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**ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR AFRICA**

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**AFRICAN STRATEGIES FOR THE IMPLEMENTING OF UNITED NATIONS  
CONFERENCE ON ENVIRONMENT AND DEVELOPMENT AGENDA 21**

**Addendum**

**African strategies for the implementation of the  
United Nations Conference on Environment and Development Agenda 21**

**Addendum**

**SECTION I**

Insert the following after para. 25 (c), p. 5.

It is now clear that the UNCED process is a global vehicle that is loaded with the spectrum of environmental activities which will, to a large extent, decide the tempo and level of international economic and political relations through the 1990s into the twenty-first century. Apart from the need to reemphasize the imperative to recognize the environmental inter-dependence between the North and the South, South-South partnership must be promoted more than before. Agenda 21 will surely prescribe the pattern of global activities, the flow of resources and technology. The advances in science and technology have also expanded the spectrum and sophistication of industrial production and related environmental issues. These are characterized by what is now known as emerging environmental issues such as climate change, ozone depletion and biodiversity.

The twin problem of the present imbalance in the levels of development and the related imbalance in the capacity to contain environmental problems has driven the world to be more mindful of regional interdependence. This regional interdependence has also become the imperative for global common action for a common future embedded in environmental security.

Momentous changes have occurred in the world in the past few years which have had and will continue to have significant consequences on African development. The end of the Cold War and the changes in the consequent changes in North-South relations are among the major ones. These changes have imposed the need for countries in various parts of the world to make the necessary adaptations in terms of international political relations and development assistance. African countries need to design appropriate responses to these changes. Indeed, African countries are going a crucial period in their development history. A vast majority have gone through three decades of independence yet are still experiencing severe economic difficulties.<sup>1</sup> It is within this context that the African strategies have been developed.

**SECTION II**

New introductory paragraph, p. 6:

The African Common Position on Environment and Development emphasizes the close link between development and environment. Sustainable development, it reaffirms, has to be based on

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<sup>1</sup> /See document E/ECA/CM.19/4, Strategic objectives for Africa's economic development in the 1990s, para. 1 (ECA, Addis Ababa, February, 1993).

practical policies aimed at developing and strengthening sound environmental protection and conservation mechanisms. This expands environmental management from the highly technical methods into the social, economic and political aspects. While aiming at achieving Africa's sustainable development goals, the African Environment and Development Agenda must contribute to the enhancement of cross-sectoral. It must aim at such actions that will favour progressive interaction between and among sectors for achieving economic growth and sustainable social and economic development.

- A.**
- 1. Managing demographic change and population pressures.**
  - 2. Development of human settlements, planning and management.**

New paragraph before "1. Problem areas".

**1. Managing demographic change and population pressures.**

This programme area is dealt with in the African Common Position under Programmes 5 relating to managing demographic pressures and relieving population pressures; 6 on development of human settlements planning and management of human resources; and 24 on mitigation of refugees on environment and development. In Agenda 21 Chapter 5 deals with demographic dynamics and sustainability with programme areas regarding developing and disseminating knowledge concerning the links between demographic trends and factors and sustainable development; formulating integrated national policies for environment and development, taking into account demographic trends and factors; and implementing integrated environment and development programmes at the local level, taking into account demographic trends and factors. It is within this framework that the activities of this programme are formulated and it is understood that sectoral agencies will provide inputs as the need arises.

New section under A. p. 11.

**2. Managing population pressures: development of human settlements, planning and management**

The principal activities relevant to this programme area are included in Agenda 21 as follows: Chapter 9 (Protecting the atmosphere), programme area B, sub-programme 1, Energy development, efficiency, and consumption and sub-programme 2, transportation. The African Common Position on Environment and Development also provides for the development of human settlements, planning and management in its Programme 6.

In industrialized countries, the consumption patterns of cities are severely stressing the global ecosystem while settlements in the developing world need more raw material, energy, and economic development simply to overcome basic economic and social problems. Human settlement conditions in many parts of the world, particularly in Africa, are deteriorating mainly as a result of the low levels of investments in the sector attributable to the overall resource constraints in these countries. In the low-income countries for which recent data are available, an average of only 5.6 per cent of central government expenditure went to housing, amenities, social security and welfare. Expenditure by international support and finance organizations is equally low. For example, only 1 per cent of the United Nations system's total grant-financed expenditures in 1988 went to human settlements while in 1991, loans from the World Bank and the International Development Association (IDA) for urban development and water supply and sewerage amounted to 5.5 and 5.4

per cent, respectively, of their total lending.

On the other hand, available information suggests that technical cooperation activities in the human settlement sector generate considerable public and private sector investment. For example, every dollar of UNDP technical cooperation expenditure on human settlements in 1988 generated a follow-up investment of \$ 122, the highest of all UNDP sectors of assistance.

This is the foundation of the "enabling approach" advocated for the human settlement sector. External assistance will help to generate the internal resources needed to improve the living and working environments of all people by the year 2000 and beyond, including the growing number of unemployed - the no-income group. At the same time the environmental implications of urban development should be recognized and addressed in an integrated fashion by all countries with high priority being given to the needs of the urban and rural poor, the unemployed and the growing number of people without any source of income.

### **DEVELOPMENT GOALS**

The overall human settlement objective is to improve the social, economic and environmental quality of human settlements and the living and working environments of all people, in particular the urban and rural poor. Such improvement should be based on technical cooperation activities, partnerships among the public, private and community sectors and participation in the decision making process from community groups and special interest groups such as women, indigenous people, the elderly and the disabled. These approaches should form the core principles of national settlement strategies. In developing these strategies, countries will need to set priorities among the programme areas in this document in accordance with their national plans and objectives taking fully into account their social and cultural capabilities. Furthermore, countries should make appropriate provision to monitor the impact of their strategies on marginalized and disenfranchised groups with particular reference to the needs of women.

The programme areas included in this chapter are:

- A. Providing adequate shelter for all;
- B. Improving human settlement management;
- C. Promoting sustainable land use planning and management;
- D. Promoting the integrated provision of environmental infrastructure: water, sanitation, drainage, hazardous and solid waste management;
- E. Promoting sustainable energy and transport systems in human settlements;
- F. Promoting human settlement planning and management in disaster-prone areas;
- G. Promoting sustainable construction industry activities;
- H. Promoting human resource development and capacity-building for human settlement development.

### **PROGRAMME OF ACTIONS**

As a first step towards the goal of "providing adequate shelter for all" all countries should take immediate measures to provide shelter to their homeless poor, while the international community and financial institutions should undertake actions to support the efforts of African to provide shelter to the poor. They should adopt and/or strengthen national shelter strategies with

targets as appropriate based on the principles and recommendations contained in the Global Strategy for Shelter to the Year 2000. People should be protected by law against unfair eviction from their homes or land. Appropriate, support the shelter efforts of the urban and rural poor, the unemployed and the no-income group by adopting and/or adapting existing codes and regulations, to facilitate their access to land, finance and low-cost building materials and by actively promoting the regularization and upgrading of informal settlements and urban slums as an expedient measure and pragmatic solution to the urban shelter deficit. They should, as appropriate, facilitate access of urban and rural poor to shelter by adopting and utilizing housing and finance schemes and new innovative mechanisms adapted to their circumstances; support and develop environmentally compatible shelter strategies at national, state/provincial, and municipal levels for through partnerships among the private, public, and community sectors and with the support of community-based organizations.

Member States should, as appropriate, formulate and implement programmes to reduce the impact of the phenomenon of rural to urban drift by improving rural living conditions; where appropriate, they should develop and implement resettlement programmes which address the specific problems of displaced populations in their respective countries. They should, as appropriate, document and monitor the implementation of their national shelter strategies by using, inter alia, the monitoring guidelines adopted by the Commission on Human Settlements and the shelter performance indicators being produced jointly by the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) and the World Bank.

Bilateral and multilateral cooperation should be strengthened in order to support the implementation of the national shelter strategies of African countries. Global progress reports covering national action as well as support activities of international organizations and bilateral donors should be produced and distributed on a biennial basis as requested by the Global Shelter Strategy for the Year 2000.

One existing framework for strengthening management is in the United Nations Development Programme, World Bank, United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) Urban Management Programme (UMP), a concerted global effort to assist African countries in addressing urban management issues. Its coverage should be extended to all interested countries during the period 1993-2000. All countries should as appropriate, and in accordance with national plans, objectives and priorities and with the assistance of NGOs and representatives of local authorities, undertake activities at the national, state, provincial, and local levels with the assistance of relevant programmes and support agencies to adopt and apply urban management guidelines in the areas of land management, urban environmental management, infrastructure management and municipal finance and administration; and accelerate efforts to reduce urban poverty through the generation of employment for the urban poor, particularly women, through the provision, improvement and maintenance of urban infrastructure and services and the support of economic activities in the informal sector, such as repairs, recycling, services and small commerce; encourage the organization of indigenous community-based organizations, private voluntary organizations, and other forms of non-governmental entities which can contribute efforts to reduce poverty and improve the quality of life for low-income families; and adopt innovative city planning strategies to address environmental and social issues.

All countries should undertake during the period 1993-2000 with the active participation of the business sector as appropriate pilot projects in selected cities for the collection, analysis and

subsequent dissemination of urban data including environmental impact analysis, at the local, state/provincial, national and international levels and the establishment of city data management capabilities. United Nations organizations such as Habitat, UNEP and UNDP could provide technical advice and model data management systems.

In order to relieve pressure on large urban agglomerations in African countries, policies and strategies should be implemented towards the development of intermediate cities which create employment opportunities for unemployed labour in the rural areas and support rural-based economic activities, although sound urban management is essential to ensure that "urban sprawl" does not expand resource degradation over an ever wider land area and increase pressures to convert open space and agricultural/buffer lands for development.

For this purpose, all countries should, as appropriate, conduct reviews of urbanization processes and policies in order to assess environmental impacts of growth and apply urban planning and management approaches specifically suited to the needs, resource capabilities and characteristics of their growing intermediate-sized cities. As appropriate, they should also concentrate on activities aimed at facilitating the transition from rural to urban lifestyles and settlement patterns and at promoting the development of small-scale economic activities, particularly the production of food, to support local income generation and the production of intermediate goods and services for rural hinterlands.

The governments should empower community groups, non-governmental organizations and individuals to assume the authority and responsibility for managing and enhancing their immediate environment through participatory tools, techniques and approaches embodied in the concept of environmental care.

Cities of all countries should reinforce cooperation among themselves and cities of the developed countries, under the aegis of non-governmental organizations active in this field, such as the International Union of Local Authorities (IULA), the International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives (ICLEI) and the World Federation of Twin Cities. 7.30 Subsequently, all countries should consider developing national land-resource management plans to guide land-resource development and utilization.

Member States should assess the environmental suitability of infrastructure in human settlements, develop national goals for sustainable management of waste, and implement environmentally sound technology to ensure that the environment, human health and quality of life are protected. Settlement infrastructure and environmental programmes designed to promote an integrated human settlements approach to the planning, development, maintenance and management of environmental infrastructure (water supply, sanitation, drainage, solid waste management) should be strengthened with the assistance of bilateral and multilateral agencies. Coordination among these agencies and with collaboration from international and national representatives of local authorities, the private sector, and community groups should also be strengthened. The activities of all agencies engaged in providing environmental infrastructure should, where possible, reflect an ecosystem or metropolitan area approach to settlements and should include monitoring, applied research, capacity-building, transfer of appropriate technology and technical cooperation among the range of programme activities.

African countries should be assisted at the national and local levels in adopting an integrated

approach to the provision of water supply, energy, sanitation, drainage and solid waste management and external funding agencies should ensure that this approach is applied in particular to environmental infrastructure improvement in informal settlements based on regulations and standards that take into account the living conditions and resources of the communities to be served. They should, as appropriate, adopt policies that minimize if not altogether avoid environmental damage, whenever possible; ensure that relevant decisions are preceded by environmental impact assessments and also take into account the costs of any ecological consequences; promote development in accordance with indigenous practices and adopt technologies appropriate to local conditions; and promote policies aimed at recovering the actual cost of infrastructure services, while at the same time recognizing the need to find suitable approaches (including subsidies) to extend basic services to all households, seeking joint solutions to environmental problems which affect several localities.

The dissemination of information from existing programmes should be facilitated and encouraged among interested countries and local institutions. A comprehensive approach to human settlements development should include the promotion of sustainable energy development in all countries.

Member States should promote efficient and environmentally sound urban transport systems in all countries should be a comprehensive approach to urban transport planning and management including the integration of land-use and transportation planning to encourage development patterns which reduce transport demand; adopt urban transport programmes favoring high-occupancy public transport in countries as appropriate.

As regards settlement planning in disaster prone areas, there are three distinct areas of activity, namely the development of a "culture of safety", pre-disaster planning and post-disaster reconstruction.

The development of a culture of safety through complete national and local studies on the nature and occurrence of natural disasters, their impact on people and economic activities, the effects of inadequate construction and land use in hazard-prone areas, and the social and economic advantages of adequate pre-disaster planning; implement nationwide and local awareness campaigns through all available media, translating the above knowledge into information easily comprehensible to the general public and to the populations directly exposed to hazards.

Pre-disaster planning should form an integral part of human settlement planning in all countries including complete multi-hazard research into risk and vulnerability of human settlements and settlement infrastructure, including water and sewerage, communication and transportation networks, as one type of risk reduction may increase vulnerability to another and develop methodologies for determining risk and vulnerability within specific human settlements and incorporate risk and vulnerability reduction into the human settlement planning and management process.

Member States should develop training programmes for contractors and builders on disaster-resistant construction methods. Some programmes should be directed particularly to small enterprises, which build the great majority of housing and other small buildings in African countries as well as for the rural populations which build their own houses; develop training programmes for emergency site managers, non-governmental organizations and community groups which cover all

aspects of disaster mitigation, including urban search and rescue, emergency communications, early warning techniques, and pre-disaster planning; develop procedures and practices to enable local communities to receive information about hazardous installations or situations in these areas, and facilitate their participation in early warning and disaster abatement and response procedures and plans and prepare action plans for the reconstruction of settlements, especially the reconstruction of community life-lines.

Specific human resource development and capacity-building activities have been built into each human settlements programme and additional steps should be taken to reinforce those activities by, as appropriate, strengthening the development of the human resources and of capacities of public sector institutions through technical assistance and international cooperation so as to achieve by the year 2000 substantial improvement in the efficiency of governmental activities; creating an enabling policy environment supportive of the partnership between the public, private and community sectors; provide enhanced training and technical assistance to institutions providing training for technicians, professionals and administrators, and appointed, elected, and professional members of local governments and strengthen their capacity to address priority training needs, particularly in regard to social, economic and environmental aspects of human settlements development.

Member States should, as appropriate and in accordance with national plans, objectives and priorities, establish and strengthen indigenous building materials industry, based as much as possible, on inputs of locally available natural resources; formulate programmes to enhance the utilization of local materials by the construction sector by expanding technical support and incentive schemes for, increasing the capabilities and economic viability of small-scale and informal operatives who make use of these materials and traditional construction techniques; adopt standards and other regulatory measures which promote the increased use of energy-efficient designs and technologies and sustainable utilization of natural resources in an economically and environmentally appropriate way.

African countries should promote the free exchange of information on the whole range of environmental and health aspects of construction including the development and dissemination of databases on the adverse environmental effects of building materials through the collaborative efforts of the private and public sectors; promote the development and dissemination of databases on the adverse environmental and health effects of building materials and introduce legislation and financial incentives to promote recycling of energy-intensive materials in the construction industry and conservation of waste energy in building-materials production methods; promote the use of economic instruments, such as product charges, to discourage the use of construction materials and products which create pollution during their life-cycle; promote information exchange and appropriate technology transfer among all countries, with particular attention to African countries, for resource management in construction, particularly for non-renewable resources; promote research in construction industries and related activities, and establish and strengthen institutions in this sector.

## **MEANS OF IMPLEMENTATION**

### **(a) Financial resources**

The UNCED secretariat estimated the average total annual cost (1993-2000) of



implementing the activities of this programme to be about \$30.4 billion from the international community on grant or concessional terms of which Africa may negotiate for \$7.5 billion.

**(b) Human and institutional capacity building**

Developed countries and funding agencies should provide specific assistance to African countries in adopting an enabling approach to the provision of shelter for all, including the no-income group, and covering research institutions and training activities for government officials, professionals, communities and non-governmental organizations and by strengthening local capacity for the development of appropriate technologies.

African should, with appropriate international assistance, consider focusing on training and developing a cadre of urban managers, technicians, administrators and other relevant stakeholders needed to successfully manage environmentally sound urban development and growth and equipped with the skills necessary to analyze and adapt innovative experiences of other cities. For this purpose, the full range of training methods - from formal education to the use of the mass media - should be utilized, as well as the "learning by doing" option.

Member States should also encourage technological training and research through joint efforts by donors, non-governmental organizations and private business in such areas as the reduction of waste, water quality, saving of energy, safe production of chemicals and less polluting transportation.

Capacity-building activities carried out by all countries, assisted as suggested above, should go beyond the training of individuals and functional groups to include institutional arrangements, administrative routines, inter-agency linkages, information flows and consultative processes.

In addition, international efforts such as the Urban Management Programme, in cooperation with multilateral and bilateral agencies, should continue to assist African countries in their efforts to develop a participatory structure by mobilizing the human resources of the private sector, non-governmental organizations and the poor, particularly women and the disadvantaged.

Environmentally focused training activities in sustainable land resources planning and management should be undertaken in all African countries with the least developed countries (LDCs) being given assistance through international support and funding agencies in order to strengthen the capacity of national, state/provincial, and local educational research and training institutions to provide formal training of land management technicians and professionals; facilitate the organizational review of government ministries and agencies responsible for land questions, in order to devise more efficient mechanisms of land-resource management, and carry out periodic in-service refresher courses for their managers and staff in order to familiarize them with up-to-date land-resource management technologies; where appropriate, equip those agencies with modern equipment, such as computer hardware and software and survey equipment; and strengthen existing programmes and promote an international and interregional exchange of information and experience in land management through the establishment of professional associations in land management sciences and related activities, such as workshops and seminars.

With the assistance and support of funding agencies, all countries should, as appropriate, undertake training and popular participation programmes aimed at; raising awareness of the means,

approaches and benefits of the provision of environmental infrastructure facilities, especially among indigenous people, women, low-income groups and the poor; developing a cadre of professionals with adequate skills in integrated infrastructural service planning and maintenance of resource efficient, environmentally sound and socially acceptable systems; strengthening the institutional capacity of local authorities and administrators in the integrated provision of adequate infrastructure services in partnership with local communities and the private sector; and adopting appropriate legal and regulatory instruments, including cross-subsidy arrangements, to extend the benefits of adequate and affordable environmental infrastructure to unserved population groups, especially the poor.

In order to enhance the skills of energy service and transport professionals and institutions, member States should, as appropriate, provide on-the-job and other training of government officials, planners, traffic engineers, and managers involved in the energy service and transport section; raise public awareness about the environmental impacts of transport and travel behavior through mass media campaigns and support for non-governmental and community initiatives promoting the use of non-motorized transport, shared driving and improved traffic safety measures; strengthen regional, national, state/provincial, and private sector institutions that provide education and training on energy service and urban transport planning and management.

African countries should conduct training programmes on disaster-resistant construction methods for contractors and builders, who build the majority of housing in many African countries. This should focus on the small business enterprises, which build the majority of housing in Africa. Training programmes should be extended to government officials and planners and community and non-governmental organizations to cover all aspects of disaster mitigation, such as early warning techniques, pre-disaster planning and construction, post-disaster construction and rehabilitation.

Member States should be assisted by international support and funding agencies in upgrading the technical and managerial capacities of the small entrepreneur and the vocational skills of operatives and supervisors in the building materials industry, using a variety of training methods. These countries should also be assisted in developing programmes to encourage the use of non-waste and clean technologies through appropriate transfer of technology.

General education programmes should be developed in all countries, as appropriate, to increase builder awareness of available sustainable technologies. Local authorities are called upon to play a pioneering role in promoting the increased use of environmentally sound building materials and construction technologies.

**B. Achieving food self-sufficiency and food security.**

New paragraph before "1. Problem areas", p. 12.

This programme is addressed in the African Common Position in Programme 1 with special emphasis on soil degradation and related activities. In Agenda 21 dealt with in Chapter 14 on promoting sustainable agriculture and rural development. It is within this framework that the activities of this programme are formulated and it is understood that sectoral agencies will provide inputs as the need arises.

**C. Ensuring efficient and equitable use of water resources**

New paragraph before "1. Problem areas", p. 20.

This programme area is dealt with in Programmes 2 on efficient and equitable use of water resources and 3 on management of marine and coastal environments, of the African Common Position with emphasis on the management of inland waters and basins as well as the management of shared waters and basins. It is within this framework that the activities of this programme are formulated and it is understood that sectoral agencies will provide inputs as the need arises.

**D.     Securing greater energy efficiency and self-sufficiency.**

New paragraph before "1. Problem areas", p. 34.

This priority concern is dealt with under Programme 4 of the African Common Position with special emphasis on promoting the energy transition; increasing energy efficiency; and promoting environmentally sound energy systems. In Agenda 21 activities related to this programme are treated, in one way or another, in Chapter 4 on Changing Consumption Patterns; Chapter 6 on the Protection and Promotion of Human Health; Chapter 7 on Promoting Sustainable Human Settlements; Chapter 9 on Protection of the Atmosphere; Chapter 11 on Combating Deforestation; and Chapter 14 on Sustainable Agricultural and Rural Development. The future fundamental role of solar energy has been emphasized in the proposal by the United Nations Solar Energy Group on Environment and Development<sup>2</sup>. The Group has provided a comprehensive solar energy strategy in support of environment and development, which was a significant contribution to UNCED and is reflected in Agenda 21. It is within this framework that the major African problems in energy, environment and development are examined below and a programme of action proposed.

**E.     Optimizing environmentally clean industrial production.**

New paragraph before "1 Problem areas", p. 40.

This priority area is dealt with in the African Common Position under Programmes 7 Optimizing environmentally clean industrial production; 9 on the environmentally sound development of mineral resources and 19 on the management of solid and hazardous wastes. In Agenda 21 it is in Chapters Chapter 30: Strengthening the role of industry; Chapter 19: Environmentally sound management of toxic chemicals, including prevention of illegal international traffic in toxic and dangerous wastes; and Chapter 20: Environmentally sound management of hazardous wastes, including prevention of illegal international traffic in hazardous wastes. It is within this framework that the activities of this programme are formulated and it is understood that sectoral agencies will provide inputs as the need arises.

The next paragraph should begin "Chapter 30 of Agenda 21 emphasizes that business and industry, including ....."

**G.     Preventing and reversing desertification.**

New paragraph before "1. Problem areas", p. 59.

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<sup>2</sup>/ See UNSEGED document A/AC.218/1992/5/Rev. 1.

This programme area is reviewed under Programme 11 in the African Common Position with emphasis on the management of fragile ecosystems in arid and semi-arid lands and activities to reverse desertification. In Agenda 21 it is in Chapter 12: Managing fragile ecosystems: combating desertification and drought.

### 3. International convention on combating desertification, p. 61

#### (a) The issues

After the present para. 259. p. 62, insert

The environment-development principle is build on the agreement that environmental degradation is the result of the implementation of development programmes that inadequately provide for environmental protection and/or conservation. Desertification is one of the major environmental responses pressures arising from the poor management of development in the semi-arid zones; pressures arising from the imbalance between population, environment and development.

Desertification must, therefore, be seen as a developmental problem which must not only be addressed. This calls for greater emphasis to be put on the eradication of poverty and the development of alternative patterns of livelihoods for the peoples affected by this phenomenon, including, inter alia, popular participation, environmental education and promoting the participation of the non-governmental sector.

After present para. 261. p. 63, insert:

#### (b) The negotiation framework

The preceding arguments underscore the fact that desertification is not just a scientific and technical issue. It is a developmental one and must be dealt with as such. Being a developmental issue, the international convention on combating desertification reopens the discussions on the structure and functioning of African economies, particularly in the affected countries and poverty which has been responsible, to a large measure, for the inability of the initiatives taken so far to address them particularly those related to structural adjustment programmes and political governance.

The negotiations should, therefore, be inclusive of the modalities for addressing the present imbalances in the levels of development and the capacity to address environmental problems in Africa. They must demonstrate the imperative for global common action for ensuring a common future that is also assured of common environmental security. Africa countries should, within this context adopt a negotiation framework that is hinged on the:

#### I. Regional level

- (a) need to establish that the causes of desertification are linked to the unequal terms of trade and the independence of Africans in on exporting basic commodities into markets they have no control over, etc;

- (b) fact that desertification is neither drought, soil erosion, the destruction of vegetation cover, the cutting of trees, nor the degradation of living conditions it is much more;<sup>3/</sup>
- (c) establishment and implementation of appropriate instruments of good governance and display a commitment to the principle of popular participation;
- (d) inclusion of decisions on promoting alternative livelihoods for their people and in so doing make commitments to long-term goals;
- (e) indication of the role and active support and implementation, on the part of African countries, of the African Economic Community and the sub-regional economic groupings;
- (f) organization of a broad-based lobby by involving NGOs and the private sector in the process and activities leading to the negotiations, during the negotiations and post-convention;
- (g) establishment of the modalities for mobilizing popular participation and related incentives and the building and strengthening of national, subregional and regional desertification control capacities and capabilities.

## II. International level

- (h) principle of consensus on the responsibilities of all nations to address poverty in order to achieve sustainable development;
- (i) definition of the role of multilateral institutions and how to relate to them; the multiplicity of institutions, decisions and programmes make it difficult for poor nations and people to achieve maximum benefits resulting in marginalization;
- (j) review of the resource aspects of international initiatives to promote African economic recovery and development and how they affect the efforts for desertification control;
- (k) establishment of an operational framework for placing Africa as one of the five priorities of the United Nations development programmes in the 1990s;
- (l) establishment of the modalities to operationalize the acceptance by the international community of the principle of shared responsibility and full partnership with Africa and the commitment to give full and tangible support to the African effort;<sup>4</sup>
- (m) establishment of the modalities for the transfer of combating desertification

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<sup>3</sup> / Grainger, Allan (1990), cited by Katerere.

<sup>4</sup> /See document E/ECA/CM.19/5, Section II, D.

technology and capacity building;

### **SECTION III. PREREQUISITES FOR IMPLEMENTING THE AFRICAN STRATEGIES**

**After present para. 271, insert:**

Two important prerequisites will determine the effectiveness with which African countries participate in the implementation of its strategies for achieving the goals of Agenda 21. These are the building and strengthening of the man power and institutional capacity and the mobilization of financial resources. At the global level, Africa must learn from the past experiences in respect of the mobilizations and utilization of resources in support of the region's development.<sup>5</sup>

The global response to Africa resources needs is bound to be influenced by the fact that, government interventions strongly affected overall efficiency in the use of resources (during the 1980s). As a result, the capital stock has deteriorated and many investments yield little or nothing. Large state monopolies, controlled prices and central allocation of credit and foreign exchange have been common features. The resulting inefficiency in resource allocation worsened as governments tried to use administrative measures to cope with tightening foreign exchange constraints and shortfalls in public revenues.

Inefficient use of investment funds was, therefore, a significant cause of poor economic performance. For example, many infrastructure and industrial projects were ill-designed and often turned out to be white elephants. These factors were compounded by inadequate management of public enterprises and of the economy as a whole.<sup>6</sup>

The situation was further complicated by emerging factors in international flow of development resources. The international scene is going through fundamental changes with foreign investment and transnational corporations playing an increasing role in the process of world development. In Africa, the trend towards democratic systems of government is a positive sign, however, due to lack of resources to render possible concrete improvements in economic opportunities and in the people's standard of living, progress in the direction of political reforms will remain highly tentative. On the front of economic reforms, in spite of decades of SAPs, African countries' efforts have yet to attract substantial foreign direct investment.<sup>7</sup>

To meet the challenges posed by this dynamic international situation Africa must consider the emerging trends related to issues such as the increased competition among countries and regions for capital, the aid fatigue syndrome and the new priorities of the Development Assistance Countries (DAC). It must be underscored that DAC priorities for international development

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<sup>5</sup> /See document E/ECA/CM.19/5: Strategies for financial resource mobilization for Africa's development in the 1990s, pp. 11 - 34 (ECA, Addis Ababa, February, 1993).

<sup>6</sup> / Document E/ECA/CM.19/5, op. cit., p. 11 (paras 28-29).

<sup>7</sup> / Document E/ECA/CM.19/5, op. cit., p. 13 (para. 39).

cooperation will increasingly be based on economic adjustment for resources will continue to absorb a great share; environmental management with which donors will also increasingly be associating development assistance and which will be one of the reasons why Africa will have to develop a more coherent policy; and poverty alleviation with particular emphasis on human capacity development and projects will be targeted at women and children as well as enhancing popular participation at the local community level.<sup>8</sup>

A. Financial resource mobilization

After the present para. 281, p.68, introduce:

Under these conditions, actions at the regional and international levels should be undertaken.<sup>9</sup> At the regional level, African countries must:

- (a) address the problem of sustaining the momentum of growth and macro-economic stability by:
  - (i) the adoption of appropriate fiscal, monetary and financial policies that do not destabilize or contract growth;
  - (ii) prudence and efficient management of external resources particularly reserves;
  - (iii) control of non-productive expenditures such as military ones; and
  - (iv) adoption of realistic, but relatively stable exchange rates.
- (b) adopt political systems that permit a significant measure of pluralism, governance, accountability and transparency to ensure political stability;
- (c) encourage and promote African entrepreneurial drive and private initiatives;
- (d) improve such infrastructure as transport and communications, energy, water, housing, educations and health facilities, so as to facilitate development, boost overall economic efficiency and productivity, the rate of returns of investments and attract foreign investment;
- (e) improve the informal and unorganized institutional sectors; and
- (f) facilitate factor mobility among themselves.

Other measures to promote the mobilization of domestic resources would include:

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<sup>8</sup> / Document E/ECA/CM.19/5, op. cit., p. 13 (para. 46).

<sup>9</sup> / Document E/ECA/CM.19/5, op. cit. pp. 29 - 32.

- (a) raising public savings by restructuring taxation to reach a better pattern in terms of balance among trade taxes, consumption taxes and direct income taxes; making appropriate price adjustments for public services including changes for infrastructure services; improving efficiency in tax collection;
- (b) controlling public expenditure by cutting down on military expenditure with a set target of the ratio of defense spending to GDP; tightening procurement procedures to minimize the tendency of waste in terms of payment for undelivered goods and services; focussing of expenditures on areas of national priority set within the context of the redefined role of the state; and
- (c) increasing private savings by an appropriate interest rate policy; undertaking a thorough study of saving behaviour so as to facilitate the elaboration of effective incentives; the establishment of people's banks specially designed to tap the savings of low-income earners and subsistence farmers; mobilizing community resources to carry out community-based projects building on the rich African traditions of community and group welfare; and the encouragement of informal financial institutions such as the tontines in West and Central Africa.

p. 74 heading to read: **IV. GENERAL RECOMMENDATIONS AND CONCLUSIONS**

**Insert:**

#### A. General recommendations

##### 1. Major African regional intergovernmental organizations

##### (i) The African Ministerial Conference on the Environment (AMCEN)

The African Ministerial Conference on the Environment (AMCEN) should play determine in charting out, with the relevant ministries, particularly those responsible for economic development planning and finance, relevant government departments as well as the non-government sector, the procedures for integrating environment into development planning, programme implementation, monitoring and evaluation.

AMCEN should, within this context, actively participate in the promotion of inter-ministerial cooperation in the integration of environment into development activities; the establishment of review, monitoring and follow-up mechanisms on the implementation of inter/intra African commitments on the environment including subregional and regional programmes, Agenda 21, participation in global negotiations and follow-up to global conventions and agreements on the environment. In this exercise AMCEN should be given the needed support form the agencies of the United Nations system, bilateral and multilateral development agencies working in the region.

##### (ii) The Organization of African Unity (OAU)

As the lead regional intergovernmental organization, the Organization of African Unity has a unique role to play in the mobilization of member States in the implementation of Agenda 21 within the framework of the Africa Common Position. The Organization took the plausible



initiatives in the move towards regional economic integration by adopting the Abuja Treaty establishing the African Economic Community which lays a solid framework for an enabling environment for social and economic development of the region and the implementation of Agenda 21. The inclusion of environmental dimensions in the Treaty and the exercise in preparing related protocols is demonstration of its resolved to mobilize the region for united environmental action for sustainable development. Its key role during the preparations for UNCED must also be underscored. Its initiatives in organizing Africa for negotiations for the international convention on combating desertification are also praise work and must be supported.

The initiatives that led to the Bamako Convention on the Ban of the importation of toxic wastes into Africa and the Control of the Movement of such Wastes Generated in Africa as well as the Pan-African Conference on Environment and Sustainable Development provided one of the major elements of the framework for the African Common Position. These should be the basis of the organizations environment work programme with in the implementation of Agenda 21 within the context of the African Common Position and the principles of the African Economic Community.

## 2. The agencies of the United Nations system

### (a) The United Nations Economic Commission for Africa

In 1993 ECA will mark thirty-five years of service to Africa. Over that period, the Commission has spearheaded the quest for Africa's transformation and development by setting up a number of institutions such as the African Development Bank (ADB) and the African Institute for Economic Development and Planning (IDEP) which have reached maturity, laying the ground work of many subregional organizations and initiating important strategies for Africa's development. As the Commission looks ahead to the new millennium, it is proper for it not only to take stock, but given its mandate, to ponder on new initiatives and propose new actions.<sup>10</sup>

The new perspectives brought by the changing (regional and global) circumstances should be duly reflected in the implementation of Africa's long-term strategies and plans of action for its development. Development requires more than sound economic policies. A stable and secure political environment is no less important and the feedback between economic management and the political process must be recognized.<sup>11</sup>

In line with its mandate which combines the promotion of social as well as economic dimensions of the development of Africa, ECA called attention to the negative social repercussions of SAPs. So also did the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) draw attention to these undesirable consequences of SAPs. Noting, therefore, that tended to focus on short-term crisis management to the total exclusion of promoting long-term development, ECA called for economic structural reform programmes that paid attention to the underlying causes of the crisis which could

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<sup>10</sup> /See document E/ECA/CM.19/4, op. cit. p.1, para. 2

<sup>11</sup> /See document E/ECA/CM.19/4, op. cit. p.1, para. 5

be tackled through long-term development and socio-economic transformation.<sup>12</sup>

ECA is, therefore, geared to play the lead role.....

### **B. Conclusions**

The African Environment and Development Agenda, as consolidated in the African Common Position, must operate to enhance global action for environment and sustainability in social and economic development as enshrined in the aspirations of Agenda 21. The crisis that abound the region must serve as warnings and cause for immediate remedial action, both at the regional level and the global follow-up to UNCED. The African Strategies for the implementation of Agenda 21 should, therefore, concentrate on the specificities of the region's environmental priorities. Africa must, therefore, be committed to facilitating the strengthening the implementation of international programmes, institutions and laws as they reflect its interests.

UNCED has definitely launched a new era of international co-operation. An era in which more action will be taken to put our planet on a sustainable development path as the world moves into the new century through the environment. To this end, Africa should reassert itself to continue to participate in global environmental commons by encouraging and supporting regional cooperation institutions. In this way, they can continue in their roles as renewed institution to lead the reconciliation of the different actions to satisfy the needs of its populations to achieve sustainable practices for improving environmental quality within the region and globally. In other words, Africa must awaken to the global environmental momentum, be fully aware of all emerging environmental issues and carefully path out the strategies to address their implications in the region."

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<sup>12</sup> /See document E/ECA/CM.19/4, op. cit. Annex, para. 7.