



45918



UNITED NATIONS
ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

Distr.
GENERAL
CM/822(XXIX)/ADD.1
E/CN.14/672/ADD.1
15 June, 1977
Original: ENGLISH

ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR AFRICA

Council of Ministers of the OAU
29th Ordinary Session
Libreville, Gabon - June 23-30, 1977

REPORT OF THE ECA/OAU MISSION TO EXAMINE AND EVALUATE
HOST FACILITIES OFFERED FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT AND OPERATION OF THE
AFRICAN CENTRE FOR APPLIED RESEARCH AND TRAINING IN SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

REPORT OF THE ECA/OAU MISSION TO EXAMINE AND EVALUATE
HOST FACILITIES OFFERED FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT AND OPERATION OF THE
AFRICAN CENTRE FOR APPLIED RESEARCH AND TRAINING IN SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

Summary and Conclusion

1. The main task of the ECA/OAU Evaluation Mission was to examine facilities offered by member States of ECA and OAU to host the proposed African Regional Centre for Applied Research and Training in Social Development, to evaluate these facilities, and to report through the Executive Secretary of the ECA and the Administrative Secretary-General of the OAU to the 15th session of the OAU Assembly of Heads of State and Government in Libreville, Gabon in June 1977.
2. To do this the Mission devised a "schedule" or "questionnaire" that was intended to assist them in recording, analyzing, comparing and evaluating the facilities offered by Governments. The facilities referred to included both physical structures for housing the Centre - offices, conference halls, classrooms, libraries, residences for students and staff; and supporting infrastructure and services - schools, colleges, research institutions and other amenities including social services.
3. Five countries requested visits by the Mission and were visited accordingly from May 2 to June 11, 1977. These were, in the order of dates visited: Khartoum, Sudan; Tangier, Morocco; Tripoli, Libya; Alexandria, Egypt; Nairobi, Kenya. An invitation to visit Kampala, Uganda arrived when the Mission had concluded its visits.
4. The results of this examination and evaluation are presented here in this brief report. The offers made by the respective Governments and which have been used as basis for this report are contained in original versions of the "Questionnaire" filled in the presence of officials and signed by an "Authorized Government Representative" - usually the Minister of Social Affairs or an official designated by the Government to sign on its behalf. These Questionnaires are available at the Economic Commission for Africa.
5. In summary:
 - (a) Physical Facilities: Only Egypt offered an already existing facility for the use of the proposed Regional Centre at Mariut, 32 Kilometers from Alexandria. Morocco offered facilities in Tangier in an "International Centre" that was expected to be completed by March 1978. Sudan and Libya offered to construct facilities especially tailored to the needs of the Centre. Kenya required time to reach a definite decision on facilities to be offered. Sudan, Morocco and Libya offered temporary accommodation to enable the Regional

Centre begin its work immediately until the permanent quarters became ready. In Sudan and Libya - particularly in Libya - the Centre would have its own quarters and be self-contained. In Egypt and Morocco facilities being offered were to be shared with two or more institutions.

- (b) Other facilities: The supporting educational, cultural and social institutions were adequate in all countries and were of very high order in some.
- (c) Official Languages: In Morocco, French and Arabic are generally used; In Libya only Arabic is used although many speak English. In Kenya, English and Swahili are official languages while in the Sudan and Egypt, English and Arabic are official languages.
- (d) Financial and Other Support: Libya offered to contribute 50 per cent of the "administrative budget" of the Centre during the first two years of its establishment; Egypt would charge the Regional Centre for fuel, electricity, water and janitorial services. With the exception of Egypt which would make charges for the above items, the rest of the countries - Libya, Morocco, Sudan - offered to provide the physical facilities, their maintenance and operating expenses free to the Regional Centre. Libya additionally offered - in the permanent facilities - to provide all residential accommodations including their furnishing, a swimming pool, etc. and a "Reference Library" to the Centre free of rent or charge.

6. The Mission has evaluated the relative merits of all five countries on a 7-item scale with scores of 1-5. The highest possible total score for a country is 105 on this scale. The scores are related to the following criteria: Physical facilities - temporary/permanent accommodation, financial support, academic support, technical support, cultural facilities, potential for take-off, potential for growth. It has awarded the following scores to the five countries: Libya - 91, Sudan - 77, Morocco - 76, Egypt - 58. Kenya was not evaluated along with the others since it had no facilities to offer and withdrew from the race.

7. In conclusion, the Mission has made recommendations to facilitate the speedy establishment of the Regional Centre under the aegis of the United Nations and the Organization of African Unity and urges that these be implemented without delay so that the Centre can come into being and begin its work.

Introduction

8. The Second Conference of African Ministers of Social Affairs met in Alexandria, Egypt from 10 - 14 January 1977. The main item of agenda was the establishment and financing of an African Regional Centre for Research and Training in Social Development.

9. Upon the recommendation of the United Nations, in resolution 1406 (XLVI) by ECOSOC in June 1969, similar Centres have been established in Europe (Vienna) and in Asia (Manilla), and others are being planned for Latin America and Western Asia.

10. The Second Conference of African Ministers of Social Affairs, by resolution 2(II), decided that an "African Centre for Applied Research and Training in Social Development" should be established (Annex 1). By resolution 3 (II) on "Location of the African Centre for Applied Research and Training in Social Development" (Annex 2), the Conference also requested the Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa in consultation with the Administrative Secretary-General of the Organization of African Unity to sound out the Governments of all member States of ECA concerning the provision of host facilities for the headquarters of the Regional Centre so as to enable him submit the results of his consultations through the OAU General Secretariat to the fifteenth session of the OAU Assembly of Heads of State and Government, to be held in June 1977 in Libreville, Gabon, for a decision to be taken at that session.

11. At the time of the Conference, in January 1977, only 5 Governments (those of Egypt, Ghana, the Libyan Arab Republic, Morocco and the Sudan) had indicated readiness to offer host facilities for the proposed Centre. Many of these countries had been unable however to provide detailed information on the nature of the facilities that were available or envisaged. As a result of resolution 3 (II) of the Conference of Ministers, the Executive Secretary of ECA addressed a letter to all member Countries of ECA (and ipso facto of the OAU) on 17 February 1977 in which the Executive Secretary announced the impending despatch of a mission to examine and evaluate facilities for hosting the proposed Regional Centre and requesting member Governments "to inform me, if possible by cable, whether it is interested in hosting the Regional Centre, and if so whether it will receive the proposed mission which is expected to begin some time after 15 April 1977." This letter requested "a reply by 1 April 1977 so that your Government can, if it wishes, be included in the itinerary of the mission."

Constitution of Mission, Terms of Reference and Countries Visited

12. By April 30, a team had been constituted by the Executive Secretary of ECA and the Administrative Secretary-General of OAU. This joint ECA/OAU team that undertook the evaluation mission consisted of:

- | | | |
|-------------------------|---|---|
| Dr. T. Peter Omarl | : | Chief, Social Policy, Planning and Research Section (ECA), Leader |
| Mr. Abdel-Aziz M. Farag | : | Social Affairs Officer, Economic and Social Affairs Department of OAU, Member |
| Dr. Diango Cisse | : | Policy and Planning Office (ECA), Member |
| Mr. E.R. Srinivasan | : | ECA, Secretary |

13. By May 2, when the Mission began its work, the following countries had indicated to the Executive Secretary of the ECA their willingness to receive the Mission and to offer host facilities: Egypt, Libya, Sudan and Morocco. An invitation was later received from Kenya which was included in the Itinerary.

14. The proposed Regional Centre for Applied Research and Training in Social Development is expected to train planners, administrators and practitioners of activities or programmes in the field of social development at a fairly high level. The Centre is also expected to promote training in social welfare and social development and thus must undertake a great deal of research, produce or promote the production of indigenous teaching materials, concentrate on the training of trainers, liaise with existing training and research institutions or facilities in the region, and utilize resources available in member Countries for these purposes (see E/CN.14/672 "Report of the Second Conference of African Ministers of Social Affairs", page 26 - Article II, "objectives of the Centre" or CM/822 (XXIX)).

15. The objectives of the Regional Centre as outlined above call for support or auxiliary activities, institutions and other facilities in addition to physical resources within the host country. Accordingly, a "questionnaire" or "schedule" was prepared (Annex 3) which in addition to making for uniform recording and a more objective assessment of offers made by Governments, also made provision for attestation by an "authorized Government representative" of facilities offered to the evaluation Mission. This questionnaire incorporates, essentially, the list of physical and other requirements deemed to be necessary for the establishment and operation of the Regional Centre which was attached to the Executive Secretary's letter of February 17 to all Governments.

16. The main terms of reference of this Mission was to observe and examine, facilities offered by member States of ECA and OAU to host the proposed African Regional Centre for Applied Research and Training in Social Development, to evaluate these facilities, and to report through the Executive Secretary of the ECA and the Administrative Secretary-General of the OAU to the 15th session of the OAU Assembly of Heads of State and Government in Libreville, Gabon in June 1977. The evaluation was to be carried out and reported upon in a manner that would facilitate a decision by the Heads of State and Government.

17. Countries visited were in the following order: Democratic Republic of Sudan, 2 - 7 May; Kingdom of Morocco, 13 - 20 May; Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, 20 - 26 May; Arab Republic of Egypt, 26 - 30 May; Kenya, 4 - 11 June. Detailed country reports are presented in paragraphs 21 to 72.

Method of Evaluation

18. The "Schedule" or "Questionnaire" devised at the outset was intended to minimize personal bias and to make for objectivity in final conclusions reached by the Mission. The Questionnaire was distributed to responsible officials of each country at the first contact of the Mission with them and

they were informed that this would constitute the major basis for the later evaluation and reporting. Not only were officials requested to promote their own best interest, the Mission made every effort to explain to and assist officials in clarifying positions, and in encouraging them to show the mission aspects of their facilities that could place them in the most advantageous position. In addition to official response to the Questionnaire the Mission made independent observations and verification. This questionnaire was filled in its entirety at the end of the Mission's visit to each country with the responsible officials who signed and retained a copy of the questionnaire as completed together. A summary of this Questionnaire is reproduced as Table I below: The Mission feels that it has achieved a certain amount of objective reporting and evaluation by the final system of rating adopted here.

19. For evaluating results of the observations and study, the Mission agreed on 7 items that it felt discriminated most sharply among the five countries involved. These items have been used to evaluate prospects and to rate countries in an order of 15 to 3. Items such as "Interest of government" and "educational facilities for children" etc. were eliminated. This is because all countries easily rated excellent or very good on these items. Each member of the Mission independently rated all countries on all the items with a score of 5 - 1. These separate ratings were later combined to achieve a scoring of 15 - 3 on any item on the scale. The result is presented in Table II below. Libya achieved the highest score of 91 out of a possible 105, followed by Sudan with a score of 77, Morocco with a score of 76 and Egypt with a score of 58. Kenya which was visited at the end of the Mission indicated that it required more time to make a definite offer of facilities as a host country and therefore was not evaluated along with the other four countries.

20. We feel that the conclusion is clear and that a decision on where to put the African Regional Centre for Applied Research and Training in Social Development can be made on the basis of our findings without equivocation.

Country Reports 1/

1. The Democratic Republic of the Sudan

21. The ECA/OAU evaluation Mission commenced its work in Khartoum, the Sudan, on 2 May 1977.

22. During its stay in Khartoum from 2 - 7 May 1977, the Mission met and had discussions with the following: H.E. Dr. Fatma Abdel Mahmoud, Minister of Social Affairs; Mr. Abdel Mageed Hag El Amin, Under Secretary, Ministry of Social Affairs; Mr. Ahmed Kheir, Ministry of Social Affairs; Mr. Mohamed Zakaria, Ministry of Social Affairs; Mrs. Sit El Nifur, Ministry of Social

1/ In order of dates of visit by the Mission.

TABLE I

COMPARATIVE RESPONSES TO, AND EVALUATION OF THE QUESTIONNAIRE
BY
HOST COUNTRIES

Factors	C O U N T R Y				
	Sudan	Morocco	Libya	Egypt	Kenya
Existing facility	-	-	-	Yes F	
Temporary facility	Yes G	Yes E	Yes E	-	
Permanent facility	Yes	Yes E	Yes	Yes G	
Facilities to be shared	No	Yes	No	Yes	
Nature of facilities	Partial	Partial	Complete	Inclusive	
Additional Amenities			Yes		
Housing for students	No/Rent	No/Rent	Yes	Yes/Rent	
Boarding facility	Yes G	Yes G	Yes E	Yes G	
Housing for staff	No/Rent	No/Rent	Yes	Yes/Rent	
Clinic	Yes	?	Yes	Yes	
Supporting Universities	E	F	E	G	
Supporting Colleges	E	G	E	F	
Schools of Social Work	E	F	E	E	
Supporting staff	E	F	E	E	
Supporting programmes	E	F	E	E	
Languages	Ar. Eng.	Fr., Ar.	Ar. (Eng)	Eng. Ar. (Fr.)	
Educational facilities	E	E	G	F	
Recreational facilities	E	E	E	G	
Financial support	G	G	E	F	
Maintenance expenses	E	E	E	F	
Communications	E	E	E	F	
Wife employment	E	E	E	F	

Questionnaire was not filled

E : Excellent; G : Good; F : Fair; Eng. : English; Fr. : French; Ar.: Arabic

TABLE 11
RANK ORDER OF HOST COUNTRIES ON RATING SCALE

Country	Physical facilities temp./perm.	Financial support	Academic support	Technical support	Cultural/ social facilities	Potential for take-off	Potential for growth	Total** Score
Libya	15	14	12	13	9	14	14	91
Sudan	12	9	14	11	12	9	10	77
Morocco	14	9	7	12	12	11	11	76
Egypt	9	6	10	11	7	7	8	58
Kenya*								

* Kenya offered no facilities for consideration and is not rated here along with the other countries. See paragraph 72 of Report.

** Maximum score attainable is 105.

Affairs; Dr. Abbas Ahmed, Dean, Faculty of Economic and Social Studies, University of Khartoum; Dr. Sid Ahmed Sugdalla, Director, Extra-Mural Studies Institute, University of Khartoum; Mr. Mukhtar Agouba, Extra-Mural Studies Institute, University of Khartoum; Miss El Radiah Adam, Institute of Afro-Asian Studies; Dr. Sadig Rasheed, Director, Development Studies and Research Centre, University of Khartoum; Dr. Mohamed Omar Basheer, Dean, The Graduate College, University of Khartoum; Director, Abu Halima Community Development Centre; Mr. Charles LaMunierre, Resident Representative, UNDP; Mr. Khalifa, Director, and Mr. Habid Modathir, both of UN Information Centre.

23. The Mission was received warmly by Her Excellency Dr. Fatma Abdel Mahmoud twice during its stay. She said that the Government was very happy to receive the Mission sent to the Sudan to evaluate facilities for hosting the proposed Regional Centre for Applied Research and Training in Social Development. The Mission would be given every opportunity to examine existing facilities and to have discussions with Government officials and others in the University and research institutions. Sudan was interested and prepared to host the proposed Regional Centre and was willing to provide the following temporary physical facilities: A seven-room office building within the University of Khartoum campus to house the offices of the Regional Centre, as a temporary measure. This would be adequate to carry out the work of the Centre by the Director and a nucleus staff, while a more permanent facility was being built. The maintenance and operating cost of this building (electricity, water and janitorial) would be borne by the Government. The Mission later visited these premises and found them to be adequate and suitably situated.

24. For permanent facilities, Her Excellency offered a plot of land measuring approximately 4,500 square metres on University Avenue (within the campus of the University of Khartoum) next to the present offices of the Ministry of Social Affairs and close to the UNDP Offices. She said that this would be made available to the Centre for the erection of the main offices of the Centre when a decision was taken to establish the Centre in Sudan. This was also sufficiently large to enable construction at a later date of residential facilities for students of the Centre.

25. A building had just been started at this site, but she said the architects would re-design the building to conform to specifications as contained in the attachment to the ECA Executive Secretary's circular letter of 17 February 1977. The Office building, if started in July 1977, was expected to be ready between six and twelve months. These Office buildings and premises, although they would remain the property of the Government of Sudan, would be given for the exclusive use of the Centre and would not be shared with other institutions of national character. These buildings would be given to the Centre without the payment of rent. Maintenance and operating expenses, such as electricity, water and janitorial facilities, would also be borne by the Government.

26. Residential accommodation for students would be provided temporarily within the existing dormitory facilities on the University campus on terms

to be agreed upon later. The plot of land referred to above, could eventually accommodate another building for student residence. Staff accommodation would not be provided by the Government. The Government would, however, assist the Centre in securing suitable accommodation for staff and experts.

27. Privileges and Immunities would be accorded the Centre on the same basis as those accorded the diplomatic missions.

28. Facilities of the following University departments and other Institutions were also placed at the disposal of the Regional Centre: The Development Studies and Research Centre; School of Extra-Mural Studies with its School of Social Work; Faculty of Economic and Social Studies; Institute of African and Asian Studies; The Graduate College of the University; Institute of Public Administration; The Library of the University; The National Council of Social Welfare; The Management Development and Productivity Centre; The National Council of Research; The National Archives; The National Building Institute.

29. The Mission met with the various officials, Directors and Deans of the University of Khartoum. They were all unanimous in their desire to have the proposed Centre in their midst and they promised various supports to the programme - including the sharing of their premises, computer and other facilities, libraries and staff. The Mission visited and examined these facilities and found them to be of very high quality.

30. Of particular relevance to the proposed Centre among the institutions existing in Khartoum are the School of Extra-Mural Studies which gives a diploma in Social Work, the Department of Sociology and Anthropology which gives undergraduate and graduate degrees in sociology and social work, the Faculty of Education with a department of Home Economics and Adult Education and the Development Studies and Research Centre.

31. There are various projects in the Sudan which can offer field work experience for development programmes particularly in rural development. Some of these are the Rahad project which aims at irrigating 300,000 fedans of land; the Gezira scheme, the Jonglei Canal project, and large scale mechanized farming projects in Western Sudan, etc.

32. Khartoum itself is a cosmopolitan Centre with a most modern conference facility in its new "Friendship Hall". There are social activities, communication and other facilities. It is essentially an English and Arabic community with no French spoken there; but there are French, English and Arabic schools, and cinemas in all three languages.

33. Mr. Abdel Mageed Hag El Amin, Under Secretary of the Ministry of Social Affairs signed the statements of undertaking on behalf of the Government of the Sudan. Her Excellency Dr. Fatma Abdel Mahmoud, the Minister of Social Affairs endorsed the offer in a letter dated 7 May 1977 and addressed to the Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa.

II. The Kingdom of Morocco

34. The Mission visited Morocco from 13 to 20 May 1977 and had discussions with officials and others both in Rabat and in Tangier. On 13 May the Mission was received in Rabat at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs where it held discussions with Dr. Zine El Abedine Alaoui, Director of the Economic Department. Present at this meeting were Mr. Abdelmajid Bouab, Deputy Director at the Foreign Ministry, Mrs. A. Benomar, Director of Social Affairs, Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs, and Mr. J. van Helleputte of the UNDP Office.

35. The Mission was assured that the Moroccan Government was greatly interested in hosting the African Regional Centre for Social Development. The Government was offering facilities at Tangier where it was constructing an "International Centre" to house many institutions such as CAFRAD, the ECA Subregional Office, the African Trade Centre and the African Purchasing Organization, etc. The Mission was asked to examine this complex and make suggestions as to how the proposed Regional Centre could be accommodated along with the others.

36. At Tangier, the Mission had discussions with the directorate of CAFRAD where it met the Director-General, Mr. Joseph E. Karlukl, Dr. Louis K. Melecka and Dr. Mohammed M. El Hadl. It also met the Director of the ECA Sub-regional Office Ambassador M. Fakhreddine and Mr. T. Fakhfakh, and with the Governor of Tangier. Present at the Governor's meeting were Mrs. Benomar from Rabat, the architect of the International Centre and others. At this meeting the Governor stated that he was happy to receive the Mission and welcomed the establishment of the proposed Centre in Tangier. He confirmed facilities to be offered within the International Centre and outlined those to be allocated or found in other parts of the City.

37. Facilities offered to house the Regional Centre consist basically of offices in a new 5-story complex of four separate but connected buildings called the "International Centre". This building was under construction at the time of the visit and the Mission visited it and was furnished with plans. It is situated in the Centre of the City commanding a beautiful view of the Mediterranean Sea. It is scheduled to be completed by March 1978. The complex had been intended to house CAFRAD, the ECA Sub-regional Office, the African Trade Promotion Centre, the African Purchasing Organization, and others. The Governor mentioned that priority would be given to the proposed Regional centre in its choice of accommodation.

38. The Mission had earlier visited the site and had examined the building. At the meeting at the Governor's Office, it was confirmed that all the requirements for office space, lecture and conference rooms, recreational facilities and a library would be made available in the top two floors of the complex. There was, however, the question of accommodation for the staff and students of the Regional Centre. Since Tangier was currently experiencing shortage of accommodation and rentals of both apartments and houses are very high, this posed a major problem. The Governor suggested various alternative facilities and offered figures in support of low rentals that could be made available to students and staff. There was later a

suggestion, which appeared to meet the tentative approval of the Governor, that four executive apartments be constructed on the top floors of the International Centre to house the executive officers of the proposed Centre, CAFRAD, ECA Subregional Office, etc. An apartment building could also be constructed on a vacant 5,000 square meter plot across from the International Centre to be linked by a subterranean passage way to the International Centre, to offer accommodation to students (and possibly to the Staff working) in the "International Centre", plus other facilities.

39. For temporary accommodation, it was suggested and agreed by those concerned, that the Regional Centre would use rooms in the ECA Subregional Office to accommodate the Director and a nucleus of 4 to 5. Alternatively or additionally, the entire facilities of the "Palais Marchand" which the Mission visited and which has several rooms and halls suitable for use as offices, classrooms, library, conference halls and recreation could be used by the Regional Centre. Both the permanent quarters and the temporary quarters were being offered by the Government free of rent to the Regional Centre. Maintenance and operating expenses would also be borne by the Government. Accommodation for students would be subsidized at an estimated cost of \$8.00 a day for board and lodging. Rentals for staff would range from \$100 - 200 a month for an apartment, and \$300 - 500 a month for a villa.

40. The Governor of Tangier was quick to impress upon the Mission the International character of Tangier: Apart from being only 11 kilometers from Europe, it has a good climate, schools for the children of Arabic, French, English, Italian and other nationalities employed by the Regional Centre. Tangier is the home of CAFRAD and the ECA North African Sub-regional Office. These two institutions could offer support to the work of the proposed Regional centre to be strengthened by the existing national University in Rabat and other higher Institutes in both Rabat and Tangier.

41. The proposed International Centre in Tangier is indeed a well-conceived undertaking. The presence in the same building of both CAFRAD and the ECA North African Subregional Office are a very strong factor in favour of Tangier as a possible location for the Regional Centre. This is so especially since there are no significant institutions of higher learning in the city. CAFRAD is a well-established and well-run African regional Centre. It has an excellent reference and documentation library in social studies and public administration, facilities for computer programming, micro-filming and printing or document reproduction which could be shared with the proposed Regional Centre. Although it is itself short of staff, it can co-operate effectively with the proposed Regional Centre to undertake joint research and training programmes that can be mutually rewarding and self-sustaining.

42. The association with CAFRAD might enable the 31 countries which are now members of CAFRAD to also become members of the new Centre quickly. Working in close partnership with CAFRAD will also enable savings in several areas to both institutions by eliminating or cutting down on duplication of administrative and other staff. The Director-General of CAFRAD promised this co-operation.

43. The ECA Sub-regional Office for North Africa, in their present quarters, can offer facilities such as office accommodation and secretarial assistance to enable to proposed Center, if established in Tangier, to begin work with a nucleus staff before permanent quarters in the International Centre are ready.

4. Mrs. Benomar, Director of Social Affairs in Rabat, signed the statements of undertaking on behalf of her Government.

III. Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya

45. The Mission arrived in Tripoli, Libya on 20 May 1977 and left on May 26. The main contact with the Government was through the Ministry of Social Welfare and Social Security. The Ministry had formed a committee of three consisting of Dr. Othman Omar Ben Amer, Consultant, Ministry of Social Affairs and Social Security; Mr. Zayed Ali Wanis, General Director of Planning, Ministry of Social Affairs and Social Security; and Mr. Abdulmajid Khashkhousha, Chief of the Division of Social Welfare with whom it had contacts and through whom all other contacts were made.

46. During the period it was in Libya, the Mission met and had discussions with staff of the Arab Development Centre: Dr. Saad Benhameld, General Director of the Centre; Dr. Ali Ben Lahier, Assistant General Director for Technical Affairs; Dr. Omar I. Fathaly, Head of Strategic Research; and Dr. Shukri Ghanem, Economist. At the University of Libya, the Mission first met Dr. Ahmed El Fenyish, Vice-President, and later Dr. Ali El-Hawat, Head, Faculty of Education and Dr. Ali Hamsa, Professor of Psychology.

47. On Thursday, May 26, the Mission met with H.E. Mr. Mohammed Abdel Salam El Faituri, the Secretary of Social Affairs and Social Security who endorsed decisions made by the Committee. Present on this occasion were: H.E. Mr. Mohamed Tahir El-Mahajoub, Secretary of Labour and Civil Service; Mr. Ibrahim El-Fagl Hassan, President and General Director, Organization of Social Security; Mr. Zayed Ali Wanis, General Director of Planning, Ministry of Social Affairs and Social Security; and Mr. Abdulmajid Khashkhousha, Chief of the Division of Social Welfare.

48. In respect of physical facilities, the Government of Libya offered to construct a complex of facilities meeting and, in most instances exceeding, the present estimated requirements of the Regional Centre. When completed these facilities would accommodate the offices, lecture rooms, conference halls and rooms with simultaneous interpretation into English, French and Arabic, residential facilities for the Director, staff and students of the Regional Centre, a cafeteria, recreational facilities and with room for future auxiliary activities of regional character. This complex although it would remain the property of the Government would be offered free of rent to the Centre and would not be shared with any other institution of national character. The Government would also accord the Regional Centre

privileges and immunities consistent with the "Agreement of the Centre" and as are accorded the diplomatic missions in Libya.

49. Libya, has, and we were shown, considerable supporting institutions and infrastructure to assist the programme of the Regional Centre. There is the Arab Development Centre whose orientation is not only Arab but African as well. This Centre which is only two years old, has considerable potential and plans for expansion that is expected to give it one of the most extensive research libraries in the region. It subscribes already to 168 periodicals in its large and comprehensive reference library which the Director offered to place at the disposal of the Regional Centre. It will have computer facilities and other technological aids that, according to its Director, could be placed along with its staff at the disposal of the Regional Centre for Social Development. It has plans for an ambitious publishing and printing programme that can assist the indigenous teaching material programme of the Regional Centre. It promised to make available to the research programme of the Regional Centre its data bank on Africa. Its own programme to promote the writing, translation and publishing of works on Arab and African affairs would be invaluable to the work of the Regional Centre. At present, it plans to have 15 specialists on African affairs.

50. The University of Libya's faculty of Education also has a social science programme that includes training for social work at the degree level. The Dean of the Faculty with whom the Mission had discussions, promised to put the resources of the Faculty also at the disposal of the Regional Centre. This was supported by the Vice President of the University. The Faculty of Education is situated in modern buildings (as are almost all the other faculties of the University) and has an excellent library of social science books and periodicals, microfilms and other audio visual aids. Its departments of sociology, social work and social psychology should offer support to the work of the Regional Centre. In addition the University also has a Central Library with excellent social science content which the Mission was given to understand could be supplemented with the equally good facilities of the University at Benghazi.

51. Other infrastructures which the Mission found to be excellent are the health services - the hospitals and clinics (which it saw), and the schools - Arabic, English and French (which it did not have an opportunity to visit).

52. For immediate and temporary use of the Regional Centre, the Government of Libya offered and showed the Mission a complex of eight buildings on grounds of about 5,500 square meters consisting of a main administration block with an auditorium, projection booth and rooms suitable for offices, library, conference and audio-visual rooms; another major building for kitchen, cafeteria, common rooms, stores, etc.; and a group of six buildings that can be used as classrooms. These had originally been built by the Ministry of Social Affairs and Social Security as a Centre to rehouse existing centres for women and child welfare programmes. They were being offered for use by the Regional Centre for 1½ to 2 years when they expected that the proposed permanent quarters of the Regional Centre would be ready.

Work was still going on these buildings; but the Ministry offered to suspend work on them until after a decision on the siting of the Regional Centre had been taken in order that any alterations and additions could be made should the Regional Centre be established in Tripoli. The facility is centrally situated in Tripoli.

53. For the temporary accommodation of students of the Regional Centre the Government promised to offer any of a number of new buildings available or being built, free of charge. It also offered to assist lecturers and the non-Libyan staff to secure suitable accommodation at reasonable rentals, and to provide accommodation for the Director of the Regional Centre.

54. As a further contribution to enable the Regional Centre get started and established, the Government offered to pay 50 per cent of the "administrative budget" of the Regional Centre for the first 2 years with a promise to continue its financial support subject to review after the first two years. This was in addition to the buildings offered and furnishing of the temporary quarters of the Regional Centre.

55. Libya is a uniquely Arabic and Moslem State. Nevertheless everywhere the Mission went, and in all discussions with its youthful intellectuals, educators and administrators, the desire of Libya to be counted among African countries was repeatedly stressed. The Minister of Social Affairs himself stressed this point. There seems to be a great deal of interest among Libyans to partake in and to support African institutions. The establishment of this Regional Centre in Libya was considered by all whom the Mission met to be one of the ways to promote this desire.

56. Although its uniqueness as an Arabic Country manifests itself in many ways that might cause initial discomfort to non-Arabic speaking or non-Moslem peoples from other parts of Africa (for example there is hardly a public sign written in other than Arabic, plus emphasis on Moslem legal and cultural practices and institutions) the fact that Tripoli is increasingly becoming cosmopolitan with various nationalities in the educational, business, medical and civil institutions, should make for easy adjustment. The Government was aware of possible cultural difficulties for non-Arabic and non-Moslem students and staff of the Regional Centre and offered to provide facilities that would not only make living in Tripoli comfortable but promote understanding of Libyan institutions.

57. His Excellency Mr. Mohammed Abdel Salam El Faltur, Secretary of Social Affairs and Social Security signed the statements of undertaking on behalf of the Libyan Socialist People's Arab Jamahiriya.

IV. The Arab Republic of Egypt

58. The Mission visited Egypt from 26 to 31 May 1977. During that period it met with the following officials of the Ministry of Social Affairs: H.E. Dr. Amal Osman, Minister of Social Affairs and Social Insurance;

Mr. Abdul Aziz Yousef, Under-Secretary for Social Affairs; Mr. Hamzany, Under-Secretary for Social Welfare; Mr. Omar Hosny, Director-General of Social Development; Mr. Shukry Habib, Director-General of Mission and Technical Co-operation; Mr. Mostafa El Mahy, Director-General of Planning; Mr. Michel Habib; Mr. Kamal Teleity, Director of Social Affairs in Alexandria.

59. The following officials from the Ministry of Agriculture were also interviewed by or were in conference with the Mission: H.E. Mr. Ibrahim Shukry, Minister of Agriculture; Dr. Salah El Abd, First Under-Secretary; Dr. Anwar El Abd, Under-Secretary, and Mr. Salas Ezzat, Director of the Mariut International Centre. In addition, the Mission was received by Mr. Mahmoud Abdul Rehim Basha, Director of International Organizations in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs; Professor Mahmoud Hassan, Dean of the Higher Institute of Social Work in Alexandria; Dr. Ahmed Abu Zaid, Dean of the Faculty of Arts, Alexandria University; Dr. Aatif Ghalith, Professor of Rural Sociology, Alexandria University; and Dr. Mahmoud Mohammed Dawood, Dean of the Faculty of Agriculture, Alexandria University.

60. The Government offered to host the proposed African Regional Centre for Applied Research and Training in Social Development at Mariut, a village in the newly reclaimed lands some 32 kilometers from Alexandria on the Cairo - Alexandria desert road. Accordingly the Mission visited Mariut, where the Mariut International Centre for Rural Development is situated, on 29 May 1977 and was conducted around the Centre and briefed by a group headed by Dr. Salah El Abd, First Under-Secretary in the Ministry of Agriculture. Later the Mission was told that Mariut was the only location the Government was offering to host the Regional Centre.

61. The Mariut International Centre for Rural Development, according to Dr. Salah El Abd, was established in 1971 by the Ministry of Agriculture to provide advanced professional training for the administrative and technical staff associated with the newly-reclaimed lands with a view to improving the settlement scheme and to promote community life. The Centre also undertook research work related to social and agricultural problems, provided technical assistance in the settlement areas to increase popular participation and self-management techniques, and ran courses for rural development field personnel.

62. The Mariut International Centre contains 9 technical Sections: (a) Evaluation and Action Research, (b) Co-operatives, (c) Community Development, (d) Agricultural Services, (e) Agricultural processing, (f) Social Planning, (g) Vocational Training, (h) Land Settlement, and (i) Physical Planning.

63. The physical structures at Mariut consisted of a five-floor Administration Building, lecture halls, library, club house, restaurant/cafeteria, staff residences and dormitories with accommodation for 100 students. The Mission examined these facilities and noticed that although the Government had not formally taken over the buildings from the contractors, the buildings have been in use for some time now, and already much of it requires extensive repairs, maintenance and clean-up. The Mission was informed that this would be done before the buildings were formally handed over by the contractor to the Government by the end of June, 1977.

64. The Government proposed to offer specific units and rooms in the existing buildings of the Mariut International Centre complex for the exclusive use of the Regional Centre. These, at the outset would consist of 1 or 2 blocks of dormitories with 48 rooms in each block, 2 floors of the Administration Building to provide 16 offices plus one big hall, 3 blocks of residences or 6 studio apartments for the staff, 7 classrooms plus 1 conference hall. When it was pointed out that these would be inadequate and did not meet the requirements submitted in the Executive Secretary's letter of 17 February, the Mission was given to understand that these could be supplemented from rooms in the dormitories. The dormitories would, however, provide a poor and unacceptable substitute for proper office and staff accommodation. It was indicated that an apartment building would shortly be constructed at the Mariut Centre to provide more acceptable accommodation for the staff of the Regional centre at a rental of between £50 and £100 (Egyptian).

65. In addition to the above, it was proposed that the Regional Centre should share the following facilities with the existing Mariut programme: a theatre hall, conference hall, library, laboratory, club house, cafeteria, family and child welfare unit and the communications centre. All these facilities, with the exception of the cafeteria, would be too small for the Regional Centre alone. Sharing them with the existing programme would undoubtedly create difficulties.

66. The Government informed the Mission that the Regional Centre would pay for most of the facilities offered for its exclusive use, viz: boarding facilities for students and catering facilities, fuel, electricity, water and janitorial services. According to the Government, the Regional Centre would be responsible for 50 per cent of total cost of the fuel, electricity, water and maintenance of the Mariut Centre, that is, the Regional Centre would be expected to pay for its share of the total expenses of these facilities.

67. Mariut is 37 kilometers from Alexandria. Although many facilities are available in Alexandria and in Cairo (260 kilometers away), Mariut itself lacked many amenities and facilities. Air transportation would be difficult, road transportation would be tedious, and rail transportation does not pass through the locality itself. Schooling for children of the non-Arabic staff of the Centre would be difficult, and employment of wives of the Centre would also involve a great deal of difficulties. Housing for the staff of the Centre - especially those with families - is non-existent at the moment and would create difficulties for some time until the proposed apartment building is constructed.

68. The long-term programme of the Mariut Complex, the Mission was given to understand, included more residences for staff, a kindergarten for children of staff, three laboratories, and a co-operative society for serving staff and for training purposes, and a swimming pool.

69. The Mission was informed that the existing staff of the Mariut Centre would be placed at the disposal of the Regional Centre. The Deans of the Faculties of Agriculture and Arts at the University of Alexandria also offered

to support the teaching programme of the Regional Centre with their staff, library and other resources.

70. Dr. Salah El Abd, First Under-Secretary of the Ministry of Agriculture signed the statements of undertaking on behalf of the Arab Republic of Egypt in the presence of Mr. Abdul Aziz Yousef, Under-Secretary for Social Affairs.

V. Republic of Kenya

71. The Mission visited Kenya from 4 to 11 June 1977 and had discussions with the following officials of the Ministry of Labour and Social Services: Mr. G. Matheka, Permanent Secretary; Mr. Kefa Onyoni, Deputy Secretary; Mr. Eustace Muchiri, Under-Secretary; Mr. John M. Ochengi Ongolo, Education Officer. It also met Mrs. Martha Menya. The Mission also had opportunity to meet and have discussions with Mr. W.O. Orwa, Acting Principal of the Research and Training Centre for Youth where it also met Mr. Z.M. Michuki; Mrs. Anne Kebuchi, Tutor of the Nutrition College; Mr. J.M. Nzioka, Principal of the Co-operative College of Kenya, where it also met some of the staff of the College; Mr. A.N. Getao, Principal of the Kenya Institute of Administration, and Mr. Joseph Muyemba of the Department of Social Administration of the KIA. The Mission also conferred with Mr. K.H. Englund, UNDP Resident Representative, His Deputy Mr. R. Kinloch, and the Programme Assistant Mrs. Pamela Mboya.

72. On Friday, 10 June 1977, the Government informed the Mission through a note signed by the Deputy Secretary, Mr. Kefa Onyoni, that it was withdrawing from consideration as a host country. According to this note, "After conducting internal consultations among the various Government agencies concerned it is felt that the Kenya Government is not now in a position to offer concrete proposals for hosting the Regional Centre". The note went on to state, however that, "In this connexion, consultations will continue with other interested parties to formulate a cost-benefit analysis and it will be possible at a later date to make a more concrete offer".

Follow-up Action

73. The Assembly of OAU Heads of State and Government meeting in Libreville, Gabon at the end of June 1977 is expected to take the decision as to where the African Regional Centre for Applied Research and Training in Social Development is to be established. To this end the Mission to examine facilities for the location of the Regional Centre constituted by the ECA and the OAU has submitted this Report. The Mission has tried to be unambiguous and constructive and has had the interest of the proposed Centre and the benefits to be derived from it by all of Africa uppermost in mind.

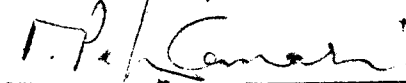
74. It finds it necessary, however, to make comments on the means to bring into being the Regional Centre after the decision has been taken as to where it is to be established. Questions raised in this regard have not been answered by the Second Conference of African Ministers of Social Affairs (Alexandria, January 1977). The Third Conference that would be expected to take these decisions is a long way hence - in 1979. It is necessary that the Conference of Heads of State and Government take positive decisions if the hiatus that might be created by such lack of decision is not to work detrimentally against the efforts to create this Regional Centre. Accordingly, the Mission makes the following recommendations:

- (i) The Executive Secretary of the ECA, in consultation with the Administrative Secretary-General of the OAU should be given the mandate to appoint an Acting Executive Director of the Regional Centre, who should be acceptable to the Host Government, to initiate action in keeping with the Constitution or the "Agreement for the establishment of the African Centre for Applied Research and Training in Social Development". (Vide Article XVIII.6)
- (ii) The Acting Executive Director who should meet qualifications as laid down in document E/CN.14/AMSA/IIWP.4 "Project for the establishment of the African Centre for Research and Training in Social Development" (Page II) should :
 - (a) Liaise with the Host Government in making available facilities for the establishment of the Regional Centre;
 - (b) Canvass member Governments to sign, ratify or accede to the "Agreement" establishing the Regional Centre;
 - (c) Prepare the necessary background and other documents to enable the calling of the first meeting of the Governing Board of the Regional Centre to ratify decisions taken by the Acting Executive Director and to appoint the substantive Executive Director of the Regional Centre, or to make recommendations to the Third Conference of African Ministers of Social Affairs in this regard.

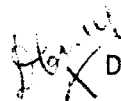
75. The Mission finds that the two countries of Libya and Sudan come closest to meeting fully the criteria for hosting the proposed Regional Centre. Our highest recommendation goes to Libya. However it has been clear throughout its tour, and in discussions with officials and others that the Mission met, that it would be necessary for the Regional Centre to establish subregional centres in existing institutions with which it will promote and co-ordinate

action. The other Centres visited, together with additional others, will satisfy this recommendation.

Submitted this 15th day of June 1977


T. Peter Omar (ECA)


Abdel-Aziz M. Farag (OAU)


Diango Cisse (ECA)

RESOLUTION 2 (II) OF THE SECOND CONFERENCE OF
AFRICAN MINISTERS OF SOCIAL AFFAIRS

Establishment of an African Centre for
Applied Research and Training In Social Development

The Conference of African Ministers of Social Affairs,

Recognizing the desirability of promoting national aims and aspirations in the field of social development through the mobilization of social and other resources for the economic and social development of their respective countries,

Bearing in mind the need for the joint formulation of principles and a common strategy for social development programmes at the national and regional levels for the promotion of training and manpower development for social welfare activities,

Aware of the necessity in Africa for advanced training, comparative studies and research, and assistance in the production of training materials,

Recalling the recommendations of the International Conference of Ministers Responsible for Social Welfare urging the establishment of regional social welfare centres for advanced training and research, 1/

Further recalling Economic and Social Council resolution 1406 (XLVI), in which the Council, invited the Secretary General of the United Nations and the Executive Secretaries of the regional economic commissions to establish in the regions "regional social welfare research and training centres for advanced training (including training of teachers), comparative studies and assistance in the production of indigenous training materials",

In keeping with resolution CM/502 (XXVII) concerning the establishment of a regional research and training centre for social development adopted by the Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity at its twenty-seventh Session and endorsed by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity at its fourteenth Session,

Realizing that the establishment of an African Centre for Applied Research and Training in Social Development would serve the above purposes,

1/ Proceedings of the International Conference of Ministers responsible for Social Welfare (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.69.IV.4), Part Two, Section III, para. 66 (28).

1. Resolves that there be established in Africa a Centre to be known as the African Centre for Applied Research and Training in Social Development;
2. Urges member Governments of the Economic Commission for Africa and the Organization of African Unity to take the necessary steps to accede as soon as possible to the agreement establishing the Centre; 1/
3. Calls upon African States, the Organization of African Unity, the United Nations Development Programme and other United Nations bodies, donor countries and other organizations to give financial and other support for the establishment, organization and operations of the Centre and the achievement of its objectives;
4. Requests the Executive Secretary of the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa to take all necessary steps to co-ordinate action leading to the establishment and functioning of the Centre, and to ensure that its activities are co-ordinated with those of existing training and research institutions in the African countries.

1/ See the Agreement reproduced in E/CN.14/672 and CM/822 (XXIX).

RESOLUTION 3 (II) OF THE SECOND CONFERENCE OF
AFRICAN MINISTERS OF SOCIAL AFFAIRS

Location of the African Centre for
Applied Research and Training In Social Development

The Conference of African Ministers of Social Affairs,

Grateful to the Government of Egypt for its generous offer of extensive physical facilities for the headquarters of the African Centre for Applied Research and Training In Social Development, which physical facilities were inspected with satisfaction by the Conference,

Conscious of the fact that, in addition to the formal detailed offer of the Government of Egypt to provide host facilities for the headquarters of the Centre, the Governments of Ghana, Morocco, the Libyan Arab Republic and the Sudan have also offered to provide host facilities for the headquarters of the Centre, and that the details of the offers of the Governments of Ghana and the Libyan Arab Republic are yet to be set out,

Having reached the consensus that, without prejudice to the firm detailed offer to provide host facilities for the headquarters of the Centre made by the Government of Egypt, or to those made by the Governments of Ghana, the Libyan Arab Republic, Morocco and the Sudan, the Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa should obtain further information concerning the offers so as to make it possible for a decision to be taken,

Requests the Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa, in consultation with the Administrative Secretary General of the Organization of African Unity, to sound out the governments of all member States of the Economic Commission for Africa as soon as possible concerning the provision of host facilities for the headquarters of the Centre, so as to enable him to submit the results of his consultations through the General Secretariat of the Organization of African Unity to the fifteenth Session of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity, which is to be held in June 1977 in Libreville, Gabon, for a decision to be taken at that session.

QUESTIONNAIRE ON HOST FACILITIES

ECA/OAU Mission to Evaluate Host Facilities Offered
for the Establishment and Operation of the
African Centre for Applied Research and Training In Social Development

May 1977

Government of : _____

Physical facilities

1. Accommodation facilities for the Centre:

- | | | |
|--|-------|------|
| (a) Facilities already existing | Yes-- | No-- |
| (b) Facilities partially existing | Yes-- | No-- |
| (c) Existing facilities in one unit | Yes-- | No-- |
| (d) Existing facilities spread out | Yes-- | No-- |
| (e) Facilities not existing but will provide | Yes-- | No-- |
| (f) Future facilities to be in one unit | Yes-- | No-- |
| (g) Future facilities to be spread out | Yes-- | No-- |

2. If facilities already existing, will the Centre share them with other Institution(s) ? _____

3. If existing physical facilities are to be given to the Centre, will they be handed over to the project and not remain the property of the Government or any national organization ? Yes-- No--

Comment: _____

4. Nature of facilities to be offered:

- (a) Number of offices for staff members and experts of the Centre including local counterparts and supporting staff assigned to work with them (translators, research and administrative assistants, secretaries, etc.) : _____
- _____

Comment: _____

(b) Offices for research workers and consultants: _____

Comment: _____

(c) Offices for administrative and logistic support staff: _____

Comment: _____

(d) Lecture rooms (to accommodate 40-50 participants each), at least 2 of which are capable of accommodating simultaneous interpretation equipment and three suitable for partitioning to serve for limited discussion groups, workshops, etc. :

Comment: _____

(e) Library, including offices for its staff, with one main reading room:

Comment: _____

(f) Main hall to be used as a club, community centre, a venue for general meetings of staff, researchers and trainees, social functions or film projections, a demonstration area for audio-visual aids, etc.:

Comment: _____

(g) Garage(s) for official and staff cars: _____

Comment: _____

(h) Housing for the staff of the Centre:

- available
- not-available

Conditions for and cost of rental: _____

(i) Boarding facilities for 80-100 individuals at a time, preferably with individual rooms, with showers or baths, fully equipped including desks and desk lamps: _____

Comment: _____

(j) Catering facilities for boarders: (whether full or partial): _____

Comment: _____

(k) Clinic for first aid and emergency cases: _____

Comment: _____

Other facilities

1. Number of universities available within reasonable distance of location:

- excellent
- good
- fair
- poor

Comment: _____

2. Number of colleges or post-secondary school institutions within a ten-kilometer radius: _____

----- excellent
----- good
----- fair
----- poor

Comment: _____

3. Number of schools of social work in the country: _____

----- excellent
----- good
----- fair
----- poor

Comment: _____

4. Availability of local lecturers to support the teaching programme of the Centre:

----- excellent
----- good
----- fair
----- poor

Comment: _____

5. Availability of facilities and programmes for relevant field work experience for the training of higher-level manpower in social development.

----- excellent
----- good
----- fair
----- poor

Comment: _____

6. Official language(s) used: English --- French ----

7. Other (official) language(s) used: _____

8. Availability of employment for wives of staff of the Centre:

----- unrestricted
----- restricted
----- unavailable

Comment: _____

9. Availability of educational facilities for children of staff of the Centre:

(a) Below secondary level:

English --- French --- Arabic ---

Comment: _____

(b) Secondary:

English --- French --- Arabic ---

Comment: _____

10. Availability of recreational facilities for staff and students of the Centre:

--- Cinemas	:	English ---	French ---	Arabic ---
--- Sports	:	_____	_____	_____
--- Tourism	:	_____	_____	_____
--- Theatres	:	_____	_____	_____
--- Other	:	_____	_____	_____

Comment: _____

11. Ease of communication facilities:

(a) air transportation:

----- excellent
----- good
----- fair
----- poor

(b) road transportation:

----- excellent
----- good
----- fair
----- poor

(c) cable, telex and telephone communications:

----- excellent
----- good
----- fair
----- poor

(d) postal facilities:

----- excellent
----- good
----- fair
----- poor

Comment:

Financial and other support

1. Allocation of funds to the operations of the Centre:

Agreeable --- None ---

	<u>Cash</u>	<u>Kind</u>
1978	-----	-----
1979	-----	-----
1980	-----	-----
1981	-----	-----

Total of contributions (In cash and In kind):

Comment:

2. Provision to cover maintenance and operating expenses:

Fuel	:	total	---	partial	---	none	---
Electricity	:	total	---	partial	---	none	---
Water	:	total	---	partial	---	none	---
Janitorial	:	total	---	partial	---	none	---

Comment: _____

Confirmation of offer:

Authorized Government Representative

LETTER OF INVITATION TO GOVERNMENTS BY THE
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY OF THE ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR AFRICA

Sir,

Mission to examine facilities for the location of
the African Centre for Applied Research and
Training in Social Development

The Second Conference of African Ministers of Social Affairs, meeting in Alexandria, Egypt, from 10 to 14 January 1977, decided by resolution 2 (II) to establish an African Centre for Applied Research and Training in Social Development. The Conference requested the Executive Secretary of the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa to take all necessary steps to co-ordinate action leading to the establishment and functioning of the Centre.

In resolution 3 (II), on "Location of the African Centre for Applied Research and Training in Social Development", the Conference also requested the Executive Secretary of ECA, in consultation with the Administrative Secretary-General of OAU, to sound out the Governments of all member States of ECA concerning the provision of host facilities for the headquarters of the Centre, so as to enable him to submit the results of his consultations through the OAU General Secretariat to the fifteenth session of the OAU Assembly of Heads of State and Government, to be held in June 1977 in Libreville, Gabon, for a decision to be taken at that session.

Five Governments (those of Egypt, Ghana, the Libyan Arab Republic, Morocco and the Sudan) have already indicated their readiness to offer host facilities for the Centre, but were unable to provide detailed information on the nature of the facilities that were available or envisaged. For that reason a mission is proposed which will visit member Governments with facilities to offer in order to provide advice and assistance to them in assessing those facilities.

I have the honour to invite your Government to inform me, if possible by cable, whether it is interested in hosting the Regional Centre, and if so whether it will receive the proposed mission which is expected to begin some time after 15 April 1977. To facilitate an early reply, and as background material, the following documents are enclosed :

1. Report of the Second Conference of African Ministers of Social Affairs, held in Alexandria, Egypt from 10 to 14 January 1977 (E/CN.14/672);
- ... 2. A list of physical and other facilities required for the establishment and operation of the Centre;

3. Project document for the establishment of the African Centre for Research and Training In Social Development.

I should be grateful for a reply by 1 April 1977 so that your Government can, if it wishes, be included in the Itinerary of the Mission.

Accept, Sir, the assurances of my highest consideration.

(signed)

Adebayo Adedeji
Executive Secretary

Addressed to all member Countries
of ECA and OAU

Physical and other facilities required for the establishment
and operation of the African Centre for Applied Research and
Training in Social Development

Physical facilities 1/

1. 25 offices for staff members and experts of the Centre, including local counterparts and supporting staff assigned to work with them (translators, research and administrative assistants, secretaries, etc.);
2. 10 offices for research workers and consultants;
3. 10 offices for administrative and logistic support staff;
4. 5 lecture rooms (to accommodate 40-50 participants each), two of which are capable of accommodating simultaneous interpretation equipment and three suitable for partitioning to serve for limited discussion groups, workshops, etc.;
5. 1 library, including offices for its staff, with one main reading room;
6. 1 main hall to be used as a club, a community centre, a venue for general meetings of staff, researchers and trainees, social functions or film projections, a demonstration area for audio-visual aids, etc.;
7. 1 Garage for official and staff cars;
8. Boarding facilities for 30-100 individuals at a time, preferably with individual rooms, with showers or baths, fully equipped including desks and desk lamps 2/;
9. Full catering facilities for the boarders; and
10. 1 Clinic for first-aid and emergency cases.

1/ Temporary facilities will be considered pending provision of permanent facilities.

2/ Accommodation for rent by staff members of the Centre should be available.

Other facilities

1. Availability of universities, colleges, a school of social work, and local lecturers on whom the Centre could call to assist in its training or teaching programme;
2. Availability of facilities and programmes for relevant field work experience, bearing in mind that the Centre will train higher-level manpower in social development;
3. A stimulating social and cultural environment.