the following

resources have been made available for the implementation of operational projects : regional demographic advisers (\$US 196,000), micro-macro case studies (\$US 132,000), information activities (\$US 61,000), regional advisers in demographic statistics (\$US 523,000), former African Census Programme advisory services through the African Training and Research Centre for Women (\$US 200,000), working group on recommendations for the 1980 censuses (\$US 40,000) and census workshops (\$US 86,000).

#### United Nations Environment Programme

13. The United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) in 1977 and 1978 allocated \$US 77,000 and \$US 155,000 respectively to the project to strengthen the environmental capabilities of the secretariat making a total of \$US 232,000. UNEP also contributed in 1978 towards the project for the evaluation and assessment of environmental machineries in selected African countries for an amount of \$US 155,000.

#### Other United Nations sources

14. The African Training and Research Centre for Women received a total allocation of \$US 418,000 in 1977/78 from UNICEF to cover the services of experts and the cost of equipment.

15. The contributions of FAO and UNIDO to the secretariat for infra-structural support in terms of the ECA/FAO and ECA/UNIDO joint divisions were \$US 716,000 and \$US 267,000 respectively.

16. The United Nations Voluntary Fund for the Women's Decade in 1978 funded six projects in selected African countries worth to \$US 244,000 as well as the regional network programme for the advancement of women in Africa (\$US 78,000).

#### Donor Governments and organizations

17. Over the years, in response to the increasing needs of African Governments for greater technical assistance, the Commission has been able to negotiate successfully with bilateral donor Governments of the advanced countries for direct grants-in-aid, as well as for the provision of expert services under non-reimbursable loan arrangements in order to supplement the resources available to the Commission from the regular budget of the United Nations to permit the implementation of the secretariat's programme of work. In the biennium 1977/78 a total of 35 projects were under implementation at a total cost of \$US 3,972,550 received from various donor Governments and organizations under bilateral technical co-operation arrangements. Contributions in respect of the 1977/78 portion of financed projects were received from Belgium (\$US 459,695), Finland (\$US 12,730), France (\$US 108,000), Federal Republic of Germany (\$US 289,029), Japan (\$US 50,000), Netherlands (\$US 626,180), Sweden (\$US 612,688), Switzerland (\$US 78,293), United Kingdom (\$US 107,300), the United States of America (\$US 1,258,751), Ford Foundation (\$US 110,000), Rockefeller Foundation (\$US 21,318), IDRC (\$US 143,798), IPPF (\$US 12,447), ITDG (\$US 24,951) and Lutheran World Federation (\$US 57,370).

18. The projects are being carried out in the fields of agriculture

(\$US 247,275), trade (\$US 348,254), social development (\$US 1,547,680), natural resources (\$US 665,590), transport (\$US 25,000), public administration (\$US 712,030), economic co-operation (\$US 380,930) and socio-economic research and planning (\$US 45,790).

#### United Nations Trust Fund for African Development

19. During the period under review, 24 African Governments have pledged a total of \$US 4,793,000 to augment the funds the secretariat received from other sources to carry out its programme of work and priorities. To date, \$US 1,334,000 has been received in cash payments and this sum has been allocated towards the implementation of the first phases of the following projects crucial to the rational engineered development of the African region : trade in food and livestock products in West Africa, regional food plan (Agriculture) the Regional Centre for Industrial Design and Manufacturing, basic metals and engineering industries, the chemical industry development programme, and the building materials development programme (Industry); Conference on the Development and Utilization of Mineral Resources (Natural resources); Preferential Trade Area in Eastern and Southern Africa (Economic co-operation); Higher Institute for Technical Research and Training and the subregional Graduate Schools in Business Management and Finance (Management and manpower); as well as the Conference of Plenipotentiaries establishing the African Trust Fund in 1977.

#### African Governments and institutions

20. Several African Governments and institutions have engaged the secretariat to implement projects for which these Governments and institutions have borne the costs themselves. Among the important projects implemented or still under implementation are a demographic survey in connexion with Nigeria's new federal capital city, a study on the establishment of a compensation fund on behalf of the African Groundnut Council, and two studies for ECOWAS, one a trade, customs and monetary study and the other on transport and communications co-ordination.

#### Problems of programme execution

21. In discharging its responsibilities as an executing agency in terms of the programme of work described in broad terms above, the secretariat has encountered a number of problems.

22. Some of these problems are of the kind which are all too familiar to executing agencies. For example, the small size of the expert market (particularly in highly specialized fields) relative to world demand; the inordinate length of time it takes to get an expert on the job even after he had been identified and evinces keen interest in an assignment; the many problems attendant upon selecting and placing scholars in appropriate institutions of learning; and the length of time it takes to get the simplest matter settled with any Government, out of what is generally termed "sheer bureaucracy" but which may be due also to a more fundamental reason : the inappropriate structure and inadequate staffing of government departments.

23. Other problems are related to what may be termed the secretariat's growing pains; for, while in recent years the secretariat has been gradually shifting its emphasis from basic studies and research to the concentration of a greater proportion of its resources on multinational operating programmes and projects at the subregional and other group-country levels as well as to encouraging and promoting the development of national programmes and projects, nevertheless it is a fact that ECA has limited experience in carrying out operational projects at the field level.

24. The secretariat has identified the array of problems impeding its work and has begun systematic action towards solving those which are within its ambit.

(a) Table I. Resources derived from other organizations within the United Nations system

		(United States dollars)	
		Resources available 1977/78	Estimated expenditures 1977/78
<hr/>			
(i)	Regional advisory services regular programme of T.A. UNH-15 Regional Advisers (10) including Seminar and Study tour for African geologists (\$US 150,000) and Port Operation Seminar (\$US 200,000) .	1,611,000	1,611,000
	Total regular programme of T.A. regional advisers component . .	1,611,000	1,611,000
(ii)	<u>United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)</u>		
-	Forest resources development and conservation . . . . .	22,000	22,000
-	Industrial design and manufacture	100,000	100,000
-	African Industrial Development Fund	80,000	70,000
-	Regional symposium on industry .	88,000	80,000
-	Building materials . . . . .	104,000	80,000
-	Regional Centre for Technology .	266,000	65,000
-	Regional centres for marine science and technology . . .	35,000	20,000
-	East African Mineral Resources Development Centre . . . . .	92,000	20,000
-	Transport and Communications Decade	196,000	196,000

(a) Table I. (cont'd.)

		(United States dollars)	
		Resources available 1977/78	Estimated expenditures 1977/78
(ii)	<u>United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) (cont'd.)</u>		
-	Manpower development for basic industries . . . . .	81,000	60,000
-	IDEP . . . . .	1,600,000	1,600,000
-	Household Surveys Capability Programme . . . . .	63,000	40,000
-	Statistical Training . . . . .	133,000	133,000
	<u>Programme for Africa</u>		
-	Intra-African trade . . . . .	620,000	295,000
-	MULPOC - Lusaka . . . . .	676,000	601,000
	Niamey . . . . .	465,000	368,000
	Yaounde . . . . .	520,000	490,000
	Gisenyi . . . . .	258,000	152,000
-	Multilateral trade negotiations . . . . .	281,000	223,000
-	Total UNDP component . . . . .	5,680,000	4,615,000
		=====	=====
(iii)	<u>United Nations Fund for Population Activities (UNFPA)</u>		
-	Regional advisers in demography . . . . .	196,000	186,000
-	Regional advisers in demographic statistics . . . . .	523,000	473,000
-	Micro-macro case studies . . . . .	132,000	117,000
-	Information and clearing house activities . . . . .	61,000	50,000
-	Infrastructure support to Population Division . . . . .	617,000	507,000
-	Population and housing censuses workshop . . . . .	86,000	70,000
-	Working group recommendations on the 1980 round of censuses . . . . .	40,000	30,000
-	Total UNFPA component . . . . .	1,655,000	1,433,000
		=====	=====

(a) Table I. (contd.)

		(United States dollars)	
		Resources available 1977/78	Estimated expenditures 1977/78
(iv)	UNICEF Zonta support to the integration of women in development . .	418,000	418,000
(v)	Infrastructure support by FAO to Joint ECA/FAO Agriculture Division	716,000	716,000
(vi)	Infrastructure support by UNIDO to Joint ECA/UNIDO Industry Division	267,000	267,000
(vii)	UNEP support to ECA . . . . .	387,000	387,000
(viii)	Voluntary Fund for the Women's Decade . . . . .	322,000	322,000

(a) Table II. Summary of resources within the United Nations system

<u>Funding sources:</u>			
-	Regular budget of technical assistance . . . . .	1,611,000	1,611,000
-	UNDP . . . . .	5,680,000	4,615,000 <sup>a/</sup>
-	UNFPA . . . . .	1,655,000	1,433,000 <sup>a/</sup>
-	UNICEF . . . . .	518,000	418,000
-	FAO . . . . .	716,000	716,000
-	UNIDO . . . . .	267,000	267,000
-	UNEP . . . . .	387,000	387,000
-	Voluntary Fund for Women . . . . .	322,000	322,000
Total United Nations organizations		11,056,000	9,769,000
		=====	

<sup>a/</sup> It is estimated that there will be some slippage in 1978 under the following projects: Forest resources development, Centre for Technology, East African Mineral Resources Development Centre and Household Survey Programmes due to delays filling the posts. Furthermore, under the UNFPA infrastructure, five posts were vacant during 1978 because of staff transfers.



(b) Table III. United Nations Trust Fund for African Development

Project title	(United States dollars)	
	Resources available 1977/78	Estimated expenditures 1977/78
- Trade in food and livestock products in West Africa . . . . .	182,000	182,000
- Regional Centre for Industrial Design . . . . .	172,000	172,000
- Basic metals and engineering industries, Part I . . . . .	129,000	129,000
- Conference on the Development and Utilization of Mineral Resources . . . . .	163,000	163,000
- Higher Institute for Technical Training and Research . . . . .	50,000	50,000
- Subregional Graduate Schools in Business Management and Finance . . . . .	197,000	197,000
- Meeting of African plenipotentiaries . . . . .	41,000	41,000
- Chemical Industry Development Programme, Part I . . . . .	101,000	101,000
- Basic metals and engineering industries, Part II . . . . .	42,000	42,000
- Chemical Industry Development Programme, Part II . . . . .	53,000	53,000
- Preferential Trade Area in Eastern and Southern Africa . . . . .	50,000	50,000
- Regional Food Plan for Africa . . . . .	84,000	84,000
- Establishment of agricultural commodities exchange . . . . .	20,000	20,000
Total United Nations Trust Fund for African Development component . . . . .	1,334,000 <sup>a/</sup>	1,334,000

<sup>a/</sup> This total does not include the value of contributions in kind.  
It represents the total amount received in cash by ECA.

(c) Projects executed by ECA on behalf of African Governments and institutions

Project title	(United States dollars)	
	Resources available 1977/78	Estimated expenditures 1977/78
- Trade, customs and monetary study for ECOWAS . . . . .	418,000	418,000
- Transport and communications co-ordination for ECOWAS . . . . .	328,000	328,000
- Demographic survey, Nigerian new capital city . . . . .	260,000	260,000
Total African Governments and institutions component . . . . .	1,006,000	1,006,000

(d) Table IV. Contributions received from donor Governments and organizations during 1977/78

Donor	IN U. S. dollars
1. Belgium . . . . .	459,695
2. Finland . . . . .	12,730
3. France . . . . .	108,000
4. Federal Republic of Germany . . . . .	289,029
5. Japan . . . . .	50,000
6. Netherlands . . . . .	626,180
7. Sweden . . . . .	612,688
8. Switzerland . . . . .	78,293
9. United Kingdom . . . . .	107,300
10. United States of America . . . . .	1,258,751
11. Ford Foundation . . . . .	110,000
12. IPPF . . . . .	12,447
13. ITDG . . . . .	24,951
14. IDRC . . . . .	143,798
15. Lutheran World Federation . . . . .	57,370
16. Rockefeller Foundation . . . . .	21,318
Total . . . . .	3,972,550

(d) Table V. Summary of sectoral classification of contributions received from donor Governments and organizations during 1977/78

	In U. S. dollars
1. <u>Joint ECA/FAO Agriculture Division</u>	
a. Dairy development expert . . . . .	99,300
b. Expert services for improvement of agricultural marketing institutions for peasant farmers . . . . .	135,000
c. Consultant in agriculture . . . . .	<u>12,975</u>
Subtotal	247,275
2. <u>International Trade and Finance Division</u>	
a. Documentation unit . . . . .	6,065
b. Expert services for Africa Trade Centre . . . . .	154,284
c. Training expert for Africa Trade Centre . . . . .	<u>187,905</u>
Subtotal	348,254
3. <u>Social Development Division</u>	
a. African Training and Research Centre for Women . . . . .	1,341,061
b. Expert group meeting on social affairs . . . . .	42,471
c. Expert services on health aspect of environment . . . . .	50,000
d. ECA newsletter on rural development . . . . .	57,370
e. ECA/PAID seminar and training workshop on the methodology and practices of integrated rural development . . . . .	<u>56,778</u>
Subtotal	1,547,680
4. <u>Natural Resources Division</u>	
a. Expert services in solar energy . . . . .	100,000
b. Expert services in hydrogeology . . . . .	168,320
c. Project on cartographic inventory in Africa . . . . .	143,798
d. Expert services and support for ECA remote sensing project . . . . .	139,072
e. Assistance in non-conventional sources of energy . . . . .	<u>114,400</u>
Subtotal	665,590

(d) Table V. (cont'd)

Summary of sectoral classification of contributions  
received from donor Governments and organizations  
during 1977/78

	In U. S. dollars
5. <u>Transport, Communications and Tourism Division</u>	
a. Pan-African Conference on Highway Maintenance . . . . .	24,000
b. First General Assembly Meeting of Union of African Railways . . . . .	<u>1,000</u>
Subtotal	25,000
6. <u>Public Administration, Management and Manpower Division</u>	
a. Fellowship and training of African instructors . . . . .	445,584
b. Advisory and training services on procurement and supplies management in Africa . . . . .	264,481
c. Regional seminar on the role of local authorities in planning and plan implementation . . . . .	<u>1,965</u>
Subtotal	712,030
7. <u>Economic Co-operation Office</u>	
a. Multinational Programming and Operational Centres . . . . .	282,930
b. Technical experts of African economic co-operation organizations . . . . .	<u>98,000</u>
Subtotal	380,930
8. <u>Socio-Economic Research and Planning Division</u>	
<u>Consultancy services for preparation of Survey of economic and social conditions in Africa . . . . .</u>	<u>45,790</u>
GRAND TOTAL	<u>3,972,549</u>

<u>SUMMARY OF RESOURCES</u>		<u>In U. S. dollars</u>
a.	Organizations within the United Nations system . . . . .	11,056,000 <sup>a/</sup>
b.	United Nations Trust Fund for African Development . . . . .	1,334,000
c.	African Governments and institutions . . . . .	1,006,000
d.	Donor Governments and organizations . . . . .	<u>3,972,550</u>
GRAND TOTAL		<u>17,368,550</u>

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<sup>a/</sup> Represents actual expenditures for the period 1 January 1977 to 31 August 1978 and estimated expenditures for the period 1 September to 31 December 1978.

## Chapter V

### PROMOTION OF ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION AND INTEGRATION

1. During the period under review the secretariat's activities in the field of economic co-operation and integration covered many areas at (a) subregional, (b) regional and (c) interregional levels.

#### (a) Subregional co-operation

##### Multinational Programming and Operational Centres (MULPOCs)

2. Pursuant to resolution 311(XIII) of March 1977, the secretariat organized inaugural meetings for the creation of a family of five African MULPOCs for Eastern and Southern Africa based at Lusaka, the Economic Community of the Great Lakes countries based at Gisenyi, Central Africa based at Yaounde and West Africa (ECOWAS member States) based at Niamey. Work programmes have been approved and supervisory organs established for all these MULPOCs. What needs to be understood, in fact, is that these MULPOCs are operational arms of the secretariat. For full details, see a separate paper placed before the fifth Conference of Ministers.

#### (b) Regional co-operation

3. This activity was carried out within the framework of African intergovernmental organizations in keeping with the revised framework of principles for the implementation of the new international economic order in Africa, 1976-1980-1986 (E/CN.14/ECO/90/Rev.3). A full account is given in chapters III, VII and VIII of this report.

#### (c) Interregional co-operation

4. In compliance with resolutions 301(XIII), 302(XIII) and 303 (XIII) on co-operation with the regional commissions for Western Asia (ECWA), Latin America (ECLA), Europe (ECE) and Asia (ESCAP), the following measures were taken during the period under review.

##### ECA/ECWA

5. It will be recalled that Conference of Ministers resolution 301 (XIII) specified the priority fields in which interregional co-operation would be promoted to include agriculture, development planning, exchange of officials and technical personnel for in-plant training, social development and the establishment of common industrial ventures. In particular, it was decided that co-operation should be promoted in the establishment of three priority projects, that is a statistical abstract for the Arab World, a regional documentation centre and the brain-drain problem.

6. In pursuance of these decisions, preliminary consultations have taken place between the Executive Secretaries of ECA and ECWA, with respect to the data bank and the problem of the brain-drain on which further discussions were held recently at their meeting at Rabat.

#### ECA/ECLA

7. ECA has worked out together with ECLA a joint draft programme of economic and technical co-operation between Africa and Latin America for consideration by their respective member Governments. These proposals were submitted for discussion and approval by the Conference of African Planners and later by the fifth Conference of Ministers during their meeting at Rabat. The ECA/ECLA proposals were finalized in discussions between the two Executive Secretaries during the TCDC World Conference building on earlier discussions held by them during the regular annual meetings of Executive Secretaries at Geneva.

8. The proposed action programme of the two regional commissions is based on the principles of mutual interdependence between Africa and Latin America, and is designed to bring about effective economic and technical co-operation between individual Governments, groups of Governments, and/or intergovernmental organizations of both regions. The two regional economic commission secretariats will assist as necessary the African and Latin America Governments and intergovernmental organizations in identifying areas of mutual co-operation and in promoting the exchange of information on programmes and projects thus identified.

9. For 1979-1980 the priority fields proposed by the ECA and ECLA secretariats include trade promotion, the development of manpower resources, and the adaptation, transfer and development of relevant technology. It is expected that with the approval of the African and Latin American Governments, an appropriate mechanism for a continuous dialogue and exchange of information on TCDC and ECDC can be established.

10. In the longer term, ECA and ECLA will take appropriate measures for joint programming of activities of common interest to be submitted to a joint interregional meeting of both regional commissions. It is envisaged that interregional co-operation activities between Africa and Latin America can be financed not only from contributions by the United Nations, UNDP and the developed countries, but also from contributions by African and Latin American Governments as well as from other developing countries in the spirit of TCDC.

11. During 1977 ECA mounted a mission to Latin America led by an officer of the Economic Co-operation Office and consisting of officials of selected member Governments to study the operations of the various integration movements and have preliminary discussions with officials of ECLA and other organizations on possible co-operation activities.

#### ECA/ESCAP

12. ECA also co-operated with ESCAP in setting up a co-ordinating committee on multilateral payments arrangements and monetary co-operation among developing countries. The first meeting of the co-ordinating committee took place at Bangkok in July 1978 and was attended by a representative of the secretariat. Together with the other regional economic commissions the secretariat expects to render continuous support

to the work of the co-ordinating committee whose technical secretariat is UNCTAD.

13. At the same time the two secretariats are undertaking a joint study on co-operation among the State organizations of their two regions, as well as a study on trade promotion between African and Asian and Pacific countries.

#### International negotiations

14. In its relations with other regions particularly with the developed countries, the secretariat recognizes the need for effective co-operation in order to strengthen its common negotiating position by increasing its collective bargaining power. Africa and the other developing regions must do more than agree to sit together on the same side of the negotiating table and vote in unison. They have to evolve a common development strategy and hence a common strategy of negotiation, which is only possible if they undertake a careful factual analysis not only of their own strengths and weaknesses but of the strengths and weaknesses of their opponents. In the international negotiations that lie ahead - notably UNCTAD V and Lome Convention II - the secretariat, in co-operation with other regional commissions, will seek to obtain such supplementary resources as are needed to enable African and other developing countries to grow autonomously, since Africa's present approach to development is that socio-economic change must begin from within. Accordingly, the purpose of negotiations will be to seek the most favourable terms on which essential external inputs, once identified, can be secured.

#### Economic and technical co-operation among developing countries

15. During the period under review, the secretariat participated in the promotion of various TCDC and ECDC activities, within Africa as well as between Africa and other regions.

#### TCDC in Africa

16. As already pointed out, many TCDC projects in Africa are now being carried out within the framework of the MULPOCs and other intergovernmental organizations already covered elsewhere in this report.

17. In 1977 three secretariat study missions visited Benin, Burundi, Chad, Gabon, the Gambia, the Niger, Rwanda, Sierra Leone, Somalia, Swaziland, Togo, Uganda and Upper Volta. The purpose of the missions was to complete the study on technical co-operation among African countries that the secretariat had conducted in 1976 for selected countries. The countries mentioned above are those which had been omitted from the initial coverage. Thus the study has now been extended to cover all ECA member States and its findings should provide a solid basis for future as well as current inter-country TCDC projects in Africa.

#### The TCDC World Conference

18. The secretariat participated fully in the United Nations TCDC



Conference, and the preparations leading to it, held at Buenos Aires in August-September 1978. In preparation for the Conference, a joint OAU/ECA meeting of African experts and officials on TCDC was held at ECA headquarters from 26 to 30 August 1976. The meeting reviewed TCDC activities in Africa, thrashed out a common stand, and made recommendations. Another series of preparatory meetings in which the secretariat participated was the Inter-Agency Task Force on TCDC which met several times during 1977 and 1978, but because all its meetings were in New York, the secretariat was able to send representatives to only one of the meetings due to shortage of travel funds. However, the secretariat followed all the discussions closely and sent comments on the reports of meetings of the Inter-Agency Task Force and of the preparatory committee.

19. As regards the documentation for the TCDC Conference, ECA played its full part in contributing ideas to the various papers and joined the other regional commissions in producing a joint paper on their role in promoting interregional co-operation.

20. The TCDC Conference adopted a plan of action which, among other things, spelled out the role of regional commissions. As a follow-up, the secretariat, in co-operation with UNDP, invited all the Executive Secretaries of regional commissions to a meeting at Rabat in March 1979 in order to discuss, together with UNDP Directors of Regional Bureaux, specific proposals for interregional TCDC projects which could be undertaken jointly by the secretariats of the regional commissions.

## Chapter VI

### FINANCIAL RESOURCES ( REGULAR AND EXTRABUDGETARY )

1. The past 21 years have witnessed a steady increase in the full membership, as opposed to associate membership, of the Commission with the attainment of political independence, with full members rising from eight in 1958 to 39 in 1968 and 49 in 1978. This trend has in turn meant increased responsibility for the secretariat within the terms of reference of Economic and Social Council resolution 671 (XXV) to render services to States members in regard to research and studies of economic and technological problems and developments; disseminate the results of such research and studies; and perform technical advisory services as the countries may desire all with a view to raising the level of economic activity and levels of living in Africa.

2. In an effort to meet ECA's desire stipulated in resolution 671 (XXV), the increase in the responsibilities of the secretariat is further evidenced by the increase over time in the number of substantive divisions by programme sectors from three in 1961 to six in 1968 and later from nine in 1972 to 10 in 1978.

3. In the meantime, with the changing world scene, these responsibilities of the secretariat have coincided with the declared and ever increasing social and economic development aspirations of States including the launching of the Second United Nations Development Decade and the Declaration and Plan of Action on the Establishment of a New International Economic Order. As regards the latter, the aspirations for the African region have been broadly set out in document E/CN.14/ECO/90/Rev.3 containing the revised framework of principles for the implementation of the new international economic order in Africa, 1976-1980-1986, approved by the ECA Conference of Ministers at its fourth meeting in 1977. Furthermore, the development aspirations contained in this document have, as a matter of routine, been spelt out in specific projects in the biennial programmes of work of the secretariat for 1976 and 1977; 1978 and 1979 and 1980 and 1981 - the latter two of which have been placed before the fifth Conference of Ministers (documents E/CN.14/683/Add.1 and E/CN.14/TECO/41).

4. Naturally, a task of the magnitude described above must call for enormous financial and human resources if the secretariat is to further its programmes and thus make headway on the path of economic and social development in the African region.

5. Normally, for the implementation of projects approved by the policy-making organs of the Commission, the secretariat depends on two sources of funds, namely (a) the United Nations regular budget and (b) extrabudgetary resources. These two sources are examined below for the period 1977 and 1978.

#### (a) United Nations regular budgetary resources

6. The regular budget resources provided by the United Nations

General Assembly to the secretariat are the appropriations to carry out certain work contained in the work programme approved by its policy-making organs. Although the United Nations allocated regular budget funds by a number of sections to the secretariat, its main budget allotment was made under section 9.

7. The regular budget appropriations approved under section 9 by the General Assembly of the United Nations for the Economic Commission for Africa for biennia 1976/1977 and 1978/1979 amounted \$US 18,975,500 and \$US 23,679,000 respectively. The details of these appropriations are, by programme, indicated in annex A, table 1. With regard to the years 1977 and 1978, which fall between these two biennia, \$US 9,487,750 and \$US 11,839,500 respectively were allocated. This indicates an increase of \$US 2,351,750 in 1978 over the year 1977.

8. Of the over-all appropriations to the secretariat in 1978 manpower resources accounted for the largest portion as this item of expenditure was considered vital for the implementation of approved projects under the new international economic order in Africa. In 1978, 36 additional established posts were provided - 15 at professional and higher levels and 21 conversions from temporary assistance at general service level. Of the 15 professional and higher posts 13 were conversions from temporary assistance posts approved by the General Assembly at its thirty-first session with only two being new ones.

9. The growth in staff resources was connected with programmes in development planning projections and policies; natural resources; public administration and finance, transport, communications and tourism; and administration and common services which accords with the new structure of the secretariat and the shift of emphasis in work programmes in accordance with the decisions of the policy-making organs of ECA.

10. In order to supplement its staff resources, the secretariat is usually provided with funds for the employment of consultants. The budget provision for the recruitment of consultants during 1978/1979 amounted to \$US 379,600 of which the sum for \$US 275,000 was provided for the years 1977 and 1978. Whereas performance of the regular ECA staff now demonstrates increasing ability of the Commission to handle more challenging work in certain professional and technical fields, the above appropriations are nevertheless inadequate to meet the requirements with the result that certain projects could only be undertaken through the timely and generous contributions of donor Governments.

11. During the period under review, high travel costs in Africa continued to handicap the work of the secretariat. Thanks to member Governments which have been able to finance the travel costs of the secretariat staff to do work in their countries it was possible to carry out urgently requested work - a worthwhile gesture in self-reliance which is expected to continue in the light of the limited ECA travel budget.

12. The new building for the headquarters of the secretariat at Addis Ababa has provided additional accomodation facilities for the library,

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cafeteria and clinic which were lacking in the past. About \$US 250,000 from the regular budget have been provided for the purchase of equipment and employment of personnel for the clinic between 1977 and 1978. In order to support the efforts being made by the secretariat to supplement medical facilities available to the United Nations staff members at Addis Ababa, the United Nations agencies also contributed about \$US 140,000 to meet part of the costs for equipment and personnel. A cafeteria costing \$US 75,000 in equipment is being set up to provide for quality food at the cheapest cost to staff members and delegates attending conferences and meetings at Africa Hall. With regard to the library, a remarkable expansion took place in 1977 and 1978 and the total collection of this service is estimated to be now about 130,000 books and documents.

13. Following the decision of the fourth meeting of the Conference of Ministers that an African Development Information Network (AFDIN) should be set up within the framework of the secretariat, work has begun and commitments entered into for the provision of expanded computer facilities that would serve the entire AFDIN system including the library, the research staff and the Electronic Data Processing Unit. The total cost of the computer terminal is \$US 37,000.

14. In addition to the funds provided under section 9, the United Nations has provided funds for other special programmes from the regular budget. These include a special meeting for science and technology, technical assistance, training activities, major maintenance and a unit for transnational corporations.

15. At the fourth meeting of the ECA Conference of Ministers, the Executive Secretary of ECA was urged to continue efforts in providing language training services and facilities for the staff of the secretariat so that they could become proficient in the Arabic, English and French languages. In this connexion \$US 97,000 has been provided under section 22 of the regular budget for the purpose of language and translator training. A total of about 300 students were under language training at ECA from the beginning of 1978. Training facilities were extended, at a fee, to staff members from diplomatic missions and other United Nations agencies stationed at Addis Ababa who now number roughly 100.

16. Of the total amount appropriated for training programmes in 1978 \$US 75,600 was specifically allocated for the first time for the African Translators Training Programme. This allocation provided for the training of 10 translators each year, and eight trainees have been on board since July 1978. The idea of organizing a Translators Programme was first put forward several years ago in response to the repeated concerns voiced about the lack of African translators not only in the Economic Commission for Africa but also in the United Nations in general. The Programme is designed to develop the trainees' ability to comprehend and analyse texts and, through briefings, background reading and translation exercises, to enable them to acquire the sound basic training and knowledge of current events that the work of a translator demands.

17. A sum of \$US 357,700 was allocated and is expected to be spent

from the regular budget on studies dealing with transnational corporations during the period 1978/1979. As the programme is mainly a study project, the largest portion of the expenditure is to be incurred on human resources.

18. The summary by programmes other than section 9, financed under the regular budget in the years 1977 and 1978, is given in table 1 below.

Table 1. Summary of United Nations regular resources  
by programme

No.	Programmes	(In United States dollars)		
		1977	1978	Total
UNH04-032	Special meetings and conferences . . . . .	-	145,000	145,000
UNH-15	Technical assistance. . . . .	743,650	884,000	1,627,650
UNH-22	Staff training activities . . . . .	15,300	97,000	112,300
UNH-25	Staff assessment . . . . .	1,508,000	2,329,850	3,837,850
UNH-26	Major maintenance . . . . .	709,250	112,500	821,750
UNH-27	Transnational corporations . . . . .	100,800	178,850	279,650
Total . . . . .		3,077,000	3,747,200	6,824,200

(b) Extrabudgetary resources

19. Traditionally, the secretariat has derived the financial and human resources to implement what has come to be called its extrabudgetary programme from two principal sources : (1) from organizations within the United Nations system, and (2) from bilateral donor Governments and organizations.

20. These extrabudgetary resources are the funds made available to ECA in the attempt to bridge the gap between what it costs to carry out the tasks the secretariat has set itself to perform over a given period of time (its approved programmes of work and priorities for 1976/1977 and 1978/1979, for instance), and what is derived, as income, from the regular budget of the United Nations.

21. The gap has never been bridged. For example, it has been calculated that, to cover the cost of implementation of most projects at the pre-feasibility and feasibility study stage of the project cycle and to cover in full the implementation of certain key projects, the resource gap between 1977 and 1979 would be of the order of some \$US 30 million. So far a total of \$US 15,608,000 has been raised by extrabudgetary resources to support the implementation of the approved work programme. The disposition of these funds are indicated in annex A, table 2.

22. It is in this context that, beginning in 1977, the secretariat

now has access to a third source of funds : - direct contributions received from African Governments themselves which, together with resources made available under bilateral technical co-operation arrangements with donor Governments and other organizations in the developed countries, constitute the United Nations Trust Fund for African Development.

23. At its fourth meeting the ECA Conference of Ministers requested the Executive Secretary of ECA, by resolution 288 (XIII), to convene a pledging conference of African Governments on the mobilization of resources for the implementation of the secretariat's work programme. The Conference was held at Lagos, Nigeria, from 26 to 29 April 1977 at which 32 African Governments participated as well as ADB and the BADEA. At the Conference, pledges totalling \$US 3,874,196 were made by 14 African Governments, while 10 other Governments indicated that they would communicate their pledges to the Executive Secretary of ECA. As of 30 June 1978, 24 African Governments had pledged a total of \$US 4,793,455.

24. While pledges by African Governments to date fall far short of the deficit of \$US 30 million mentioned in paragraph 21 above, what is encouraging is that member States have taken an historic step in giving practical expression to the principle of self-reliance; and with another pledging conference due to be held early in 1979, African Governments will be afforded the opportunity of further narrowing, or even completely eliminating the estimated shortfall of funds. Nevertheless, while African Governments have signified their commitment to provide funds, there remains cause for disquiet. Of the \$US 4,793,455 pledged to date, only \$US 1,234,000 has been paid into the Treasury of the secretariat. What this means is that contributions received so far can meet the financial requirements of the first phases of only a limited number of projects. These initial phases involve mainly the prefeasibility or feasibility studies which need to be undertaken before more substantive work on the projects can be commenced. Moreover, the flow of funds has been so irregular as to engender considerable uncertainties in planning and programming major projects and to lead to dislocation in the design and implementation of closely related projects. It is therefore incumbent upon all Governments to make payments promptly so that even the truncated programme of work may be delivered as planned.

25. The extrabudgetary programme embraces, to a limited but growing extent, the identification, design and implementation of projects upon the direct request of African Governments and institutions, the costs of which are paid for by the Governments and institutions themselves. This represents a fourth source of funds, but one which may not necessarily have specific organic links with the secretariat's programme of work and priorities.

26. The funding sources mentioned above produced extrabudgetary resources in the amount of \$US 15,608,000 applicable to 1977 and 1978 as given in table 2 below.

Table 2. Summary of extrabudgetary resources by donors

Donor	(In United States dollars)		
	Total	1977	1978
(a) Organizations within the United Nations system			
(i) UNDP . . . . .	5,680,000	1,858,000	3,812,000
(ii) UNFPA . . . . .	1,655,000	729,000	926,000
(iii) UNICEF . . . . .	418,000	202,000	216,000
(iv) FAO . . . . .	716,000	270,000	446,000
(v) UNIDO . . . . .	267,000	212,000	55,000
(vi) UNEP . . . . .	387,000	77,000	310,000
(vii) Fund for Decade for Women	322,000	70,000	252,000
Total United Nations organizations . . . . .	9,445,000	3,418,000	6,027,000
(b) Donor Governments and organizations . . . . .	4,099,000	1,938,000	2,161,000
(c) United Nations Trust Fund for African Development . . . . .	1,234,000	550,000	684,000
(d) African Governments and institutions . . . . .	830,000	94,000	736,000
Total resources . . . . .	15,608,000	6,000,000	9,608,000
Of which:			
- for project operations and infrastructure . . . . .	14,004,000	5,387,000	8,617,000
- for programme support costs . . . . .	1,604,000	613,000	991,000
Total resources . . . . .	15,608,000	6,000,000	9,608,000

27. In conclusion it should be emphasized that there exists a problem for financing the approved work programmes of the secretariat; the problem requires international recognition and action to deal with it. Although the Commission has made every effort to raise funds through donor Governments and institutions to supplement the regular budget, the gap for financial requirements to implement the secretariat's work programmes still remained. The secretariat provides a means through which international funds can be channelled and utilized for the advancement of economic and social life in Africa. It is through this pooling together of the resources on a subregional and regional basis that an effective

impact for accelerated development in Africa can be achieved. The secretariat has therefore cause to expect substantial increases in its regular budgets, and increased participation from Governments and institutions in financing its work programmes through extrabudgetary resources.



## Chapter VII

### CO - OPERATION WITH AFRICAN INTERGOVERNMENTAL INSTITUTIONS

1. This chapter will be limited to a broad survey of the important links forged during the period under review between the secretariat and African intergovernmental institutions aimed at strengthening and co-ordinating the activities of the latter. Since the attainment of independence in Africa, there has sprung up a large number of African intergovernmental institutions within the region. There now exist over 75 such intergovernmental institutions which range from multipurpose organizations to limited multisectoral organizations, single sectoral organizations and specialized organizations. The multiplicity of these organizations many of which are in one way or another attempting to achieve the same or similar objectives brings in its train complex problems of rationalization and co-ordination which could be counter-productive. Many of the African intergovernmental institutions were established to serve laudable purposes, but some have not been entirely successful as they have lacked right from their inception trained manpower, adequate financial resources and other important factors. The secretariat has therefore done its best to co-ordinate as far as possible the activities of African intergovernmental institutions and to strengthen them in various ways.

2. The secretariat sponsored, in collaboration with ECLA, a study tour in April-March 1977 for African economic co-operation officials who visited ECLA headquarters and various Latin American institutions to collect information and exchange views on existing machinery for co-operation and regional integration in Latin America. The African economic co-operation officials also visited the headquarters of EEC in Brussels to hold discussions with officials there. In conformity with Conference of Ministers resolution 296 (XIII) which urges the strengthening and co-ordination of the activities of African intergovernmental institutions, ECA and ECOWAS jointly organized in February 1978 at Lagos a meeting of representatives of intergovernmental organizations within the West African subregion covered by ECOWAS to explore ways in which their activities could best be co-ordinated. ECA was appointed a member of a select committee to make concrete suggestions as to fields in which the activities of the intergovernmental organizations could be usefully co-ordinated. The select committee held its first meeting in April 1978 at Lagos (Nigeria) and its second meeting in June 1978 at Cotonou (Benin). At that meeting it was decided that co-operation among the intergovernmental organizations should focus on the development of manpower requirements in the subregion and the exchange of technical and other information.

3. Prior to the Cotonou meeting, in June 1978 at Niamey (the Niger) the secretariat convened a meeting to coincide with the inaugural meeting of the Niamey MULPOC, of executive secretaries of West African intergovernmental organizations to examine ways in which the secretariat, through its Niamey MULPOC, could assist in the co-ordination and harmonization of the activities of these intergovernmental organizations.

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During the consideration of the terms of reference of the Niamey MULPOC, it was agreed that representatives of the West African intergovernmental organizations should assist in the formulation of the work programme of the Niamey MULPOC. In the meanwhile, it was decided that the MULPOC should prepare periodic liaison bulletins that would, inter alia, promote the exchange of information among intergovernmental organizations, disseminate technical and other relevant information and assist in research and training programmes.

4. The secretariat continued during the biennium to promote the establishment of African intergovernmental institutions where these did not exist. Foremost among these are the Preferential Trade Area for Eastern and Southern African States, the African Remote Sensing Council, the African Regional Centre for Technology and the African Regional Centre for Applied Research and Training in Social Development which are also reported on more fully in chapter III of this report. However, it has been with such African intergovernmental institutions as OAU, ADB, ECOWAS, the Lake Chad Basin Commission, the Economic Community of the Great Lakes and UDEAC that the secretariat has concentrated its efforts in institution building by the establishment of more formalized frameworks for effective co-operation. A significant development which marks a happy departure from the past is that the secretariat has been entrusted by some African intergovernmental institutions with the implementation of practical projects at their own expense, such as the undertaking of substantial pre-feasibility and feasibility studies and the preparation of bankable projects for financing.

#### ECA and OAU

5. Africa is unique in that the States members of ECA are the same as those of OAU. This fortunate coincidence enjoins the two organizations to work closely together, each organization complementing and supporting the activities and aspirations of the other.

6. In pursuance of Conference of Ministers resolution 327(XIII) which called for further co-operation between ECA and OAU in more concrete terms, two meetings were held between the Executive Secretary of ECA and the Administrative Secretary-General of OAU in March and April 1977 to streamline co-operation between the two organizations. As a result of these meetings, it was decided to set up a joint OAU/ECA Committee, which would meet once a month at OAU or ECA under the chairmanship of the Assistant Administrative Secretary-General of OAU in charge of Economic and Social Affairs or the Deputy Executive Secretary of ECA. The terms of reference of the Committee emphasized the need to set up machinery to consider the working relationship of the two secretariats including the preparation of documents, determination of priorities and the co-ordination of the work of their respective legislative organs, especially where the two secretariats were involved in common projects. The Committee would also consider preparations for forthcoming meetings being organized by either secretariat particularly where some input was expected from the other, and would consider draft proposals or resolutions which were likely to affect the two organizations, so as to avoid conflict and duplication of effort.

7. At the working level, the two secretariats participated in meetings of both institutions. In particular, the Executive Secretary of ECA addressed the OAU Assembly of Heads of State and Government held at Libreville (Gabon) in July 1977. ECA also participated in and made a contribution to the thirty-first ordinary session of the Council of Ministers and the Assembly of Heads of State and Government at Khartoum in July 1978.

8. In the field of Afro-Arab co-operation and follow-up action, ECA was requested to work out the modalities of Afro-Arab co-operation. A paper on that subject submitted by the secretariat was discussed at the Afro-Arab Summit meeting held at Cairo on 4 April 1977 and attended by representatives of OAU, the Arab League, BADEA, ADB and ECA. Following the Cairo summit meeting, ECA prepared and submitted to the OAU Committee of Twenty-four, at its meeting at Yaounde in May 1977, a paper on ways and means of establishing working groups, their function and responsibilities. ECA and BADEA also prepared a joint study on a feasibility studies centre. Following the agreement signed between ECA and BADEA in February 1977 on co-operation between the two organizations, an official of BADEA visited the secretariat in October 1978 to discuss ways of implementing that agreement. In the meantime, ECA has submitted for financing by Arab institutions the following four regional projects: the Trans-African Highways Project, the Pan-African Telecommunications Network, remote sensing in Africa and the Data Bank prerequisites for effective intra-African and international co-operation project.

9. In the field of trade, co-operation between ECA and OAU continued to be fostered by the OAU Conference of African Ministers of Trade which assists African countries in harmonizing their positions on trade and development issues and in promoting intra-African trade and economic co-operation within the region. ECA participated actively at the OAU Conference of African Ministers of Trade which was held at Addis Ababa (Ethiopia) from 4 to 8 December 1978. The secretariat participated in a meeting organized by OAU at Addis Ababa from 4 to 7 January 1977 on Afro-Arab co-operation where the keynote paper on the development of Afro-Arab trade was submitted by ECA. OAU and ECA also cosponsored the meeting of the Assembly of the Association of African Trade Promotion Organizations (AATPO) held at Tangiers on 25 April 1977. Jointly with OAU and UNCTAD, ECA organized an African Regional Meeting on the Common Fund which took place at Arusha (United Republic of Tanzania) from 6 to 8 October 1977. Its main purpose was to discuss and work out an African stand on the proposed Common Fund in preparation for the meetings of the Group of 77 and the global Negotiating Conference on the Common Fund.

10. Action taken in the implementation of OAU and ECA resolutions calling for the setting up of a centre for monetary studies to facilitate intra-African trade led to the establishment in Dakar of the African Centre for Monetary Studies which became operational in January 1978. ECA and OAU also co-operated in the servicing of the African Group meeting held in conjunction with the ninth special session of the Trade and Development Board on the debt problem.

11. The collaboration of ECA and OAU in the development and implementation of industrial programmes during 1977-1978 warrants special mention. OAU jointly sponsored with ECA and UNIDO the Conference of African Ministers of Industry as well as the meeting of the Follow-up Committee. There was a great increase in joint programming activities in the field of industry with OAU. Co-operation between ECA and OAU continued in project development and formulation, implementation of various programmes, including the symposium on industrial policies and strategies, for which OAU will make a substantial contribution, the African Industrial Development Fund and the African Regional Centre for Engineering Design and Manufacturing.

12. In the field of transport and communications, ECA collaborated with OAU in 1977 in the OAU Ad hoc Committee on the Study of Multimodal Transport with a view to preparing a report which was considered at the Intergovernmental Preparatory Group meeting for the elaboration of the Convention on International Multimodal Transport at Geneva in October 1978. ECA, in collaboration with OAU, identified consultants to carry out the study in 20 African countries.

13. In the field of science and technology, ECA collaborated with OAU in convening a meeting of plenipotentiaries in November 1977 to establish the African Regional Centre for Technology which is concerned with all aspects of the development and transfer of technology in the region.

14. A significant activity initiated during the period under review, was the launching of the Transport and Communications Decade for Africa (1978-1988) in implementation of Conference of Ministers resolution 291(XIII) of 26 February 1977, Economic and Social Council resolution 2097(LXIII) and General Assembly resolution 32/160 of 19 December 1977. On the basis of the recommendations contained in the above mentioned resolutions and resolution ECO (XVIII)/Res.2, adopted by the ECA Executive Committee at Khartoum in May 1977, ECA and OAU will organize a Conference of Ministers of Transport, Communications and Public Works to establish a detailed programme of action and to propose projects to international sources for financing.

15. During the period under review, ECA collaborated with OAU in the execution of the programme of the Pan-African Telecommunication Network. Two co-ordination committee meetings were held, the reports of which were submitted to the OAU Council of Ministers meeting at Khartoum.

16. In the field of social development, ECA, in co-operation with OAU, convened the second Conference of African Ministers of Social Affairs held at Alexandria (Egypt) in January 1977 which adopted the text of the Constitution of the African Regional Centre for Applied Research and Training in Social Development. Following this Conference, the secretariat undertook a joint evaluation mission with OAU from 2 May to 11 June 1977 to examine and evaluate facilities offered by States members of the two organizations to host the proposed Centre. After considering the report of the joint evaluation mission, the thirtieth session of the OAU Council

of Ministers decided that the headquarters of the Centre should be located at Tripoli (Libyan Arab Jamahiriya). The constitution of the Centre entered into force in May 1978 after adherence by 13 member States.

17. With reference to assistance given to the victims of colonialism and apartheid in southern Africa, successful co-operation between OAU and the United Nations led to the organization of the International Conference in Support of the Peoples of Zimbabwe and Namibia, held at Maputo (Mozambique) from 16 to 21 May 1977 and the World Conference for Action against Apartheid, held at Lagos (Nigeria) from 22 to 26 August 1977. In pursuance of General Assembly resolution 2380 (XXIX), ECA, in collaboration with the United Nations Statistical Office, has been considering the following three forms of assistance to Namibia : the establishment of the Namibian Statistical Unit; training of statisticians; and sample population censuses.

18. At the request of the secretariat, OAU is now acting as nominating and sponsoring authority for candidates for African fellowships who cannot be nominated and sponsored by their respective countries because the latter are still under colonial domination. Pursuant to a decision of the ECA Lusaka MULPOC Council of Ministers held at Lusaka (Zambia) in November 1977, ECA organized a Conference on Migratory Labour in Southern Africa with the collaboration of the Zambian Government and the liberation movements of southern Africa recognized by OAU, from 4 to 8 April 1978. A number of measures were adopted which were intended to accelerate the economic development of the countries that supplied migrant labour to South Africa; to promote development strategies aimed at reducing the economic dependence of supplier States on the South African economy; and to create a Labour Committee to monitor socio-economic problems of migrant workers and to protect those workers pending the total abolition of the system.

19. ECA collaborates regularly with UNHCR and the OAU Bureau for the Placement and Education of African Refugees (BPEAR) in the formulation of policies and strategies for education and placement of refugees in Africa. Furthermore, as a member of the Co-ordinating Committee of BPEAR, ECA assisted in the travel, placement, education and rehabilitation of refugees brought to the attention of OAU. ECA and OAU co-operated closely with UNHCR in the organization of a conference on the situation of refugees in Africa scheduled to take place in 1979. Through its ATRCW, ECA began the process of initiating activities on behalf of women in southern Africa, with the co-operation of OAU. These activities will include training scholarships for southern African women and a training programme for women in southern African liberation movements.

20. In the field of economic and social development, the secretariat co-operated with OAU under the technical co-operation programme among African countries. ECA provided the necessary data on the subject to OAU and commented on the draft of the OAU convention which now governs technical co-operation among member States and under which the OAU Office of Technical Co-operation was established. In addition, copies of the Directory of African Experts, prepared by ECA, were sent to OAU which uses them as a reference source where there is need to identify and locate individual African experts.

21. As a result of the common interests which the OAU Inter-African Bureau for Animal Resources and the secretariat have in livestock production, it was agreed that the Bureau and the secretariat should determine fields of common interest and ways and means of accelerating activities for the benefit of the livestock sectors within the OAU member States. Up to date the two organizations have worked closely together in livestock development. During the last week in August 1978, the two organizations co-sponsored a Conference on Co-operation in the Control of Animal Health and the Promotion of Livestock Production for the eastern and southern African subregion, in close co-operation with the Government of Botswana, the host country. When the results of this Conference are fully analysed it should be possible to design a progressive livestock development work programme for the two organizations to implement, in conjunction with other development agencies active in the region.

#### ECA and ADB

22. On 2 November 1976 the President of ADB visited the secretariat to hold discussions with the Executive Secretary of ECA on how the two organizations could work together on common strategies and common problems of development in the region. At the end of the visit of the President of ADB, an Aide Memoire on Understanding Reached at Discussions (See annex B 1) was signed on 3 November 1976, between the President of ADB and the Executive Secretary of ECA on co-operation between the two organizations. This Aide Memoire provided, inter alia, for regular consultations between the two organizations; co-operation in planning strategies for African development; the encouragement of a multinational approach to development; the exchange of relevant documents; and the use wherever possible of ECA as the executing agency for ADB in certain fields. A representative of the secretariat attended the meeting of the Board of Governors of ADB in May 1978 and discussed with representatives of ADB practical ways of implementing the provisions of the Aide Memoire on Understanding Reached at Discussions.

23. A representative of the ADB-sponsored Association of African Development Finance Institutions visited the secretariat in June 1977 to hold discussions with representatives of the secretariat on co-operation between the two organizations. It was decided that the two organizations should explore ways of co-operating in relation to the exchange of relevant documents and mutual advisory assistance and training in the field of development finance. At the August 1977 meeting of the Association of African Central Banks, for which the secretariat provides secretarial and technical services, it was decided that the secretariat should seek the collaboration of the ADB-sponsored African Reinsurance Corporation in establishing, when appropriate, regional and subregional reinsurance institutions.

#### ECA and ECOWAS

24. Co-operation between ECA and ECOWAS in the biennium represents a very important step in practical collaboration between the secretariat and

existing African intergovernmental organizations. It is gratifying to note that ECOWAS, with 16 member States being the largest single economic grouping in the region, chose the secretariat as its principal executing agency which it supported financially for the implementation of substantial projects.

25. The first consultations between ECA and ECOWAS on co-operation and assistance were held during the month July 1977. These culminated in the signing, on 9 September 1977, of a related memorandum of agreement establishing close co-operation between the two organizations (see annex B 2).

26. The first project which was undertaken under the memorandum of agreement by the secretariat on behalf of ECOWAS was a study on the co-ordination of transport and communications within ECOWAS. The main objectives of the study were to examine transport and communications networks, as well as the laws and regulations in force in the 16 States members of ECOWAS; make recommendations concerning a more efficient integrated transport network with a view to facilitating the movement of persons, goods and services; establish a more efficient postal service and telecommunications network within the subregion and formulate related draft projects. To carry out the study in the ECOWAS member States, a team of experts was formed and placed under the supervision and co-ordination of the secretariat. This team, which included staff from the secretariat, UPU, UAC and AFRAA and consultants, carried out field surveys and the secretariat will submit to ECOWAS in April 1979 a field report containing recommendations and the planning of activities to be carried out in subsequent years, with indications of priorities.

27. The second project which was undertaken under the memorandum of agreement by ECA on behalf of ECOWAS was a study on the tourist industry within ECOWAS member States with special emphasis on the development of subregional tourism. The objectives of the study were primarily to review the tourist industry in the various States members of ECOWAS; collect information on the types of facilities available in each member State, their location and type of ownership; analyse the reasons for the high cost of accommodation in the subregion; define possible areas of co-operation among member States; and study the economic implications of money spent by tourists at the national and subregional levels. The report of the study which was undertaken by a team of experts under the direction of the secretariat will be submitted to ECOWAS in May 1979.

28. The third project which was carried out under the memorandum of agreement by the secretariat on behalf of ECOWAS was a study on the whole of the agricultural sector including fisheries and forest industries, as part of the economic survey of ECOWAS with a view to implementing the economic objectives of the Community. The objectives of the agricultural study were to analyse the constraints to and the potential for the expansion of production of agricultural products with a view to helping Governments of the States members of ECOWAS to plan and implement their agricultural development programmes as a sector of over-all rural development so that they might work in harmony within the whole of the subregion;

and to recommend ways and means of improving trade in agricultural projects in the subregion. A co-ordination committee was established within the secretariat to programme the study. To date, the desk studies and field missions for the food and livestock segments of the study on the 16 ECOWAS countries are nearing completion, having been carried out by the staff of the secretariat and two consultants. An interim report will be completed in March 1979. The forestry segment of the study will be carried out in 1979.

29. The secretariat was further invited to design a study on agricultural production potential for the ECOWAS subregion as a further contribution to the general economic survey. The aim of the study would be to formulate feasible development policies for the agricultural sector (food, livestock, fisheries, forestry) in the framework of a larger market, with a view to reducing dependency on imports of major agricultural products, and in the long run to optimize agricultural output and the development of the subregion in a co-ordinated and harmonized way. The study plan was submitted to the ECOWAS Studies Co-ordination Meeting at Ibadan in July 1978, where it was agreed that the secretariat should undertake the study. Desk work on this study is progressing on schedule and it is programmed to mount field missions in 1979. This study, it is expected, will be carried out by the staff of the secretariat together with short-term consultants covering all fields of rural development, at an estimated cost of just over \$US 500,000 to be financed jointly by ECA and ECOWAS.

30. The fourth project which was undertaken by the secretariat under the memorandum of agreement on behalf of ECOWAS, comprises, as set out in chapter III of this report, a number of studies on trade, customs and monetary affairs, with respect to which the secretariat not only was responsible for supervising studies undertaken by all other United Nations agencies such as UNCTAD and the International Trade Centre, but also had direct responsibility for undertaking some of the studies.

31. The fifth project which was undertaken by the secretariat on behalf of ECOWAS concerns the establishment of a bilingual manpower training and public administration institute for ECOWAS.

#### ECA and the Lake Chad Basin Commission

32. During the period under review, the Lake Chad Basin Commission was the first African economic grouping to show its confidence in the secretariat as an organization situated within the region that could render effective and practical assistance to the Commission in the evaluation of projects and the preparation of economic prefeasibility and feasibility studies. The secretariat welcomed this challenge and would venture to suggest that the experience has been to the mutual benefit of both parties.

33. Following discussions between the Executive Secretary of ECA and the Executive Secretary of the Lake Chad Basin Commission on mutual co-operation and assistance, an ECA mission was sent in June 1977 with the financial assistance of the Lake Chad Basin Commission to areas under the jurisdiction of that Commission to evaluate on-going projects in the field of agriculture, transport, livestock and water resources development.



The report of the ECA mission was well received.

34. Following the request made in May 1977 by the Executive Secretary of the Lake Chad Basin Commission to UNDP for the preparation of a multi-national assistance programme, the secretariat was represented at two technical meetings in Rome (July 1977) and Paris (August 1977) and a meeting of donors in Paris (September 1977). Subsequently, the secretariat also participated, with UNDP support, in the short-term multidonor mission comprising 42 experts who were instructed to prepare a portfolio of development projects. Four ECA experts (one specialist in public administration, one in rural institutions, one in livestock and one in agricultural economics) joined the multidonor team from 10 October to 30 December 1977.

35. Four bankable development projects were prepared by the multidonor team; Integrated rural development in the Malo area (Chad); Integrated rural development in the Kousseri area (United Republic of Cameroon); Integrated rural development in the Diffa area (the Niger); and Development of the Chari River delta (Chad and the United Republic of Cameroon).

36. Four assistance projects were also prepared: Study of a canal between the El Beid and Serhawl rivers (United Republic of Cameroon and Nigeria); Pilot project for improving pastures (United Republic of Cameroon and Chad); Pilot project for remote sensing of pastures (all countries); and Reinforcement of the Ngala Agricultural Training School (Nigeria). The secretariat also presented separately two projects on dairy and poultry production. The secretariat participated in the working group organized by UNDP, FAO and USAID at Rome in May 1978 to revise the projects mentioned above. On this occasion, three new projects were also prepared: Institutional support to the Lake Chad Basin Commission; establishment of a remote sensing and photo interpretation unit in the Lake Chad Basin Commission; and Reinforcement of the Regional Documentation Centre.

#### ECA and the Economic Community of the Great Lakes

37. Consultations were held at the secretariat in December 1977 between the Executive Secretary of the Economic Community of the Great Lakes and the Executive Secretary of ECA on co-operation and assistance between the two organizations. A draft memorandum of agreement was submitted for consideration and approval to the Executive Secretary of the Economic Community of the Great Lakes which would regulate co-operation and assistance between the two organizations. It is envisaged that assistance from the secretariat to the Economic Community of the Great Lakes would be channelled through the Gisenyi MULPOC with the ECA secretariat in Addis Ababa providing the necessary backstopping support.

#### ECA and UDEAC

38. The secretariat, through its Yaounde MULPOC, maintains a close working relationship with UDEAC and assisted UDEAC in drawing up a project document for a study of trade in agricultural products between the member States of UDEAC. However, the need to establish institutional links which would regulate co-operation and assistance between the secretariat and

UDEAC as such was recognized. The Executive Secretary of UDEAC is expected to visit the secretariat to hold discussions towards this end.

## Chapter VIII

### CO-OPERATION WITH OTHER UNITED NATIONS ORGANS AND SPECIALIZED AGENCIES

#### Introduction

1. As part of the United Nations system, it is obvious that the work of the secretariat can be enhanced or hampered according to the institutional relationship which it has with the other bodies in the system and the specialized agencies. In order to enable the secretariat to play its proper role as the leading United Nations organ in the economic and social development of the African region, it is imperative that relationships between it and other United Nations agencies should be so institutionalized as to enhance this role in an effective and co-ordinated manner.

2. The purpose of this chapter of the report is to give a broad survey of the important strides which, during the period under review, the secretariat has made in establishing and maintaining institutional links with other organs within the United Nations system and its specialized agencies.

3. The secretariat has taken steps to institutionalize its relations with several United Nations agencies in which the leadership role of the secretariat within the region is recognized. In some cases, existing formal arrangements have been revised to provide a more effective framework to deal with the new challenges of the region. Where no formal arrangements exist, steps were taken to correct the position, existing co-operation being, however, unimpaired. Co-operation with United Nations agencies has not been confined merely to the establishment of joint units within the secretariat or the joint planning, implementation and evaluation of projects but has also taken the form of strengthening existing units of the secretariat by the provision of resources. Co-operation between ECA and UNDP is fully described in Chapter IV of this report.

#### ECA and ECWA

4. During the period under review, co-operation between ECA and ECWA took the form of participation in meetings of common interest and the exchange of information. ECA participated in two meetings organized by ECWA, namely the Interagency Meeting on the Arab Centre for Technology and the Regional Meeting on UNCSTD.

5. In compliance with Conference of Ministers resolution 303(XIII) on co-operation between ECA and ECWA, the two secretariats collaborated in a study on the "brain-drain" in the North African subregion. A field study mission was undertaken in May/June 1977 by ECA to Egypt, the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Algeria, Tunisia, Morocco and Mauritania to investigate national policies and strategies for inducing qualified nationals to return home and participate in development. A follow-up mission on the same lines was initiated in July/August 1978 to Egypt and the Sudan.

6. At the request of ECWA, ECA provided it with the data for Yearbook

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covering the eight Arab-speaking countries member of ECA and a list of existing information centres in the region.

7. The Executive Secretary of ECA attended the regional meeting of UNDP Resident Representatives of the ECWA region which took place in Doha, Qatar, from 28 May to 3 June 1978. This meeting was of importance to both ECA and ECWA since it offered ECA and the UNDP Regional Bureau for Arab States an opportunity to exchange views on how best they could co-operate and rationalize their activities so that United Nations assistance to countries covered by the Bureau that are also covered by ECA might be effectively co-ordinated and utilized to the maximum benefit of all the countries concerned.

#### ECA and ESCAP

8. Pursuant to the Mexico Programme of Action on Economic Co-operation among Developing Countries and ECA Conference of Ministers resolution 360(XIII), ECA and ESCAP have maintained close working relations particularly in the field of trade and financial matters.

9. A series of studies on existing and potential trade between African and Asian countries have been completed in co-operation with ESCAP, and ECA took an active role in the first meeting of the co-ordinating committee on multilateral payment arrangements which was co-sponsored by UNCTAD and ESCAP.

10. ECA and ESCAP are undertaking a joint draft project document for submission to UNDP to help to finance the Afro-Asian trade expansion study.

11. It is envisaged that the chief of the ECA International Trade and Finance Division will meet regularly with his counterpart in ESCAP. These meetings will be instrumental in strengthening existing collaboration with a view to implementing the objectives of co-operation among developing countries.

12. It was also agreed between the two secretariats that they will prepare studies in such fields as: joint import procurement; State trading organizations within the context of interregional trade; payments and clearing arrangements; and operational experience of the Trade Promotion Centre (TPC) in ESCAP on the basis of a questionnaire requested by the chief of the ECA African Trade Centre.

#### ECA and ECLA

13. In resolution 302(XIII) on co-operation between ECA and ECLA, the ECA Conference of Ministers authorized the Executive Secretary "in co-operation with the Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Latin America, to convene meetings of their respective secretariat officials to identify principles and priorities as well as a programme of action on co-operation".

14. Parallely, in its resolution 363(XVII) of 5 May 1977, ECLA requested its Executive Secretary to organize, jointly with the Executive Secretary of ECA, a technical meeting on interregional co-operation an

to convene at the appropriate time an interregional governmental meeting to discuss appropriate measures for the realization of concrete co-operation projects between the countries of Africa and Latin America.

15. In accordance with these resolutions and on the basis of consultations between the two secretariats, it was agreed that initially priority should be given to the following fields during the period 1979-1980: interregional trade, education and training, science and technology, transport and transnational corporations.

16. With regard to transnational corporations, however, in the course of 1977 ECA became involved in co-operation activities with ECLA and ESCAP for the implementation of a joint study project relating to the activities of multinational enterprises in the field of commodities. It was therefore agreed that ECLA would carry out studies on bauxite, tin, copper and bananas and ECA those on coffee, cocoa and copper. Once they were finished, the studies would be co-ordinated by the Centre on Transnational Corporations at Headquarters, New York.

17. In addition to this new thrust to their co-operation, ECA and ECLA have exchanged information on the recruitment of consultants in the various industrial development programmes carried out by the two secretariats.

18. Finally, ECA and ECLA, as already mentioned, sponsored a study tour of African economic co-operation officials to Latin America.

#### ECA and FAO

19. In pursuance of Conference of Ministers resolution 312(XIII) relating to the strengthening of co-operation between the Economic Commission for Africa and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the Executive Secretary of ECA visited FAO headquarters on 18 and 19 April 1977 to discuss ways and means of strengthening co-operation existing between the two organizations. The Executive Secretary of ECA and the Director-General of FAO reviewed the socio-economic conditions in the region and in particular the problems of the agricultural sector and took decisions on joint activities, namely, that the FAO Regional Conference for Africa would become a joint undertaking of ECA and FAO; the FAO Investment Centre would, on the request of ECA, undertake to identify and prepare investment projects whenever a potential financial donor existed; and ECA would be closely associated in the preparation of the Regional Food Plan and the organization of the World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development scheduled for July 1979 (See the report of meeting between the Director-General of FAO and the Executive Secretary of ECA contained in annex B 3).

20. During the period under review, the Joint ECA/FAO Agriculture Division undertook the activities which have been reported on in chapter III of this report.

21. In pursuance of Conference of Ministers resolution 312(XIII) calling upon the Executive Secretary of ECA and the Director-General of FAO to finalize new terms of agreement covering co-operation between the

two organizations that would improve the complementarity and mutual reinforcement of the activities of the two organizations in the region in order to have an effective impact on food and agricultural development in the region and to make ECA an operational organization in the field of food and agriculture with adequate technical and financial backstopping from FAO, the decisions on joint activities referred to in chapter III of this report were taken by the Executive Secretary of ECA and the Director-General of FAO.

22. Collaboration with PAC continued to focus on the development of agro- and allied industries, namely food and forestry industry development programmes which have been funded by UNDP and are expected to continue for the period 1979-1981.

23. During the period under review, UNFPA continued to provide funds for a population component within the African Training and Research Centre for Women which was started in May 1973. These funds, channelled through FAO as the executing agency, have supported an adviser from the Regional Programme for Better Family Living and a population training officer, as well as some supporting staff and other activities such as training seminars and study tours. The progress of this regional programme was evaluated by UNFPA in February 1977 when it decided to support its continued implementation and expansion.

#### ECA and IFAD

24. In pursuance of Conference of Ministers resolution 289(XIII) on the mobilization of resources from the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), the secretariat prepared a draft memorandum of agreement to cover its relationship with IFAD and in which the secretariat could assist member States in the preparation of feasibility studies of projects on food development for financing by IFAD. The draft memorandum of agreement is to be submitted to IFAD for consideration and comments.

#### ECA and UNIDO

25. In the implementation of industrial development programmes during the period 1977-1978 there has been continuous collaboration between ECA and appropriate organizations within the United Nations system, the specialized agencies and international organizations. Collaboration with UNIDO has continued to develop and it is reflected not only in the activities of the Joint ECA/UNIDO Industry Division but also in the organization of the biennial Conference of African Ministers of Industry and the Follow-up Committee on Industrialization in Africa. Collaboration and co-operation with UNIDO also extends to joint programme activities, the secondment of staff from UNIDO to ECA and in general to the implementation of the industrial sectors of programmes of ECA as well as institutional developments. With a view to strengthening the existing co-operation existing between the two organizations through the promotion of a more effective programme of work for the Joint ECA/UNIDO Industry Division, a Note of Understanding supplementing the 1974 Memorandum of Understanding between ECA and UNIDO was signed by the heads of these organizations on 27 July 1976 (See annex B 4).

#### ECA and UNEP

26. During the period under review, ECA co-operated closely with all UNEP's programmes relevant to Africa and participated in all its Governing Council meetings. To carry these co-operative efforts a stage further, a team of UNEP officials visited ECA in February 1977 to discuss possible programming of ECA/UNEP projects for the coming years. The project document entitled "Strengthening environmental capabilities of United Nations regional commission for Africa" (project FP/030-77-02 - see annex B 5) is an attempt to institutionalize the agreement reached between ECA and UNEP in the joint programming exercises. UNEP has also made available, under this arrangement, funds for two professional posts and one general service post to strengthen the Environment Unit of the secretariat. Steps are being taken to recruit persons to fill these posts and, when this has been done, the joint programming envisaged under the ECA/UNEP co-operation arrangement will be fully implemented to assist African countries to tackle their pressing environmental problems not only with UNEP but also with the Environment Co-operation Board and other United Nations agencies operating in Africa.

#### ECA and WIPO

27. ECA collaborated with the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) in the establishment of the Industrial Property Organization of English-speaking African, the headquarters of which is located at Nairobi, Kenya. As mentioned in chapter III of this report, the organization is to have a Patent Documentation and Information Centre established with the assistance of ECA and WIPO. A project document on the Centre is to be submitted in due course to UNDP, the Federal Republic of Germany, Austria and the United Kingdom for assistance.

#### ECA and IMCO

28. In order to facilitate the expansion and development of African countries' overseas and intraregional trade, it is essential that adequate, low cost and efficient maritime transport services and facilities should be available. In order to promote the establishment of such services and facilities, a joint UNDP/ECA/UNCTAD/IMCO maritime mission to Africa was organized with terms of reference covering training facilities, advisory services and shipping development policies. In order to facilitate the early implementation of the recommendations of the joint mission, it was felt by the secretariat that a joint ECA/IMCO unit should be set up in the secretariat to ensure that adequate follow-up actions are taken in this very important field.

29. Accordingly, initial discussions were held between the Secretary-General of IMCO and the Executive Secretary of ECA in June 1976 concerning the establishment of such a joint ECA/IMCO unit. The memorandum of Understanding of 8 July 1977 between the two organizations (see annex B 6) is the culmination of the series of discussions and exchange of correspondence which took place during the intervening period. This agreement falls within the framework of resolution 328(XIII) of the Conference of Ministers on the restructuring of governmental machinery

for development and co-operation in Africa, in order to ensure maximum and effective utilization of the limited resources available to meet the increasing demand for development assistance by African countries in various sectors. ECA and IMCO are also examining the possibility of establishing a joint ECA/IMCO unit within the secretariat.

#### ECA and UNESCO

30. Co-operation between ECA and UNESCO during the period under review, has been particularly fruitful in two programme areas, namely in the field of science and technology and the programme for the integration of African women in national development. UNESCO participated in all stages of the preparatory activities leading to the establishment of the African Centre for Technology, including financing its participation in the consultative field mission initiated in 1977. The organization has also been collaborating with ECA in respect of the preparatory work on the proposed centres for marine science and technology.

31. In the social development field, collaboration was particularly fruitful during 1978. There were at least seven project activities which UNESCO cosponsored with ECA or for which it provided funding, resource persons or fellowships. These included the study tours for women journalists and for senior personnel concerned with national programmes for the integration of women in development; the training workshop on communication for social development; and the regional seminar on broadcasting for social development. On its part, ECA has participated in the UNESCO/OAU Seminar on Population, Education and Communication and the UNESCO project on a National Youth Training Centre in Madagascar.

32. During the biennium, there have been more intensive consultations between ECA and UNESCO on ways to achieve more effective co-operation and programme harmonization in fields of common interest. Specific proposals have been made for closer co-operation and the development of joint programming activities in specific problem areas and projects. Such an arrangement would provide for lead agency and collaborating agency for specific projects as well as the establishment of appropriate machinery for periodic consultations, review of implementation and programming of follow-up activities. These proposals have been outlined in a draft memorandum of co-operation which now requires to be finalized before coming into operation. In the spirit of this understanding mutual consultations have already taken place on a number of regional projects on which ECA, UNESCO and other agencies have to work together.

#### ECA and UNCTAD

33. As can be seen from the activities described in chapter III of this report, close working relationships have been maintained with UNCTAD during the period under review. The secretariats of the two organizations not only participated in each other's major statutory meetings, such as those of ECA's Executive Committee, UNCTAD's fifth session and its Trade and Development Board, but also jointly sponsored and serviced a number of meetings including the African Regional Meeting on the Common Fund, various preparatory meetings on specific commodities of



interest to ECA member States within the framework of the Integrated Programme for Commodities, and the second African Regional Seminar on the Multilateral Trade Negotiations.

34. There has also been collaboration with UNCTAD especially in connexion with the preparation for the organization of the symposium on industrial policies and strategies for 1979.

35. ECA and UNCTAD have also been jointly engaged in providing substantial assistance to ECOWAS, with ECA playing the lead and co-ordinating role. This has taken the form of studies, joint missions and advisory assistance.

36. The working relations between ECA and UNCTAD have been strengthened in the last two years following an agreement reached between the Executive Secretary of ECA and the Secretary-General of UNCTAD in 1977 on the need for regular consultations to be held twice a year between the two secretariats. It was decided that the meetings should take the form of working sessions at which the programme directors and experts of the two secretariats would take part.

37. The first of these meetings was held at Addis Ababa from 14 to 16 February 1978 between the Executive Secretary of ECA and the Deputy Director General of UNCTAD and their colleagues during which recent and on-going activities being undertaken by ECA in co-operation with UNCTAD and other possible fields for future co-operation were reviewed. The possibility of the establishment of a joint ECA/UNCTAD Trade Division within ECA was also examined.

#### ECA and the Centre on Transnational Corporations

38. The joint ECA/CTNC Unit on Transnational Corporations of the secretariat, which was established by an agreement between the secretariat and CTNC (see annex B 7), began its activities in October 1977. The joint unit represents a significant step by the United Nations system to curb the inequitable effects of the activities of transnational corporations on the economies of developing countries. The establishment of the joint unit is of the utmost importance to the region where, more than in any other developing region in the world, the effects of the activities and manoeuvres of transnational corporations are seen at their height. The objectives and functions of the newly established joint unit are set out in chapter III of this report. It is expected that its work will assist in the indigenous development of the economic potential of the region and rid it of the well known harmful side-effects of the activities of transnational corporations.

#### ECA and ILO

39. ILO has been active in collaborating with ECA in the field of social development as well as financing its participation in the 1977 interagency consultative mission to various African countries for the establishment of the African Centre for Technology. It has contributed a working paper on the basic needs strategy and its application under African conditions and will participate in the ECA Conference on

Alternative Patterns of Development and Life Styles, to be held in 1979. On its part, ECA has participated in a number of ILO/JASPA field missions on income and employment and in the employment-oriented national youth programmes in Malawi, Mali, Zambia, etc. ILO has made a major contribution in support of the ECA programme for the integration of women in development. Under an agreement of co-operation which was signed in July 1978 between the African Training and Research Centre for Women and the ILO, the latter has undertaken to assist ECA to establish a Small-scale Industries Unit within the Centre, to provide funding in the order of \$US 719,570 over a period of three years and to assist with recruitment of personnel for the Centre.

40. During 1978, ECA renewed consultations with the ILO on the proposal for the development of mutual co-operation on a sustained basis through joint programming, the use of task forces to realize joint projects and the establishment of machinery to monitor implementation, review performance and programme follow-up activities. It is intended to continue consultations with a view to concluding a memorandum of co-operation in specific programme areas.

#### ECA and UNICEF

41. During the period under review, UNICEF, which began its substantive support to the African Training and Research Centre for Women in the first half of 1975, continued its assistance through financing of four professional posts: social welfare officer, communication and training officer, consultant on day-care and consultant on village technology. Projects in the fields of rural training in individual countries, social welfare planning, training in communication skills, and the promotion of day-care training and village technology were also directly funded. For this purpose, UNICEF agreed to provide supplies, equipment, training grants, salaries and travel to the value of \$US 400,000 through the first half of 1978. In addition, the amount of \$US 100,000 given by ZONTA International in support of ATRCW's African Women's Volunteer Task Force, project, was channelled through and processed by UNICEF. In particular, the financial assistance provided by or through UNICEF greatly assisted in the development of ATRCW's country projects in village technology, day-care services, training of rural women and social welfare planning. Many of these projects were also jointly undertaken with UNICEF.

42. The secretariat continued its co-operation with the UNICEF Eastern African Regional Office in connexion with the International Year of the Child, 1979, and with the preparations for the Regional Symposium on Basic Services for the Child - Priority Needs and Targets for the Year 2000. A representative of the secretariat acted as ECA's co-ordinator for the Year at the task force meeting which was held at Nairobi in September 1978, to prepare for the Regional Symposium.

#### ECA and UNFPA

43. Mention has already been made of ECA/UNFPA co-operation in the field of social development. In the field of population, co-operation with ECA

has been most important. As in previous years, UNFPA provided the major portion of the resources needed for the implementation of the approved projects in the field of population. The total amount provided was \$US 485,170 and \$ 526,880 for 1977 and 1978 respectively. UNFPA also provided funds for the National Seminars on Population Development organized jointly by the secretariat and the Governments of Mauritius and Senegal during the biennium. There was close collaboration between the secretariat and the UNFPA field co-ordinators stationed in Africa who have been of great assistance to the countries of the region in the formulation of projects for UNFPA financing. One activity worthy of note and which will influence future forms of assistance by UNFPA to the secretariat is the meeting organized by UNFPA in January 1979 to discuss UNFPA African intercountry programme strategies for the future to which the secretariat contributed a paper on the needs of the region.

#### ECA and the Office for Science and Technology

44. In the collaboration between the secretariat and the Office for Science and Technology at United Nations Headquarters, the two organizations have worked closely together in such tasks as offering comments and suggestions on various proposals in the field of science and technology, particularly technological information.

45. At the informal meeting on the network for exchange of information and transfer of technology held in New York on 8 June 1978, it was agreed that regional commissions should assume greater responsibilities in undertaking the preparatory activities for the network if financial resources could be made available; that regional commissions should suggest subject areas for ACAST's consideration of a pilot network. It was felt that this latter activity could be better handled at the regional meetings on UNCSTD.

#### ECA and the United Nations Conference on Science and Technology

46. In the period under review, the secretariat, as detailed in chapter III of this report, co-operated fully with the UNCSTD secretariat in preparing activities for the United Nations Conference on Science and Technology. In order to strengthen the Science and Technology Unit of the secretariat so as to enable it play an effective role in these preparatory activities, the UNCSTD secretariat made available to the Unit funds for the salaries, travel and per diem of two regional advisers, consultants, a co-ordinator and a bilingual secretary.

ANNEX A

Table 1. REGULAR PROGRAMME BUDGET (Section 9)

( In U. S. dollars )

Code no.	Programme	Biennial General Assembly appropriations		Extract from biennial appropriations		Total
		1976 / 77	1978 / 79	1977	1978	1977 / 78
010	Policy-making organs . .	190,500	249,000	95,250	124,500	219,750
100	Executive direction . . and management . . .	652,900	2,082,300	326,450	1,041,150	1,367,600
210	Agriculture, forestry and fisheries . . . .	891,800	730,100	445,900	365,050	810,950
240	Development planning, projections and policies .	2,156,200	1,940,600	1,078,100	970,300	2,048,400
260	Education and training .	318,800	429,700	159,400	214,850	374,250
290	Human settlements . . .	235,200	281,100	117,600	140,550	258,150
330	Industrial development .	1,009,500	1,263,900	504,750	631,950	1,136,700
340	International trade . .	638,800	1,255,300	319,400	627,650	947,050
440	Labour management and employment . . .	160,700	120,300	80,350	60,150	140,500

460	Natural resources . . .	912,300	1,253,300	456,150	626,650	1,082,800
480	Population . . . .	139,700	187,000	69,850	93,500	163,350
500	Public administration . .	246,700	499,500	123,350	249,750	373,100
510	Public finance . . .	340,600	—	170,300	—	170,300
520	Science and technology .	387,900	347,600	193,950	173,800	367,750
530	Social development . .	596,600	1,004,300	298,300	502,150	800,450
540	Statistics . . . . .	1,372,900	1,261,300	686,450	630,650	1,317,100
550	Transport, communications and tourism . . . .	761,500	1,218,800	380,750	609,400	990,150
710	Conference services . .	2,109,100	2,260,100	1,054,550	1,130,050	2,184,600
790	Management of tech- nical co-operation . .	331,000	319,600	165,500	159,800	325,300
800	Administration and common services . . .	5,522,800	6,975,200	2,761,400	3,487,600	6,249,000
TOTALS		18,975,500	23,679,000	9,487,750	11,839,500	21,327,250

## ANNEX A

Table 2. THE DISPOSITION OF EXTRABUDGETARY FUNDS  
BY SUBSTANTIVE DIVISION

			Total	1977	1978
			(in United States dollars)		
I	Socio-economic Research and Planning	- -	97,400	50,000	47,400
II	Agriculture	- - -	1,028,100	420,500	607,600
III	Industry	- - -	1,300,000	528,000	772,000
IV	Trade	- - -	1,446,100	540,000	906,100
V	Social Development	-	2,471,400	1,284,700	1,186,700
VI	Natural Resources	-	1,198,200	437,100	761,100
VII	Transport	- - -	607,800	132,000	475,800
VIII	Public Administration	-	1,711,000	365,000	1,346,000
IX	Statistics	- - -	745,100	337,900	407,200
X	Population	- - -	1,258,200	485,200	773,000
XI	Economic Co-operation		1,914,700	1,033,700	881,100
	For projects and infrastructure	-	13,778,000	5,614,000	8,164,000
	For programme support costs	- -	1,578,000	639,000	939,000
	TOTAL		15,356,000	6,253,000	9,103,000

Addis Ababa  
3 November 1976

AIDE - MEMOIRE ON UNDERSTANDING REACHED AT DISCUSSIONS  
BETWEEN THE PRESIDENT OF THE AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK ( ADB )  
AND THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY OF THE ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR AFRICA

At a meeting held between Mr. Kwame D. Fordwor, President of the African Development Bank, and Mr. Adebayo Adedeji, Executive Secretary of the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa, it was agreed that the two agencies should work closely in their common effort to serve the African region.

It was agreed that co-operation between the two agencies should be on the following lines:

1. There will be regular dialogue and consultation between the two organizations. To this end there will be two joint meetings each year between the two organizations - one to be held in Abidjan in the month of February and the other in Addis Ababa in the month of August.
2. The two organizations will co-operate in working out common strategies to tackle problems of African development.
3. During the bi-annual consultations, ECA will be free to bring to the notice of the Bank pertinent development policy issues.
4. The Bank will utilize its lending leverage to encourage multinational approach to development projects.
5. Both ECA and ADB will be represented at each of their meetings as may be relevant to the promotion of this co-operation.
6. Both organizations also agree to exchange relevant documents which will facilitate and foster this co-operation.
7. Wherever possible, ADB will use ECA as an executing agency in the following fields:
  - (a) identifying national and multinational projects in all sectors other than agriculture;
  - (b) undertaking the pre-feasibility studies of such projects;
  - (c) assisting in preparing terms of reference for the feasibility and/or engineering studies which the Bank may commission from time to time and assisting in the evaluation of the reports of

such studies submitted.

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Signed/ - Mr. Kwame D. Fordwor  
President  
African Development  
Bank

Date: 3 November 1976

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Signed/ - Mr. Adebayo Adedeji  
Executive Secretary  
United Nations  
Economic Commission  
for Africa

Date: 3 November 1976



MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE UNITED NATIONS  
ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR AFRICA AND THE ECONOMIC COMMUNITY  
OF WEST AFRICAN STATES (ECOWAS) ON CO-OPERATION AND ASSISTANCE

WHEREAS the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (hereinafter referred to as "ECA"), rendered practical assistance to the member States of the Economic Community of West African States (hereinafter referred to as "ECOWAS") in the establishment of ECOWAS:

WHEREAS ECA and ECOWAS having regard to the common interests of and their desire for the economic and social integration and development of the member States of ECOWAS are resolved to co-operate with one another and in strengthening the ties between them:

AND WHEREAS ECA has since the establishment of ECOWAS rendered practical assistance to that organization and is further enjoined, subject to its resources by resolutions 296 (XIII) and 311 (XIII) of the fourth meeting of its Conference of Ministers to render all assistance to ECOWAS in the achievement of the objectives of the latter:

NOW THEREFORE the Executive Secretary of ECA and the Executive Secretary of ECOWAS

HEREBY AGREE AS FOLLOWS :-

Article I

Objectives

The purpose of this Memorandum of Understanding is to facilitate co-operation between ECA and ECOWAS and the undertaking of certain activities by ECA on behalf of ECOWAS which are aimed at promoting the economic and social integration and development of the member States of ECOWAS.

Article II

Areas of co-operation and assistance

Subject to the provisions of this Memorandum of Agreement, the resources and terms of reference of ECA and the Treaty of ECOWAS and without prejudice to the generality of the provisions hereinafter appearing:

1. It shall be the aim of ECA and ECOWAS to co-operate in the promotion and undertaking of any of the following activities:-
  - (a) general economic and sectoral studies and research related to the objectives of ECOWAS;

- (b) the exchange of information relating to the economic and social integration and development of the member States of ECOWAS;
  - (c) consultation and co-operation with one another with respect to such activities in relation to which it may be feasible or desirable so to do; and
  - (d) the establishment of close and continuous working relations between the Multinational Programming and Operational Centre of ECA at Niamey and ECOWAS.
2. ECA shall, at the request of ECOWAS, and where possible by means of its Multinational Programming and Operational Centre at Niamey, use its best endeavours to undertake on behalf of ECOWAS pre-investment and feasibility studies and project designs and implementation which will promote the economic and social integration and development of the member States of ECOWAS more particularly in the following fields:-
- (a) transport and communications;
  - (b) trade, customs, monetary and payments arrangements;
  - (c) agriculture;
  - (d) industry;
  - (e) human resources development;
  - (f) the establishment and maintenance of a data bank on economic and social conditions; and
  - (g) in respect of such matters as are incidental or related to, including the mobilization of resources for the implementation of any of the items set out in subparagraphs (a) to (f) of this paragraph, or as the Executive Secretary of ECOWAS and the Executive Secretary of ECA may determine.

### Article III

#### Methods of operation

1. Where in pursuance of the provisions of this Memorandum of Agreement ECOWAS requests ECA to undertake any of the activities set out in article II of this Memorandum of Agreement all of the details of, and conditions governing the undertaking of the activity by ECA including its duration, the amount and manner of payments to be made by ECOWAS for the use of ECA which shall be in conformity with United Nations practice, shall be contained in a related project agreement to be entered into between the Executive Secretary of ECA and the Executive Secretary of ECOWAS.
2. Where for the successful carrying out of any of the activities set out in article II of this Memorandum of Agreement it becomes

necessary for joint action to be undertaken by officials of ECA and ECOWAS, the Executive Secretaries of ECA and ECOWAS shall consult each other concerning the arrangements to be made regarding that joint action.

#### Article IV

##### Review

The Executive Secretary of ECA and the Executive Secretary of ECOWAS shall meet periodically to review progress made in achieving the objectives of this Memorandum of Agreement and to consider ways in which its provisions may be more effectively and efficiently implemented.

#### Article V

##### Amendment

The provisions of this Memorandum of Agreement may be amended at any time by mutual agreement between ECA and ECOWAS.

#### Article VI

##### Entry into force

The Memorandum of Agreement shall enter into force upon signature.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the Executive Secretary of the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa on behalf of the United Nations and the Executive Secretary of the Economic Community of West African States have signed this Memorandum of Agreement.

Adebayo Adedeji  
The Executive Secretary  
United Nations Economic  
Commission for Africa

9 September 1977

Aboubakar Diaby Ouattara  
The Executive Secretary  
Economic Community of  
West African States

9 September 1977

REPORT OF MEETINGS BETWEEN THE DIRECTOR - GENERAL OF FAO  
AND THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY OF ECA (Rome, 18 - 19 April 1977)

Report prepared by the FAO Secretariat

1. On the invitation of Mr. Edouard Saouma, Director-General of FAO, Professor Adebayo Adedeji, Executive Secretary of ECA, visited Headquarters in Rome on 18 and 19 April 1977.
2. The Heads of both FAO and ECA reviewed the economic and social situation in Africa, especially the problems of the agricultural sector, and pledged to support each other and to co-operate closely in their endeavours to resolve them.
3. The Executive Secretary of ECA emphasized that the Commission's action were mainly directed at the multinational level. He reported on the establishment of five subregional centres for inter-country development projects by a merger of ECA's subregional offices and the existing UNDATs. The large FAO field programme being executed in all the African countries was mentioned to him in relation to the Organization's potential for complementing ECA's multi-sectoral approach to development and its regional and subregional integration programmes. The Director-General also referred to the high priority he attached to promoting investment in agriculture.
4. Both the Director-General and the Executive Secretary reiterated their standing commitment to action-oriented programmes.
5. In particular, the Director-General of FAO and the Executive Secretary of ECA reviewed the following specific areas of co-operation between both Organizations:-
  - A. FAO Regional Conference for Africa
6. They agreed that FAO would seek the co-operation of ECA with the view to making the FAO Regional Conference for Africa a joint effort. To this end ECA would be consulted on the provisional draft Agenda and it would contribute background documents. The Executive Secretary stated that the Joint ECA/FAO Agriculture Division would bear the major responsibility for the ECA contribution. The Report of the Regional Conference would then become the major intergovernmental contribution to the Commission's consideration of agriculture as a part of the African economy. The Executive Secretary of ECA said he would report on this future co-operation to his Executive Committee at its next meeting in Arusha and would also inform it that the Director-General of FAO would also invite to the Regional Conference those African Member Governments of ECA, if they so desired it, which customarily only participate in the Regional Conference for the Near East.

7. In the same spirit of Afro-Arab unity, the Director-General of FAO would invite the Executive Secretary of ECA to the FAO Regional Conference for the Near East.

B. Investment

8. The Director-General noted the Executive Secretary's intention to ensure that any inter-country feasibility studies that ECA may undertake should have an investment orientation. The Executive Secretary explained that ECA, which has been promised Arab funds from different sources for feasibility studies, will engage in future in more operationally-oriented development projects. ECA will concentrate on inter-country projects and will wish to go, wherever possible, into feasibility stage for outside financing. He was informed about the type of activities in which the Investment Centre is engaged and particular attention was called to the fact that usually, for financial assistance, group-country or inter-country projects will have to be broken down into national components in order to obtain the necessary government guarantees for eventual loans or credits. Consequently, the point was stressed that, for possible investment-oriented work, it was advisable to bring in potential donors as soon as possible. In conclusion, it was agreed that there would be regular, perhaps bi-annual, operationally-oriented discussions between ECA and FAO, in which the Investment Centre would participate if required, and that the Investment Centre would be willing to assist in guiding pre-investment activities much in the same way as it has in the past UNDP activities and, if required and subject to specific operational arrangements to be agreed, undertake identification and preparation of investment projects, once a potential financial donor exists.

9. The training of ECA and country staff in project work was discussed and it was agreed that the Investment Centre would make some staff members available for a week of preliminary instruction course in project work to the ECA staff members in Addis Ababa. Thereafter, these staff members would participate in regular mission work of the Investment Centre to gain experience in project work.

10. The curriculum of the planned Near East Training Workshop was brought to the attention of the Executive Secretary of ECA as an example of an FAO activity which may be of great value in Africa. The Executive Secretary expressed considerable interest and suggested that the possibility of such an activity in which ECA might co-operate be discussed in detail at a future meeting.

C. Regional Food Plan

11. Recalling that the last ECA Conference has attached importance to the Regional Food Plan as called for in the Freetown Declaration of FAO's Regional Conference for Africa, it was agreed that ECA would co-operate with FAO in the task of preparation of this plan. The Executive Secretary was informed of the approach to this task, as approved by the Director-General:

- (i) The Plan would have its time frame up to 1990 and be prepared

in three operational phases, with the results of the first two phases being presented to the next Regional Conference.

(ii) The first two phases would cover:

- a. an assessment of the regional and subregional food gap to be quantified by comparing country-commodity projections of future demand and nutritional requirements with the future trend of supply; and
- b. the analysis of intra-African as well as extra-African trade in food and agricultural products and the implications of regional and subregional food self-sufficiency for trade and production policy within the framework of co-operation arrangements.

(iii) The third phase would include a review of national food and agricultural plans, with a view to deriving recommendations on changes needed to achieve higher levels of food self-sufficiency by 1990. This phase would require a longer time and considerable resources, and would be undertaken in the light of the decisions at the next Regional Conference, although the possibility would be explored of preparing a desk review of national plans of a sample of countries for consideration by that Conference.

12. In view of the urgency to start work on the Plan, it was agreed that the representatives of FAO and ECA would work out a detailed outline and time-table, including identification of the role of each unit, in the course of the week. It was also agreed that OAU and "relevant international organizations" such as WFC, should be kept informed of the progress in the preparation of this plan.

#### D. Rural Development

13. The attention of the Executive Secretary was drawn to FAO's plans for convening a World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development in July 1979. The Conference was being organized in close co-operation with the United Nations and other specialized agencies. At the first Inter-Agency Meeting to prepare for the Conference (February 1977), the United Nations' representative had pointed out the importance of associating the regional economic commissions with the work. Since the ECA Conference of Ministers had adopted a strong resolution on integrated rural development, FAO attached particular importance to co-operating with ECA in this area.

14. The Executive Secretary expressed his willingness to collaborate with FAO. The Commission already had an active programme of work in integrated rural development, which was a very high priority area. Since all regional commissions were involved, he suggested the subject might be included in the agenda of a forthcoming meeting of Executive Secretaries, either in July 1977 (Geneva), or in January 1978.

#### E. Joint Programming and Operational Sessions

15. There was agreement on the usefulness of holding regular meetings which would mainly be devoted to considering possible investment and investment-related activities, though the progress of co-operation would also be reviewed and any other items regarding the joint work of both Organizations could be included in lists of topics for discussion to be exchanged and agreed upon previously.

#### F. The Joint ECA/FAO Agriculture Division

16. The Director-General and the Executive Secretary ratified the validity of the Joint Division as the main channel of co-operation and communication between FAO and ECA.

17. The Programme of Work for 1978-1979 established for the Joint Division and agreed at the ECA meeting in Kinshasa was considered satisfactory.

18. The Director-General recognized the Executive Secretary's responsibility for over-all supervision of the work of the Joint Division and agreed to maintain under review the strength and qualifications of its staff necessary to carry out its programme of work. An assessment of the present situation in this regard would be prepared by the Director of the Joint Division for submission to both executive heads. The advantage was recognized of maintaining at FAO Headquarter one focal point for liaison with the Joint Division. Also, FAO's Regional Representative for Africa who, on behalf of the Director-General, exercises general supervision over the Joint Division, would seek to eliminate difficulties of an administrative or other nature caused by geographic distance between ECA and his Accra Headquarters and would delegate specific areas of authority to the Director of the Joint Division.

NOTE OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
OF UNIDO AND THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY OF ECA

1. Introduction

1. The Executive Heads of UNIDO and ECA met in Geneva on 16 July 1976 and held discussions with a view to strengthening co-operation between the two bodies through promoting a more effective programme of work for the Joint Industry Division.

2. The discussions took place within the purview of the agreement between the two bodies signed on 25 June 1973, which became effective from 1 January 1974. The Executive Secretary of ECA stated that they had recently sent proposals for a revision of the agreement. However, UNIDO had not received this proposal and agreed to examine it as soon as it was received.

3. The Executive Director of UNIDO reviewed the reorientation of UNIDO programmes and structure which had taken place consequent on the adoption of the Lima Declaration and Plan of Action. In the tasks to be accomplished for this purpose, UNIDO would closely co-operate with the regional commissions and in fact regard them as the regional component for the achievement of the Lima targets. In regard to transfer of technology in the field of industry, UNIDO has throughout its history had a key role in accentuating the technological capabilities of developing countries. UNIDO has considerable experience in this field and would be willing to provide assistance in co-operation with the regional commissions at regional and subregional level. The Executive Director of UNIDO cautioned against a purely trade or commercial orientation to the problem of development and consequently of the transfer of technology. In this respect, UNCTAD had an important role on the trade and commercial aspects; however, the technological, production and industrial aspects were equally important and here UNIDO has the experience and expertise to assist developing countries; consequently, a broad co-operation is called for between UNCTAD, UNIDO and the Regional Economic Commissions in this field.

4. The Executive Secretary of ECA drew special attention to the special problems of Africa on account of the number of countries involved and the lesser degree of development compared to the other regions. It was agreed that the African region should get preference over other regions in the allocation of scarce resources.

5. The two Executive Heads agreed that an effective machinery for co-operation and consultation exists in Africa both at the secretarial level and the ministerial level. The Executive Director of UNIDO agreed to attend the meeting of the follow-up Committee of Ministers to be held in Addis Ababa on 4 and 5 November 1976. The Executive Secretary of ECA in turn agreed to visit Vienna at a convenient date in November or December 1976.



## II. Work Programme

6. It was noted that the Meeting of Regional Advisers called by UNIDO in April 1976 and subsequent discussions with the Acting Chief of the Joint Industry Division of ECA enabled some harmonization of the ICIS' and Joint Division's programmes. It was agreed that effective co-operation could best be achieved through close consultation at the time the programme is prepared by the two agencies. For this purpose UNIDO agreed to invite a representative of the Joint Division to come to Vienna in September or October 1976 at the time UNIDO prepares its biennial programme for 1978-1979.

7. It was agreed that UNIDO would assist ECA in the formulation of the project for the establishment of a Transfer of Technology Centre. For this purpose a staff member of UNIDO would be sent to Addis Ababa to participate in the Task Force Meeting being held from 19 July 1976. At a later stage short-term assistance of a staff member for a period of two months would be provided.

8. In regard to preparation of project documents/feasibility studies for the projects agreed upon at the Nairobi Meeting of Ministers of Industry UNIDO will second short-term staff members to work in the Joint Division for periods not exceeding 3 months.

9. It was agreed that UNIDO will continue to assist ECA in the preparations for the Meeting of Ministers of Industry and the Meeting of the Follow-up Committee of Ministers of Industry.

## III. Resources of the Joint Division

10. It was noted that due to financial constraints imposed by the UNIDO regular programme of technical assistance it was not possible at present to increase the number of regional advisers. However, UNIDO was seeking additional resources from its regular budget for 1977 and would provide two or three additional regional advisers, provided approval is obtained in the UN General Assembly for the additional budget request.

## IV. Institutional Arrangements

11. It was agreed that the Head of the Regional and Country Studies Section of the International Centre for Industrial Studies, UNIDO, would be the focal point for co-operation with the Joint Division of Industry.

12. A further meeting will take place in Vienna during the visit of the Executive Secretary to review the present agreement and discuss possible revision as well as to discuss other arrangements for co-operation.

(signed) A. Khane  
Executive Director  
UNIDO

27 July 1976

(signed) Adebayo Adedeji  
Executive Secretary  
ECA

27 July 1976

Note by the secretariat

1. The role of the regional commissions in the field of the human environment was spelt out in detail in the recommendations made at the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment, held in Stockholm in June 1972.
2. Before the establishment of UNEP, ECA established an Environment Unit to co-ordinate environmental activities in Africa and to assist African countries to prepare for the Stockholm Conference.
3. With the founding of UNEP, ECA co-operated closely with all UNEP's programmes relevant to Africa, and has participated in all its Governing Council meetings. In addition, a joint ECA/UNEP mission has visited several African countries to assist in the establishment of national environment services and to evaluate the functioning of those already formed.
4. To carry these co-operative efforts a stage further, a team of UNEP officials visited ECA in February 1977 to discuss possible programming of ECA/UNEP projects for the coming years. The project document entitled "Strengthening environmental capabilities of United Nations regional commission (Africa)" (project number FP/0302-77-02) is an attempt to institutionalize the agreement reached between ECA and UNEP in the joint programming exercises.
5. The advantage of this arrangement is that the Environment Unit at ECA will be strengthened to assist African countries to tackle their pressing environmental problems and also to work closely, not only with UNEP, but also with the Environment Co-ordination Board and other United Nations agencies operating in Africa.

UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME  
PROJECT DOCUMENT  
PROJECT IDENTIFICATION

## SECTION 1

1.1 Title of project:

STRENGTHENING ENVIRONMENTAL CAPABILITIES OF UNITED NATIONS REGIONAL COMMISSIONS (AFRICA)

1.2 Project number

FP/0302-77-02

1.3 Priority area

Technical assistance

1.4 Scope

Regional

1.5 Co-operating agency:

United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (ECA)

1.6 Duration of project:

Commencement: 1 July 1977

Completion: 30 June 1979

1.7 Cost of project:

Total cost: \$471,000

Cost to UNEP: \$309,000

(Balance of \$162,000 to be contributed by ECA)

SIGNATURE:

For the Economic Commission for Africa

Name and title: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

For the fund of UNEP

Name and title: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

OBJECTIVES

SECTION 2

2.1 Long-term objectives

It is the intention of UNEP to ensure that activities of the agencies of the United Nations system reflect an integrated approach to environmental management; to promote, at country and regional levels, the integrated approach to environment and qualitative development and to develop methodologies of environmental management and encourage their application in real situations. The above mandate was entrusted to UNEP by the fourth session of the Governing Council. Pursuant to this decision of the Governing Council UNEP organized and carried out a series of joint programming exercises with the specialized agencies and regional commissions of the United Nations system in order to ensure that their programmes are carried forward in full recognition of their environmental impacts and with a view to ensuring the best management of the environment (UNEP/GC/61).

2.2 Immediate objectives

UNEP proposes to strengthen the environmental capabilities of the United Nations regional commissions through the establishment, within their secretariats, of appropriate machinery to deal with environmental problems. UNEP will financially support the setting up of such an administrative machinery for an initial period of two years starting in 1977.

Through the provision of this kind of assistance UNEP seeks to promote institutional networks of environmental capabilities at the regional level (in addition to its own regional representations) which it may call upon for support in the accomplishment of its global task.

### SECTION 3

#### PROJECT DESCRIPTION

##### 3.1 Background data

At the meeting of Executive Secretaries of the regional commissions in Geneva in July 1976, UNEP's representative expressed his willingness to assist the United Nations regional commissions to set up appropriate machinery for co-ordinating environmental activities within their purview. Subsequently the nature and modalities of that assistance were discussed and developed during joint programming exercises with ECA, ESCAP, ECLA and other agencies.

As a result, the regional commissions expressed their willingness to set up Environmental Co-ordination Units initially with UNEP support, and subsequently to seek the necessary resources from their regular budgets. They also agreed to match any contribution from UNEP by at least an equivalent amount from their own resources.

##### 3.2 Summarized description of project

(a) It is proposed to establish within the secretariat of the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) a small Environmental Co-ordination Unit whose main functions will be to co-ordinate the Commission's activities in the environmental field and to ensure that environmental dimensions are taken into account in all development projects initiated by the Commission.

(b) The proposed Environmental Co-ordination Unit will consist of two or three professional staff with appropriate technical and administrative backstopping. It will function under the direction and supervision of the Executive Secretary or of a delegated authority as designated by him.

(c) The Environmental Co-ordination Unit (ECU), to be attached directly to the office of the Executive Secretary, will work hand in hand with the existing UNEP liaison or regional office in the area in furthering UNEP's goal and objectives. ECU is expected to perform, inter alia, the following functions:

1. To develop and maintain an assessment of the state of the environment in the region;

2. To review the Commission's programmes and projects at the planning stage in order to ensure that environmental considerations are fully taken into account, and, thus, to strengthen the Commission's efforts to give appropriate attention to the environmental dimensions of national and regional activities within its purview;

3. To plan the Commission's environmental activities and keep UNEP

headquarters and Regional Office informed of the progress of the Commission's work in the field of the environment;

4. To ensure the Commission's participation in the work of the Environment Co-ordination Board (ECB) and of its subsidiary bodies, and thus play an appropriate role in the design and implementation of the UNEP action programme;

5. To improve the flow of information from the Commission to UNEP headquarters and Regional Office; and

6. To undertake such other tasks as are considered appropriate in order for the Commission to discharge its responsibilities in the environmental sphere.

Staff of ECU who are financed from the contribution of UNEP will be appointed by the Commission in consultation with UNEP and employed by the Commission as their own staff reporting directly to the Executive Secretary.

### 3.3 Work plan and time-table

April - June 1977:	Development and formulation of project
July - August 1977:	Approval of project
February 1978:	Progress report
August 1978:	Progress report
January-February 1979:	Evaluation of project and review of recommendations
June - July 1979:	Final report

### 3.4. Budget

See details in appendix.

### 3.5 Disbursement

To be made on sub-allotment basis.

### 3.6 Requirements

Each United Nations regional commission is required to provide in support of ECU a minimum of one professional and one general service staff as well as office facilities, equipment and supplies. All these requirements should be reflected in the project budget.

## SECTION 4

### REPORTS

4.1 The United Nations Economic Commission for Africa shall submit to UNEP a semi-annual report (5 copies) on the activities of its Environmental Co-ordination Unit and a final report (10 copies) at the conclusion of the project.

4.2 The co-operating agency shall submit to UNEP periodic and final accounts on the expenditures and obligations incurred and the cash

position on the advance received from UNEP in the following manner:

- (i) Total figures for all projects showing separately expenditures and unliquidated obligations at 31 March; figures project-by-project at 30 June and at 30 September;
- (ii) Accounts as at 31 December to be received by UNEP as soon as possible after year end and on the completion of the project shall be certified by the duly authorized agency official. UNEP project accounts should be shown in the audited accounts of the agency distinctly or as a schedule appended thereto on a project-by-project basis;
- (iii) The annual audited accounts of the agency; and
- (iv) A final accounting for each project in due course.

#### SECTION 5

##### FOLLOW-UP ACTION

It is agreed that the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (ECA), after the initial two-year period during which financial assistance is received from UNEP, will continue to maintain and support the Environmental Co-ordination Unit with its own resources.

# APPENDIX

## 3.4 Budget (Regional)

				Estimated costs in dollars		
				UNEP		
				1977	1978	1979
				ECA		
				1977	1978	1979
10	<u>Personnel component</u>					
11	Experts (professional staff)					
	1. Principal or senior officer					
	(24 m/m) . . . . .	33 750	67 500	33 750	-	-
	2. Programme officer (48 m/m) .	28 000	56 000	28 000	28 000	56 000
13	Administrative support (3 secretaries - 72 m/m) . . . . .			12 000	24 000	12 000
16	Travel on official business . . .			2 000	5 000	2 000
19	Component total: . . . . .			75 750	152 500	75 750
40	<u>Equipment component</u>					
41	Expendable equipment . . . . .			-	-	-
42	Non-expendable equipment . . . .			-	-	-
49	Component total: . . . . .			13 000	9 000	4 000
50	<u>Miscellaneous component</u>					
53	Sundry . . . . .			1 000	3 000	1 000
59	Component total: . . . . .			1 000	3 000	1 000
	Grand total: . . . . .			76 750	155 500	76 750
				47 000	77 000	38 000

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE SECRETARY - GENERAL  
OF THE INTER - GOVERNMENTAL MARITIME CONSULTATIVE ORGANIZATION ( IMCO )  
AND THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY OF THE UNITED NATIONS  
ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR AFRICA

1. The Secretary-General of the Inter-Governmental Maritime Consultative Organization (IMCO) and the Executive Secretary of the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (ECA), in consultation, have determined that it is desirable to conclude a Memorandum of Understanding to foster the close co-operation which exists between IMCO and ECA.
2. They are mindful of the provisions of the Agreement on Relationship between the United Nations and IMCO, dated 13 January 1959, and in particular its articles IV, V and XVI, and conscious of the advantages which accrue to the African States from co-operative action conducive to the achievement of their common objectives.
3. In reaffirming their intention to ensure effective co-ordination of policy and activities, they are conscious of the several responsibilities of the Organization and the Commission.
4. They note that IMCO is the specialized agency of the United Nations devoted solely to maritime matters and entrusted with providing machinery for co-operation among Governments in matters of technical, legal and environmental nature affecting shipping engaged in international trade, and inter alia creating régimes of international standards to that purpose.
5. They note that ECA is the Commission of the United Nations concerned with the development process of the States on the African continent and thus ECA has interest in the development of maritime activities as a part of the economic and social development and integration of the African States, regionally and subregionally and nationally.
6. The Secretary-General and the Executive Secretary are particularly mindful of the opportunities for the Organization and the Commission to complement each other through co-operative effort, making use, on the one hand, of the continuing relationship of the Commission with the African States and the exchange of information on common economic and social problems which takes place there, and, on the other hand, the provision of maritime technical competence which can be made available by IMCO to the African States, regionally, subregionally and nationally.
7. In furtherance of the objectives of article V of the Agreement on Relationship between the United Nations and the Inter-Governmental Maritime Consultative Organization, the Secretary-General and the Executive Secretary will provide full exchange of appropriate information on the activities of the two organizations relevant to maritime development of African States.
8. In implementing their co-operative effort and in response to the will of the developing countries concerned, the Secretary-General and the Executive Secretary agree to take all appropriate measures to ensure co-



operation in assessing the requirements of the developing countries of Africa in expanding and improving their maritime capabilities, in particular through:

- (a) joint studies, where so required by the States concerned, of the present state of maritime development, with a view to identifying areas of technical assistance in respect of shipping;
- (b) joint studies, where so required by the States concerned, with a view to identifying technical problems, both operational and developmental, in respect of ports and harbours;
- (c) joint studies, where so required by the States concerned, with a view to identifying the needs and modalities of marine pollution prevention and control;
- (d) joint studies, where so required by the States concerned, of the need to develop maritime legislation in individual African States and to harmonize such legislation throughout the region as appropriate;
- (e) joint study of means of implementing in the region international conventions, codes, recommendations and other acts formulated and adopted through IMCO;
- (f) joint endeavour to inform African States of the benefits to be derived from active participation in technical meetings of IMCO attended by international specialists in relevant fields with a view to facilitating the transfer of technology and the acquisition of expertise by African countries;
- (g) jointly organized visits by specialists to particular African countries, if so requested by the States concerned.

9. In order to facilitate the functions mentioned above, the Secretary General and the Executive Secretary agree, subject to the availability of funds from the United Nations Development Programme, or other sources of extrabudgetary financing, to establish a Joint Unit for the purpose of co-ordinating the above-mentioned complementary activities of the Organization and the Commission.

10. The Joint Unit will consist of two officers of professional level with appropriate qualifications and two general service staff.

11. The Secretary-General and the Executive Secretary agree to meet periodically as appropriate to review the progress achieved in pursuance of this Memorandum of Understanding, and to consider such additional measures of co-operation as may be required.

12. Having agreed that this Memorandum of Understanding will provide a suitable framework for their common endeavour, and that it will not be construed in a manner inconsistent either with the aforementioned Agreement on Relationship between the United Nations the Inter-Governmental Maritime Consultative Organization or with any decisions taken by

the Organization or the Commission, the Secretary-General and the Executive Secretary have signed the present Memorandum of Understanding, in duplicate, this eighth day of July, 1977.

(Signed)

C.P. SRIVASTAVA

Secretary-General

Inter-Governmental Maritime  
Consultative Organization

(Signed)

ADEBAYO ADEDEJI

Executive Secretary

Economic Commission for Africa

AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
OF THE CENTRE ON TRANSNATIONAL CORPORATIONS  
AND THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY OF THE ECONOMIC COMMISSION  
FOR AFRICA TO ESTABLISH A JOINT UNIT ON TRANSNATIONAL CORPORATIONS

ANNEX B 7

Pursuant to ECOSOC resolution 1961 (LIX) of 29 July 1975 which requests the Centre on Transnational Corporations and the regional commissions to establish joint units in each of the regional commissions, the Executive Director of the Centre on Transnational Corporations and the Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa agree to propose to the Secretary-General the establishment of a joint unit to be called "Joint ECA/CTNC Unit on Transnational Corporations" to be located in ECA. Its terms of reference are as follows:

I. Functions of the Joint ECA/CTNC Unit on Transnational Corporations

1. The Joint Unit shall, within the over-all programme of work adopted by the Commission on Transnational Corporations and the Economic and Social Council, be the focal point for the activities of the Centre on Transnational Corporations in Africa, especially in the fields of research, information and liaison with the Governments of the region.
2. The Joint Unit shall thus have the primary responsibility for conducting studies, analyses and related activities on economic, social and institutional issues on transnational corporations concerning Africa, in particular through case studies. The Joint Unit in this way shall provide inputs for the studies and analyses carried out by the Centre on Transnational Corporations. Similarly, the Centre on Transnational Corporations and ECA shall provide inputs for studies and analyses carried out by the Joint Unit.
3. The Joint Unit, with the support of the Regional Data Bank to be established by ECA, shall assist the Centre on Transnational Corporations in collecting and analysing information on matters related to transnational corporations in Africa as an integral part of the comprehensive information system of the Centre on Transnational Corporations. The nature of the information to be collected and relevant modalities shall be agreed upon jointly by the Centre on Transnational Corporations and ECA's Regional Data Bank in order to ensure consistency and compatibility.
4. The Joint Unit shall develop contacts with and monitor the activities of African governmental as well as non-governmental organizations in order to explore and identify their problems and needs related to transnational corporations, and, after consultation with the Centre on Transnational Corporations, assist these organizations in meeting them.
5. The Joint Unit shall assist the Centre on Transnational Corporations in identifying and acting on areas of co-operation with African organizations outside the United Nations system dealing with the subject of transnational corporations.

6. The Joint Unit shall assist the Centre on Transnational Corporations in developing African national and multinational policies and capabilities relating to transnational corporations. To this end, the Joint Unit shall assist the Centre on Transnational Corporations in organizing and carrying out advisory services, training workshops, seminars and regional intergovernmental meetings on matters related to transnational corporations.

7. The Joint Unit shall assist the Centre on Transnational Corporations in its work related to the preparation of a code of conduct.

## II. The Work Programme of the Joint Unit

8. In line with ECOSOC resolution 1961 (LIX), the work programme of the Joint Unit shall be worked out between the Centre on Transnational Corporations and the ECA secretariat within the framework of the programme of work agreed upon by the Commission on Transnational Corporations and the Economic and Social Council and taking into account the priority needs of the Governments of the region.

9. For this reason, the Executive Director of the Centre on Transnational Corporations and the Executive Secretary of ECA shall meet annually to prepare as appropriate the medium-term plan and biennial programme budget of the Joint Unit, as well as to review the work carried out by the Joint Unit and to introduce any necessary modifications. These meetings shall also provide an opportunity to take stock of the work programme of the Centre on Transnational Corporations and of the outcome of the most recent sessions of the Commission on Transnational Corporation and of the competent ECA bodies. These regular meetings, supplemented by ad hoc meetings as necessary, including meetings of the Head of the Joint Unit and the staff of the Centre on Transnational Corporations, are designed to ensure close co-ordination in policy and approach with the Centre on Transnational Corporations.

10. The Executive Director of the Centre on Transnational Corporations and the Executive Secretary of ECA shall agree on the studies and analyses prepared by the Joint Unit which shall be part of the documentation submitted to the Commission on Transnational Corporations and to the governing body by ECA.

## III. Resources and organization of the Joint Unit

11. The Joint Unit shall be financed from allocations provided for this purpose by the General Assembly and from extrabudgetary resources available to the Centre on Transnational Corporations and to the ECA secretariat.

12. Pending the allocation of resources for the Joint Unit by the General Assembly, it will be necessary to proceed on a limited basis utilizing to the extent possible existing budgetary and extrabudgetary resources available to the Centre on Transnational Corporations and to the ECA secretariat.

13. The Head of the Joint Unit shall be appointed by the Secretary-General after consultation with the Executive Secretary of ECA and the Executive Director of the Centre on Transnational Corporations.

14. The Joint Unit shall, to the extent possible, draw on the facilities available at the Centre on Transnational Corporations and ECA secretariat together with its UNDATs and subregional offices. The UNDATs and subregional offices will be used for points of contact with Governments and the organizations in the region for the purpose of assisting in the execution of specific research projects and the collection of information.

15. As a general policy, the Centre on Transnational Corporations and the Joint Unit shall encourage the exchange of personnel, in particular on a temporary basis, to assist in the execution of specific projects.

16. The office accommodation and the administrative support services shall be provided by the ECA Secretariat.

Signed/ - Adebayo Adedeji  
Executive Secretary  
Economic Commission for Africa

Signed/ - Klaus A. Sahlgren  
Executive Director  
Centre on Transnational  
Corporations

Geneva, 28 July 1976

Geneva, 28 July 1976

