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UNITED NATIONS
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REPORT OF THE EXPLORATORY MEETING
ON MAGHREBIN STATISTICS
~~(Tangier, 27-30 April 1964)~~

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REPORT ON THE EXPLORATORY MEETING
ON MAGHREBIN STATISTICS

1. An exploratory meeting on Maghrebin statistics was held in Tangier from 27 through 30 April 1964. The following countries participated: Algeria, Morocco, Tunisia, Libya. had been invited but was unable to attend. The list of delegates will be found in the annex.
2. In his opening address, the Acting Director of the Tangier Sub-regional Office and Special Adviser to the Executive Secretary, recalled the many bonds woven between the Maghrebin countries and the Economic Commission for Africa since the latter had been established in 1958. He mentioned the part played by the Statistical Training Centre in Rabat in bringing together the African countries, in general, and the Maghrebin ones, in particular.
3. The Acting Director recalled that this meeting had been decided during the sixth session of the Economic Commission for Africa, in Addis Ababa in February 1964, in order to facilitate economic surveys of the Maghreb as a whole. The need to assemble comparative statistics and to adopt a common system of national accounting patterns in the Maghrebin countries had been brought to the forefront:
 - by the many fields involved in intra-Maghrebin coordination (industry, trade, transport, training...);
 - by the work programme for 1964-65 assigned to the Tangier Office by the sixth session of the Economic Commission for Africa, including a 20-year projection

of population and production equipment in the Maghreb economy. The role of this meeting, and of the work arising from it, will be to facilitate such surveys regarding the future of economic expansion in the Maghreb.

4. Welcoming the other delegations, the Moroccan delegation also expressed appreciation to the Sub-regional Office and its Director, for organizing this meeting which marked the beginning of close continual cooperation between Maghreb countries in the field of statistics and national accounts.
5. The head of the Moroccan delegation, Mr. Ahmed Bensouda, was unanimously elected Chairman of the meeting.

6. The meeting adopted the following agenda:

- 1) Opening speech
- 2) Election of the Chairman
- 3) Adoption of the Agenda
- 4) Statements on organization of statistics and national accounts
- 5) Discussion of the present position, statistical programmes, and problems of comparability in different fields:

- a) Industry
- b) Demography
- c) Agriculture
- d) Consumption, income, wages and prices, domestic trade
- e) Foreign trade
- f) Financial statistics
- g) National accounts

6) Presentation forms for statistical data

7) Programme of work and priorities

- a) Cooperation on programmes
- b) Problems of nomenclature
- c) Ways and means (including possible United Nations assistance)

- 8) Other business
- 9) Adoption of report

Statements on the organization of statistics and national accounts.

7. In Algeria, Statistics is one of four divisions in the General Department of Planning in the Ministry of National Economy. The role, means and prospects of Algerian statistics are described in detail in "National Statistics" (La statistique nationale, novembre 1964). This document was displayed and transmitted to participants. Noteworthy features of organization are as follows: In the name of the government, the Division of Statistics organizes and coordinates all national statistics; it exercises a monopoly in statistics and demographic surveys. The Division of Statistics acts as secretariat for the C.O.C.O.E.S. (Control Committee of Statistical Surveys). This Committee has broad powers: stamp of approval for surveys to be made by public, semi-public and private institutions; replies are compulsory, must be accurate and returned within designated time limits under pain of severe penalties; access to accounting records of all enterprises; its approval necessary in order to obtain authorization from Financial Control for survey expenses; planning of statistical development... Lacking resources, the Division has delegated certain assignments at present (industrial, agricultural and foreign trade statistics). Furthermore, some statistical units have developed in different ministries or organizations.
8. National accounts is a prerogative of the Division of Synthesis and Coordination, working in close collaboration with the Division of Statistics.
9. In Tunisia, texts defining the terms of reference of the Statistical Service are already old. Since 1956, provision has been made for secrecy in the field of statistics and to impose the obligation to reply but penalties provided for non-reply

have not been put to use as intervention by enumerators or the head of the survey is usually sufficient. No systematic clearance of statistical surveys was ever made.

10. The main characteristic of Tunisian statistics is its decentralization among different specialized services. Thus, under the authority of the Director of Coordination and Planning (State Secretariat of Planning and Finances), the following Divisions include one or more statistical services:

- Finance and Programme Planning: National Accounts Service; Economic and Statistical Surveys Service; Conjuncture Service; Mechanical processing unit;
- Personnel Training: Service of Demographic Statistics (including employment statistics);
- Agriculture: Service of Agricultural Statistics;
- Trade: Service of Foreign Trade Statistics;
- Industry: Service of Industrial Statistics.

Liaison is maintained between statistics and planning in each sector, coordination being assured by the Director of Coordination.

11. As a Regional Development Division is being formed, the Service of Economic and Statistical Surveys has been commissioned to establish a report on the creation of regional offices.
12. In Morocco, the Central Service of Statistics established in 1942 changed little until 1957. Since then, the creation of the Department of Economic Coordination and Planning has led to the development of activities, especially field surveys; close coordination has been established between statistics and national accounts at the same time.
13. A 1959 Dahir provides for the coordination of statistics, the obligation to reply to surveys, and statistical secrecy. Every statistical survey must be stamped with approval granted by the Central Service of Statistics. The Coordination

Committee for Statistical Studies (COCOES) associates professional organizations with its work. Actually, this Committee not only adopts the official programme of statistical surveys but broadly exceeds the textual limits of its competence (elaboration and adoption of nomenclatures, improvement of current statistics, statistical development programme...). Within COCOES, sub-committees have been established: for example, in 1964, sub-committees charged with coordination of demographic and health statistics, identification of enterprises, classification of occupations.

14. The Central Service of Statistics is composed of five main sections:

- Demographic and social statistics and studies;
- Economic statistics and studies (foreign trade, prices, finances);
- Industrial statistics and studies;
- Surveys;
- Mechanical processing unit.

At present, the survey section is oriented towards the establishment of a permanent agricultural statistical system with a parallel introduction of regional offices. The Training Centre for Junior Statisticians is linked to the Central Service of Statistics.

15. Statistical coordination should be facilitated in the future by the anticipated lending of junior statisticians to the statistical units of various ministries or organizations.

16. National Accounts and Planning, like Statistics, is attached to the "General Delegation for National Promotion and Planning". It is comprised of four sections which correspond to accounts for economic sectors:

- Enterprises (exploitation of annual economic survey, intersectorial table);
- Foreign (balance of payments in cooperation with Exchange Office);

- Households (income and consumption studies);
- Administration.

Discussion of present position, statistical programmes,
and comparability problems in various fields.

a) Industry

17. The definition of industry in the three countries is based on a criterion of number of permanent wage-earners (5, 10 and 3 wage-earners respectively in Algeria, Morocco, Tunisia). However, in Morocco a motor force of 10 H.P. or more may also determine the industrial character of an establishment. The definition of handicrafts is still open to discussion (artistic or mechanical handicrafts, service crafts).
18. Establishments are catalogued in the three countries. In Morocco, the register is limited to industry (3.500 establishments). In Algeria, industry and important commercial establishments are covered. In Tunisia, industry, trade and handicrafts are included (130.000 establishments). In Tunisia, extending the index and keeping it up-to-date have been made possible by associating the Statistical Service with elaboration of license and social security questionnaires.
19. In all three countries, a number of surveys are conducted by the Statistical Services alone or, when individual data are collected for an administrative purpose, by the service responsible for industry in cooperation with the statistical office.
20. A production survey (quantities for calculating indices) is carried out with a complete coverage in Algeria and through rational selection in Morocco (500 establishments, covering more than 90% of the value added). The survey is quarterly except that it is monthly in Algeria for important establishments (limit varies according to sector of economic activity).
21. In all three countries, an annual economic survey is conducted, or will be (Algeria). Questions vary from year to year, particularly in an effort to improve precision and to adapt

the survey to data needed for national accounts. Improvements are sought in the following ways: linking questions to economic accounts requirements; specializing questionnaires according to the sector or size of establishment; introducing sampling in some sectors; extending the survey to new sectors (public works, building, trade...); eliminating non-response by sending out enumerators or in Algeria, having the Legal Committee of COCOES intervene; exploiting questionnaires more intensively.

22. Surveys on the qualifications of the labour force and on requirements for skilled labour have been carried out in Morocco (repeated every three years) and in Algeria. A similar survey is being undertaken and will be repeated annually in Tunisia. The Moroccan survey also covers anticipated investments.
23. A conjuncture survey is conducted every six months in Morocco (500 establishments) and is to be extended to trade.
24. An exhaustive survey of structural features is made in Morocco every three years by the Department of Industry. An analogous survey is presently being made in Algeria and results should be available before the year's end. The enumerators are engineers. In Tunisia, the annual economic survey for 1963 includes characteristics of structure.
25. A pilot survey on Moroccan handicrafts, needed for national accounts, has just been completed. A survey in this sector was made in Tunisia in 1962.
26. National classifications of economic activities have been elaborated in Morocco and Tunisia. In Tunisia, a correspondence code with ISIC (two numbers) exists; in Morocco, it is possible. In Algeria, the nomenclature of the French National Institute of Statistics and Economic Studies (INSEE) is used. In all three countries, the nomenclature for activities is also used for commodities.

27. Identification of establishments is envisaged in Morocco. A national identification number is not planned in Algeria at present.
28. The meeting recommended that intensive technical cooperation be established, and pursued regularly between offices responsible for industrial statistics. In particular, such cooperation might be carried out by the exchange of technical documents: questionnaires, sampling schemes, instructions, plans for processing data.
29. The meeting recommended the establishment of a Maghreb Sub-committee on Coordination of Industrial Statistics, which would group officials responsible for industrial statistics. The Sub-committee would be commissioned to coordinate:
- programmes of surveys by defining a minimum programme: triannual survey, annual economic survey, survey of manpower requirements...
 - nomenclatures used (economic activities...);
 - presentation of certain statistics (industrial production indices, annual economic position);
30. In order to insure maximum efficiency in such coordination the meeting expressed the desire that the Sub-committee on Coordination of Industrial Statistics collaborate closely with national accounts services.
31. The meeting recommended that the Sub-committee on Coordination of Industrial Statistics should meet soon enough to obtain the desired comparability in time for the 1965 annual economic survey of 1964 data.

b) Demography

32. A national population census is prepared in Algeria and should be achieved by the end of September, 1964 (December for the south). Preparation of the Tunisian census planned for 1966 has begun already. The next Moroccan census should occur in 1970.

33. In the field of vital statistics, civil registration is now obligatory for the entire population in all three countries. In all three, the declaration forms were elaborated with the statistical services. Notwithstanding the intentional simplicity of the forms, certain declarations are not filled in, especially in rural areas and, in particular, concerning deaths. Distance from the Registration office of the people involved is the main reason. Consequently, estimates of the natural rate of population growth, deduced from these statistics, are of doubtful value. A system of health officers is being established in Morocco which will encompass the population (1 officer for 5,000 inhabitants, each household visited once every two months); by 1966, it should permit a new source of data on births and deaths.

34. Nevertheless, the meeting recognized that, for works involving projections and planning, it would be of interest to elaborate a mortality table for each country and for the Maghreb as a whole.

35. The results recently published in Morocco of a multi-purpose survey furnish detailed, precise data in this field.

36. As to employment statistics, Morocco conducts a simple survey every six months of establishments with more than 10 employees. Furthermore, surveys on qualifications of the labour force and of labour requirements of industry have been mentioned in paragraph 22 of this report. In Algeria, analagous estimates have been made for branches of economic activity other than Industry. In Morocco, a survey of under-employment - a pilot project at first -, is planned in rural areas in 1965. It is to be preceded by an unemployment survey in Casablanca in 1964.

37. The meeting recommended that systematic consultations take place between Maghreb countries at the time of population censuses. During such consultations, statisticians should be

inspired by the need to coordinate definitions and nomenclatures as efficiently as possible.

38. It is understood that the first such consultation will occur in the near future, at the time of the Algerian census, particularly as concerns questions of active population and educational levels. It is understood, however, that preparation of an agreement on occupation nomenclatures should be the responsibility of a specialized sub-committee.

39. The meeting recommended that training periods be organized for Maghreb statistical officials by each participating country at the time of censuses and of demographic surveys on employment, underemployment or unemployment. Such periods should involve active participation during a certain length of time (several months), so that both trainee and host country would benefit. It is suggested, for instance, that Moroccan and Tunisian junior statisticians participate in the next Algerian census for two or three months.

c) Agriculture

40. Within the framework of the 1960 World Census, agricultural sample surveys have been completed recently in Morocco (multi-purpose survey) and Tunisia. A "light" sample survey is in process this year and will be followed by a more important census.

41. The former main sources of current agricultural statistics in Morocco (the Tertib) and Tunisia (Land Tax Service) no longer exist. In Algeria, communal committees meet twice yearly to estimate the harvest until such time as a new system of collecting agricultural statistics is established.

42. This year Morocco began the setting-up of a permanent system of current agricultural statistics, based on the land register which will cover the entire country in five years. In Algeria,

it should be possible to establish a permanent system in the future with personnel trained at the Agricultural Statistics Centre established with FAO assistance. The organization of current statistics is being discussed in Tunisia.

43. In all three countries it is planned that the establishment of current agricultural statistical systems will be accompanied by the creation of regional offices which will permit the development of other activities (surveys on consumption, employment, prices...).

44. The meeting recommended that, as in the industry and demographic fields, cooperation between services should be achieved by the regular exchange of technical documents on methods used (sampling schemes, questionnaires, observation methods, analyses and presentation of results).

45. The meeting recommended that coordination of research in the field of agricultural statistics be carried out between the Maghrebin countries.

46. The meeting recommended that a technical meeting be convened to examine, in particular, methodology problems in estimating agricultural production in the Maghreb countries. Exchanging trainees between countries could follow such a meeting.

47. The meeting expressed the hope that Maghrebin agricultural statisticians might benefit from experiences of other Mediterranean countries in this field (for example: UAR, southern Italy, Yugoslavia) by means of study tours which could be organized with FAO assistance.

d) Consumption, Income, Wages, Prices, Domestic Trade

48. National consumption surveys were conducted in Morocco and Algeria in 1958 and 1959. A rural survey in Tunisia was followed by a survey in the city of Tunis. The meeting discussed difficulties encountered during these surveys and

the comparability problems which arise from differences of coverage, method and nomenclatures. These surveys supply the basic weights used to calculate cost-of-living indices. Each country, however, has been obliged to revise either the commodity list or the weights furnished by the results. These surveys have also been utilized for national accounting.

49. Preceded by a pilot survey, a household survey on household consumption and expenditures will begin in Tunisia in September 1964 and continue for two years. Except for five large cities, it will cover the entire country and be conducted by 35 enumerators, 6 supervisors and 2 junior statisticians. Morocco will take a detailed consumption survey again about 1969. Algeria plans to undertake a survey in the near future in order to establish a cost-of-living index.
50. For incomes, Tunisia has at its disposal as of this year, fiscal declarations made out by all persons over 18 years of age and by all corporate bodies. The 800,000 returns are being processed by the Statistical Service.
51. As to wage statistics, Social Security supplies data in Tunisia and will do so in Algeria and Morocco in the near future. Except in Morocco, the value of the declarations is limited by the legal "ceiling" on social security. The field covered by these statistics also varies by country (industry only in Morocco, all wages earners in Algeria).
52. Wage surveys are conducted by the Statistical service in Morocco (survey scarcely exploited) and by Social Affairs in Tunisia.
53. Morocco attempts to obtain detailed statistics from the Ministry of Finance through wage deductions made according to socio-professional category and economic activity.

54. Retail prices are recorded in the capital cities of all three countries. An extension of such observations to other centres and then to rural areas is planned in all three, with regional and national indices as the goal.
55. Wholesale prices are obtained by surveys made of a small sampling of wholesalers in the three countries. The wholesale price index, at the present time being calculated in Algier, is computed on old bases in Morocco and Tunisia (1938 or 1939) and should be revised for both countries.
56. Morocco has just completed a methodological study of indices required for national account purpose, from which other Maghreb countries could benefit. This study covers the following indices, for which calculations will be undertaken progressively: wholesale, retail, construction and transportation prices, prices of industrial products needed in agriculture. Algeria also plans to establish new price indices: index of consumption prices for administrations and producer prices.
57. As regards domestic trade, Algeria (Department of Commerce) makes a quarterly study on the evolution of turnover in several large stores. The Statistical Service hopes to conduct a survey in this field. In Tunisia, the register of establishments is one source of information. In addition, a research firm conducted a survey on commercial margins. Morocco has also entrusted a survey, currently in progress, on commercial circuits and trade margins to a research firm. This original survey combines random and non-random sampling methods with the use of enumerators and several engineers; it covers 210 commodities chosen according to their importance in final consumption.
58. The meeting recommended that Morocco might circulate a methodological note to the other Maghreb countries on the domestic trade survey, particularly on the criteria used in selecting products.

59. The meeting recommended that each country should take into account the work of other Maghreb countries when adopting nomenclatures for consumption, price or trade surveys (expenses, household incomes, list of items for price observations, list of products for margin calculations ...) and seek the possibilities of improving comparability of corresponding statistics.
60. The meeting recommended that each country should take into account the work of other Maghreb countries when adopting nomenclatures for consumption, price or trade surveys (expenses, household incomes, list of items for price observations, list of products for margin calculation ...) and should seek possibilities of improving comparability of corresponding statistics.
61. To improve the comparability of retail price indices, prices should relate to the same social category; the list of corresponding items including the same categories and the same number of products by category.
62. The meeting recommended that the Maghreb countries exchange information on the possibilities of using research firms.
63. The meeting recommended that, when necessary to have recourse to a research firm, the following arrangements should be included in the contract:
 - individual assignments of experts to the concerned section;
 - at least part-time participation in the work or research undertaken, by an official of the concerned country;
 - methodological notes to be produced by the firm.

e) Foreign trade

64. In Algeria, foreign trade statistics should soon be attached to the Statistical Service. The position will then be analagous to that existing in Tunisia, which receives cards from customs as well. In Morocco, duplicated tabulations are established by the Ministry of Trade.
65. Analysis of customs statistics sometimes brings important imperfections to light. Improvement could be facilitated by lending statisticians to the customs service, as is done in Morocco. Cross-checking to discover errors is done by using other sources of data (Department of Mines, Export Office...).
66. All three countries use the Brussels international trade nomenclature (NDB). In Algeria, a classification designed for National Accounts, with 5 numbers and inspired by the NDB, is also used. A correspondance table of this nomenclature and that of the French Service of Economic and Financial Studies (SEEF) exists. In Morocco and Tunisia, the SITC is, or will be (Tunisia), used for certain tables drawn up for the Economic Commission for Africa. In Tunisia, monthly and quarterly results are not only presented according to NDB but also by an older, less detailed classification than by the year, and of different origin, but a correspondence code is available in the Statistical Service between these nomenclatures.

In Morocco, a correspondence code was worked out between SITC and NDB, between NDB and the classification of 189 sub-sectors used by National Accounts since 1958, between these sub-sectors and the economic activities nomenclature of INSEE (French National Institute of Statistics and Economic Studies), and between the latter and the new Moroccan nomenclature of economic activities which is ready but not yet official.

67. In the three countries, results by end-use category or economic sector exist or, for Algeria, are planned.
68. Indices of average values and of volumes are calculated in Morocco and Tunisia and are planned in Algeria.
69. The meeting recommended that tabulation of Foreign Trade Statistics should permit frequent and intensive comparisons of Maghrebin exchanges with due regard to international standards and arrangements of such statistics. A meeting should be convened to examine practical methods for such coordination.
70. The meeting recommended exchange of information between Maghrebin countries in order to facilitate the comparability of foreign trade indices.

f) Financial statistics

71. In Tunisia and Algeria, the balance of payments is established by the Central Bank; in Morocco, by the National Accounting Service in cooperation with the Exchange Office. The Banks also supply statistics on money and credit.
72. The meeting noted the weak development of fiscal statistics for use by national accounting services and recommended that statistical services should seek ways to improve the volume and quality of current statistics that might be drawn from financial and fiscal services.

g) National accounts

73. The meeting discussed work on analysis of the public sector already undertaken in Tunisia and Morocco by a regional adviser of the Economic Commission for Africa. Corresponding accounts, patterned on national accounts, permit the calculation of technical co-efficients such as: cost prices, current and investment costs... On the occasion of this research work, an adaptation of economic and functional classification of public sector transactions is being worked out.

74. The meeting noted with pleasure that the appointment of regional advisers is already playing a coordinating role and expressed the wish that the work begun in two Maghreb countries might be extended to Algeria.

75. At present, Algeria is about to prepare a first series of economic accounts for 1963 for planning purposes. Tunisia has just completed detailed accounts for 1960, and is working out the establishment of annual series. Since its 1958 tables, Morocco has elaborated 1960, 1962 provisional tables and a 1965 projection, as well as various special projects: classification of economic sectors according to the value added rate, value added induced by variation in final demand... The programme to be undertaken by the new organization described in paragraph 16 of this report, begins with enterprises (with six staff members specializing in the different sectors), continues with agriculture (improvement of production data, distinction between traditional and modern sectors, study of working accounts), then services, trade and handicrafts, administration and households (breakdown by socio-economic groups).

76. The meeting recommended the establishment of a National Accounts Sub-committee in order to reach maximum harmonization in this field. The Sub-committee would be commissioned to:

- harmonize accounting patterns, classifications, definitions and concepts in liaison with work of other sub-committees;
- seek a minimum breakdown applicable to all accounts in the Maghreb;
- establish a list of priority requirements as to collection of basic data;
- exchange information about technical, elasticity and productivity coefficients, margin of profits, technical coefficients drawn from analysis of the public sector

77. The meeting recommended that priority be given to technical assistance needs of Algeria to expedite the establishment of a first set of national accounts.

Tabulation of statistical data

78. Pro forma questionnaires for requesting statistical information to be obtained from different administrative sources, have been prepared in Algeria in order to improve collection of those current statistical series which are derived from administrative operations.
79. The meeting recommended that these questionnaires, should be circulated to other Maghreb countries as they become available in order to exchange information.
80. The meeting recommended that, at a coming meeting, the Committee should examine whether serious differences exist in current statistics appearing in regular publications of Maghreb countries (bulletins, year-books).

Programme of work and priorities.

81. The meeting decided to establish a Maghreb Committee for Coordination of Statistical series and National Accounts. This Committee should meet at least once a year in order to review work accomplished and to decide the programme of work to be undertaken. Meetings should be coordinated with others held by ECA. The composition of the Committee should be the same as other intra-Maghreb economic coordination committees.
82. The Chairman of the Committee would remain in office during the interval between two Committee meetings. The secretariat would be provided by the sub-regional office of the Economic Commission for Africa. The office of Chairman would be attributed to a different country each year.

83. The Committee would be responsible permanently for assuring coordination between Maghreb countries in the field of statistics and national accounts. It could establish technical sub-committees or organize meetings on special subjects, reports being submitted to the Committee for approval.

Timetable

84. The meeting instructed the sub-regional office to proceed with consultations with the Maghreb countries to determine dates when it could convene the Sub-committee on Industrial Statistics and the Foreign Trade meetings. It also requested the sub-regional office to proceed with consultations on a date for the meeting of the Sub-committee on National Accounts. In the same way, the sub-regional office in liaison with FAO was instructed to arrange a date for the meeting on agricultural statistics in 1965, during the first semester, if possible.

Nomenclatures

85. The meeting recommended that problems of elaboration and harmonization of nomenclatures should be examined by each specialized committee in its own field.
86. Keeping in mind the need for integrating intra-Maghreb coordination within inter-African coordination, the meeting advocated that, to the greatest possible extent, these committees should take into account African and international standards adopted under the auspices of the United Nations.
87. The meeting recommended that systematic consultations be held between Maghreb countries whenever one of them prepares a nomenclature in order to further coordination and harmonization.

Training

88. The meeting recommended that courses on Maghreb economy be introduced in the Training Centre of Rabat for Junior

Statisticians (CFITS). Such courses, obligatory for Maghrebin students, could be facultative for other Africans.

89. Concerned that education at CFITS should be oriented towards a more profound knowledge of Maghrebin economy, the meeting recommended that all statistical and economic publications of the Maghrebin countries be sent to the Centre so that lecturers might find illustrations for their courses or tutorial work.

90. The meeting recommended that an agreement be sought between CFITS and the Statistics and National Accounts services so that students might carry out in the Maghrebin countries the training periods included in the Centre's programme.

91. The meeting noted that centres for training statistical assistants would open simultaneously in Rabat and Tunis next October. Algerian students will be able to attend until a centre is established in Algier. The curriculums and, later, the courses of these centres will be circulated to other Maghrebin countries to further coordination.

Ways and means

92. Studies relating to nomenclatures and accounting patterns and, in a general way, to technical preparation of committee and sub-committee meetings should be undertaken by the competent services in the Maghrebin countries in cooperation with the sub-regional office. In particular, regional advisers should be able to play a useful liaison role when on field missions. Also, United Nations' experts assigned to one country should keep intra-Maghrebin coordination in mind while carrying out their mission.

94. The meeting expressed hope that the constant support given to development of Maghrebin statistics by the ECA's statistics division would now be extended to the coordination programme.

Due to the important role played by regional advisers in coordination, the meeting was pleased to note that three such advisers were present in the sub-region and formulated the wish that this form of assistance might be maintained and reinforced in the future. It was also hoped that resources would be put at the disposal of Maghreb countries to promote training periods for personnel or students from one country in another, as well as for study tours.

94. The meeting requested the Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa to assign two technicians to Tangier, to be chosen from the regional advisers or Division of Statistics personnel, to service the Maghreb Committee for Coordination of Statistical series and National Accounts and other sub-committees, especially in the field of national accounting. The meeting also expressed the hope that it could count upon ECA specialists at the time of meetings on special subjects, such as foreign trade nomenclature.
95. The meeting expressed warm acknowledgment for the welcome it had received from the sub-regional office and paid tribute to the dedication and constructive assistance provided by regional advisers and the United Nations personnel to the work of the meeting.

Adoption of report

96. The present report was unanimously adopted by the meeting.

List of Delegates

- ALGERIA - Mr. A. OUBOUZAR, Assistant Director of Statistics,
General Department of Planning and
Economic Studies (Ministry of
National Economy).
- MOROCCO - Mr. A. BEN SOUDA, Deputy Head of Central Service of
Statistics.
Mr. AOUAD, Economist in charge of studies,
National Accounts (General Dele-
gation for National Promotion and
Planning).
- TUNISIA - Mr. A. KAMOUN, Head of Economic Survey Service
(Ministry of Planning and Finances).

SECRETARIAT

- Mr. J. ROYER - Special Adviser to the Executive
Secretary;
- Mr. J. CAUSSE - Regional adviser, statistician,
secretary to the meeting;
- Mr. J. KOWAL - Economist
- Mr. A. VESSE - Regional Adviser on Public Accounts.