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PROGRAMME OF WORK AND PRIORITIES

60-1296

PROGRAMME OF WORK AND PRIORITIES 1961-1962

A. Observations on the Programme of Work and Priorities

1. The terms of reference of the Economic Commission for Africa provide that the Commission shall perform within the available resources of its Secretariat such advisory services as the countries and territories of the region may desire and assist the Economic and Social Council at its request in discharging its functions within the region in connection with any economic problems, including problems in the field of technical assistance.
2. In its first report (paragraph 54), the Commission agreed that when governments feel that they require expert advice in formulating their needs for economic and technical assistance, they may call on the Executive Secretary. In consultation with the appropriate authorities and within the framework of established machinery the Secretariat will render such assistance as is possible.
3. As an indication of the importance of the advisory work which the Secretariat is being requested to undertake in the co-ordination of aid to Africa, mention should be made of the mission of the Executive Secretary who, at the request of the Secretary-General, served as head of a UN technical assistance mission which surveyed the needs of the countries of the Entente and Cameroun in 1960. Discussions were also held jointly with FAO in the Sudan on the planning of future technical assistance in the field of agriculture.
4. In addition to the work in conjunction with technical assistance, the Secretariat has been called upon for immediate advice to governments in emergencies as well as under the conditions envisaged in the terms of reference. The Deputy Executive Secretary was assigned as a consultant on problems of Public Administration in the Congo for three months during 1960. The Director of the Research Division and other ECA staff members also assisted in the Congo for considerable periods. These activities were additional to the normal provision of advice such as was rendered to the Sudan. Here counsel was given on the reorganization of economic research and on the Wadi Halfa resettlement project in which Secretariat staff members assisted in statistical and sociological investigations and the formulation of resettlement plans. Assistance was given to Somalia and the Republic of Togoland in the fields of statistics and Public Administration. An important aspect of the

Statistical Survey of Africa is the provision of help to African countries in drawing up their statistical programmes and in the training of personnel for departments of statistics. In all, some 21 African countries and territories were visited on official ECA business in 1960.

5. The form which the work of the Commission is taking has been described recently by the Under-Secretary for economic and social affairs, who in addressing the Second Committee of the General Assembly on 8 November 1960 said:

"Generally speaking, we regard the Economic Commission for Africa as the focal point, or centre, where the various needs of the African Continent in the matter of co-operation and assistance can find expression, and where it is possible to consider how to meet those needs by calling on the different pieces of the now very diversified mechanism of the United Nations system".

In a later statement on 24 November 1960, the Under-Secretary for Economic & Social Affairs amplified these remarks and presented in some detail the role of the Economic Commission for Africa in the work of the Department of Economic & Social Affairs including technical assistance activities (A/C2/L.518)

6. The following conclusion of the ECOSOC Committee on Programme Appraisals in its Consolidated Report may also serve to set the proposed new Work Programme of the Commission in its proper context:

"The regional economic commissions, in particular those for Asia and the Far East, Latin America, and Africa, are steadily gaining in importance as focal centers for the discussion and promotion of economic development, including its social aspects. It is here rather than in the Council or in the General Assembly that experts, planners and administrators meet, who have primary responsibilities for the economic development of their respective countries in the several regions."1/

1/ Five-Year Perspective, 1960-1964, Consolidated Report on the Appraisals of the Scope, Trend and Costs of the Programmes of the United Nations, ILO, FAO, UNESCO, WHO, WMO and IAEA in the Economic, Social and Human Rights Fields, Document E/3347/Rev.1, Page 85.

7. The same idea that the ECA should co-operate fully in the technical assistance programmes in Africa has been voiced by the Executive Chairman of TAB and the Managing Director of the Special Fund.
8. The Conference of Independent African States also recognized the central role which the Commission is already playing in African Economic Affairs, when its report described the ECA as "an organization whose main objective is to promote development and concerted action in economic and social matters for the continent of Africa". The report continued:
" It is designed as the centralizing force for economic cohesion and progress of this vast continent whose economic and social status is diversified. It is a bridge for the African states and the peoples of Africa by which they can freely contact each other, discuss their problems and organize concerted and co-operative action in solving their difficulties."
9. The resolutions of their second conference calling for concerted action recommend that the assistance of the appropriate international bodies be sought through the ECA.
10. Finally, the ECOSOC by Resolution 793(XXX) and the General Assembly by Res. A/C.2/L.470/Rev.3 have urged the decentralization of United Nations economic and social activities and the strengthening of the regional economic commissions and their programmes.
11. It is within this context that the G.A., by Res. A/C.2/L.509/Rev.2, looks for greater assistance to former trust territories and other independent states.
12. With 50 professional staff now in the Secretariat, most of the divisions are in a position to initiate action and it is expected that more staff will be secured to cope with the increasing activities of the commission.
13. The co-operation of governments is a prerequisite to most of the activities of the Secretariat. Governments have co-operated in releasing staff for the Secretariat and it is hoped that this will continue. Governments have also responded favourably to requests for documents but there is still room for more effective arrangements to be made between the Secretariat and the member states for improving the flow of documentation and reference material to the Secretariat.
14. The growing scope of the Secretariat activities makes it hazardous to draw up a programme of work and priorities in a way which might endanger the Executive Secretary's freedom of action. The year 1960 has shown a great

increase in the number of newly independent states who are now members of the Commission. This development cannot but have an effect on the work of the Secretariat which must be free to act, when so requested, on the immediate problems of the emergent states. During 1960 the Executive Secretary had to assign staff engaged on the work programme to other pressing duties.

15. The experience of 1960 has confirmed the wisdom of two policies established by the Commission concerning the programme of work and priorities. These are:

- (a) that the Commission lays down broad objectives which the Secretariat translates into a detailed programme of work. Resolution 18 (II) on the programme of work and priorities for 1960-61 demonstrates this policy,
- (b) that the work programme be flexible enough to permit the Secretariat to deploy its manpower and other resources so as to combine most effectively long range research with advice and technical assistance programmes. This principle is set out in paragraph 148-149 of the report of the second session of the Commission.

16. Last summer, when the Executive Secretary addressed the ECOSOC in Geneva, he said "We feel that at present we have two main duties: the first is to help in carrying out and rationalizing plans and programmes for the resolution of African economic and social problems within the framework of an expanding and healthy world economy; the second duty is to use our own resources in such a way as to achieve the maximum impact in the shortest possible time". The Executive Secretary proposes that the work programme for 1961-62 be a clear reflection of this approach.

17. Attention is invited to the main changes in the work programme for 1961-62 as compared to that for 1960-61:

(a) The Executive Secretary has, in spite of great difficulties in the recruitment of the necessary qualified staff, initiated a programme for the Division of Industry, Transport and Natural Resources. It is expected that a strong team will be available in the near future; which will be responsible for elaborating further the proposals advanced in the programme.

It is also expected that cooperation from Headquarters in the study of a number of areas of special interest to the region will be forthcoming under the expanded programme of work on industrialization to be carried out in connexion with the activities of the new Committee on Industrial Development established by the Economic and Social Council.

(b) The training activities of the Secretariat have been drawn together in a new Section V of the work programme. Governments have been invited to submit candidates for training in the regional economic Commissions for Europe and for Asia and the Far East. A meeting of Heads of African universities and university colleges has been convened and their recommendations are before the Commission. Staff is being recruited for the training functions at ECA headquarters.

(c) The programme of work and priorities for 1961-62 shows certain modifications over the work programme for 1960-61 owing to the fact that some projects have been completed or will be completed by the time the Commission convenes for its third session. It has also been necessary to extend the completion dates of a few projects because of lack of adequate staff and pressure of work. In order to permit the Secretariat to concentrate as much as possible on continuing projects on development policies and programming and on international trade very few new projects, particularly of an ad-hoc nature, have been introduced. The projects in the section dealing with Agriculture have been regrouped and clarified in the light of resolution 18(II). Slight modifications have also been found necessary in the description of some projects in the interest of greater clarity and precision.

The following new projects have been introduced into the 1961-62 work programme:

- 05-01 Social Aspects of Economic Development
- 05-02 Seminar on Population Problems in Africa
- 05-03 Urbanisation Survey Mission
- 11-01 Industrial Planning
- 11-02 Study of Individual Industries
- 11-03 Advisory Services to Governments
- 11-05 Feasibility Studies of Industries for West African Sub-region
- 01-11 Administrative Problems of African Governments
- 12-01 Transport: (b) Provision of Advisory Services to Governments at their request
- 21-03 Forestry Development
- 31-09 Study Tour on Community Development Methods and Techniques
- 41-02 Training in Economic and Social Planning
- 41-05 In-service Training for African Economists and Statisticians

(d) The following conferences and meetings are scheduled to take place

under the auspices of the Commission during 1961-62:

Seminar on Population problems in Africa

Conference of African Businessmen

Second Conference of African Statisticians

Seminar of African Statisticians and Demographers

Workshop on Urban Problems in Africa

Workshop on low-cost housing and Community facilities within

Community Development Programmes in Africa

Workshop on Planning, Organisation and Administration of Social Welfare Services

The purposes of these conferences are elaborated in the appropriate sections of the work programme.

In addition to the meetings listed above, as has happened previously, the ECA may co-sponsor conferences workshops, centres and so forth in conjunction with other international organization or organize additional meetings arising from the implementation of the work programme.

18. At its second session, the Commission re-emphasized its desire to see concerted action projects initiated in accordance with paragraphs 42-43 of the Report of the first session. The decisions of the Commission have been brought to the notice of all members and associate members, including the newly independent states. There is every reason to hope that the delay in initiating

concerted action projects will not continue.

19. Studies and other documentation on cartography, transport and trade have been submitted for the consideration of the Commission. There is no doubt that further activity will stem from these deliberations. The Executive Secretary has not attempted to formulate an elaborate programme in anticipation of consideration of these items.

20. The programme of work and priorities for 1961-62, as submitted by the Secretariat, has been formulated on the basis of a careful assessment of the capacity of the Secretariat in terms of manpower and financial resources. Any new proposals may have to be examined either as alternatives to some items in the programme, or with a clear understanding that additional resources will have to be sought.

B. Annotated List of projects for 1961-1962

I. ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND STATISTICAL PROJECTS

1. Economic and Social Development

GROUP 1. CONTINUING PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES OF HIGH PRIORITY

01-01 Development policies and programming^{1/}

Origin: Terms of reference of the Commission; report on the first session, paragraph 61; report of the first Conference of African Statisticians, paragraph 53(b); Commission resolution 18 (II).

Description:

(a) Analysis of the major economic, social and technical problems encountered by selected African economies in their development policies and programming and of the methods which have been successfully used to solve these problems. To be followed by separate studies of such topics as techniques of development programming, methods to promote capital formation, demographic aspects of economic development and the various criteria which might be applied for relating activities in the fields of education, health, housing, etc., to economic development.

(b) Action arising out of a meeting of experts to discuss the use of national accounts for the formulation of economic policy and development programming held in January 1961 in conjunction with the International Association for Research into Income and Wealth.

(c) Provision of advisory services to governments on the techniques and problems of development programming, including its organizational aspects.

[Project (d), training, has been included under project 04-02, section V]

(e) Working Party to be held in 1961 to discuss preliminary results of work undertaken in the field of development policies and programming and to advise on directions of future work; to be followed in subsequent years by working parties on specific topics.

^{1/} In coordination with projects 11-01, 12-01 and 21-02.

01-02 Commercial legislation

Origin: Terms of reference of the Commission.

Description:

Studies of commercial legislation in African countries and territories and assistance to Governments at their request in adjusting such legislation to the needs of an expanding economy.

01-15 Social Aspects of Economic Development

Origin: Terms of reference of the Commission; report on the first session, paragraph 61; Commission resolution 18 (II).

Description:

Studies of social barriers to economic change and of social problems consequent upon rapid industrialization and urbanization.

(a) Studies of urban social structure and social conditions in relation to such fields of governmental activity as city and regional planning, housing and social services.

(b) Analysis of migrations, especially the movement from rural to urban areas, in relation to changing occupations and changing attitudes towards economic activity. (in coordination with projects 01-10 and 31-07).

(c) Examination of social behaviour and processes in rural and urban African communities in relation to economic development (in conjunction with project 01-07).

(d) Advisory services to governments on the organization of social research and the analysis of social problems.

GROUP 2. AD HOC PROJECTS OF HIGH PRIORITY

01-03 Development Banks

Origin: Terms of reference of the Commission.

Description:

A study of the contributions which development banks could make towards the promotion of economic development in African countries and territories, including assessment of requirements for advice and technical assistance in this field. Preliminary report to be completed in 1962. Project to be undertaken in cooperation with IBRD.

01-04 Stabilization of commodity prices^{2/}

Origin: Report on the first session, paragraph 62(1); Commission resolution 18 (II).

Description:

(a) Comparative analysis and evaluation of methods used for the stabilization of internal commodity prices. Report to be completed in 1961.

(b) Activities arising out of the report on international action to stabilize commodity prices submitted to the third session.

01-05 Budget Workshop

Origin: Terms of reference of the Commission.

Description:

Workshop on problems of budget reclassification and management to be conducted in 1961 in co-operation with the Department of Economic and Social Affairs at Headquarters.

01-06 Educational requirements of development programmes

Origin: Terms of reference of the Commission.

Description:

Studies in selected African countries on the number of persons possessing various types of skill required for the achievement of development objectives and on the facilities for training such personnel. Initial report to be completed in 1961; report on additional countries to be submitted in 1962. Project to be carried out in co-operation with UNESCO.

01-07 Community development and economic development

Origin: Report on the first session.

Description:

Analysis of the contribution of community development and other methods of mobilizing human resources to economic

^{2/} In coordination with project 22-01.

development in African countries (in conjunction with project 01-15 (c)).

[Project 01-08, training facilities, has been transferred to section V, as project 41-01].

01-09 Seminar on population problems in Africa

Origin: Terms of reference of the Commission and recommendations of the First Conference of African Statisticians.

Description:

A seminar of African statisticians and demographers on the collection, evaluation and utilization of demographic data. To be held in 1962. Joint project between the Department of Economic and Social Affairs at Headquarters, the Bureau of Technical Assistance Operations and the Economic Commission for Africa.

01-10 Urbanization survey mission

Origin: Terms of reference of the Commission; Commission resolution 18 (II); ECOSOC resolution 792 II (XXX).

Description:

In line with the global programme of the UN to assist governments in improving the level of living in urban centres and to reduce the ill-effects of rapid urbanization, ECA, in co-operation with the Department of Economic and Social Affairs at Headquarters and the specialized agencies concerned, in addition to the activities contemplated under projects 01-15 and 31-07 proposes to:

- (a) organise a workshop on these problems for national and municipal officials in 1961;
- (b) participate in a joint survey mission to governments requesting advisory services in 1962; and
- (c) investigate in the light of the survey mission (see (b) above) the needs of selected African countries for assistance in relating social programmes for coping with rapid urban growth to planning and location of industry and to physical planning (in conjunction with projects 11-01 and 11-05)

01-11 Administrative Problems of African Governments

Origin: Terms of Reference of the Commission

Description:

A seminar to be organised in 1962 by ECA and the Department of Economic and Social Affairs at Headquarters to study some of the more urgent administrative problems of African governments.

2. International Trade, Foreign Aid and Investments

GROUP 1. CONTINUING PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES OF HIGH PRIORITY

02-01 Problems and developments in international trade

Origin: Report on the first session, paragraphs 60 and 62 (f); Commission resolution 8 (II) and 7 (II).

Description:

(a) Study of the problems and prospects of the foreign trade of West African countries, with special reference to trade with African countries and to possible ways of promoting intra-African trade in industrial and other products. Trade problems of other African areas will be studied in subsequent years.

(b) Studies of the impact of regional trade arrangements in Europe on the trade and development of African countries and territories and the measures which may be taken to offset any harmful effects of such arrangements.

(c) Studies of regional trade arrangements made or contemplated in other areas, including the significance of experience gathered in such areas to economic co-operation in Africa.

02-02 Foreign Aid

Origin: Report on the first session, paragraph 55; Commission resolution 2 B (I); ECOSOC resolution 780 (XXX)

Description:

Reports on bilateral and multilateral assistance to African countries and territories, to be prepared in co-operation with the department of Economic and Social Affairs at Headquarters.

GROUP 2. AD HOC PROJECTS OF HIGH PRIORITY

02-03 Meeting of an ad hoc committee on the effects of economic groupings in Europe

Origin: Commission resolution 7 (II).

Description:

Action arising out of meeting held in January 1961 of an ad hoc committee of members and associate members to examine studies prepared under project 02-01 (b).

02-04 Conference of African businessmen^{3/}

Origin: Commission resolution 8 (II).

Description:

Assistance in the preparation for and the conduct of a conference in 1961 of African businessmen to consider possible fields of co-operation among enterprises and organizations within the private sectors of African economies.

3. Review and Analysis of Current Events

GROUP 1. CONTINUING PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES OF HIGH PRIORITY

03-01 Economic Bulletin for Africa

Origin: Report on the first session, paragraph 62 (j).

Description:

Publication of a bulletin to contain a selection of African statistics as well as articles and reports dealing with such topics as:

- (i) Current economic trends in African countries and territories, outstanding developments in respect of economic and social policies in Africa, and repercussions on African economies of policy decisions taken by Governments of important trading nations outside Africa; this topic would include analysis of the market for the principal African export commodities and, as far as possible, forecasts of demand and supply;
- (ii) Activities of the Commission and its secretariat including reports on conferences, seminars or working parties not covered in other periodic documents;

3/ In co-ordination with project 02-01 (a).

- (iii) Selected problems investigated by the secretariat;
- (iv) A review of relevant studies of African problems undertaken elsewhere.

The Bulletin will be published twice a year.

4. Statistics

GROUP 1. CONTINUING PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES OF HIGH PRIORITY

04-01 Statistical Survey of Africa

Origin: Report on the first session, paragraphs 57 and 58; various recommendations of the first Conference of African Statisticians.

Description:

To assist countries in the launching of long-term programmes of statistical development to meet requirements of development planning, with the following steps:

- (a) Assistance in the preparation of programmes of statistical activities.
- (b) Establishment and implementation of regional or sub-regional programmes of co-operation, based on specific needs expressed by countries.
- (c) Convening of second Conference of African Statisticians (Tunis, June 1961) and of sub-regional consultations (1962) to further the development of the Statistical Survey and co-ordinate sub-regional or regional training activities.

Project 04-02, training activities, has been transferred to Section V, as project 41-03.

04-03 Exchange of information and development of statistical techniques

Origin: Terms of reference of the Commission; various recommendations of the first Conference of African Statisticians; second annual report of the Commission, paragraph 105.

Description:

(a) Establishment of a system for general exchange of information on statistical activities between African countries (report of the first Conference of African Statisticians, paragraphs 37 and 58). Activities to include the publication of a news bulletin on a biannual basis, organization of study tours and assistance to countries for the translation and publication of specific reports on methods.

(b) Collection of information on methods in specific fields and preparation of bibliographical references or reports on methods in close liaison with the Department of Economic and Social Affairs at Headquarters and with specialized agencies (report of the first Conference of African Statisticians, paragraphs 24, 34, 53 (d) and 58).

(c) Organization of working groups of experts to exchange views on methods and to consider adaptation to Africa of international standards: plans for working groups on household surveys, external trade statistics and other topics to be discussed at the second Conference of African Statisticians.

(d) Publication of a bibliography of African statistical publications and preparation of supplements in due course.

04-04 Processing and publication of statistical data

Origin: Terms of reference of the Commission; report of the first Conference of African Statisticians, paragraph 48.

Description:

(a) Compilation and analysis of statistical data required for the Economic Bulletin for Africa (Cf. project 03-01) and other projects carried out by the Secretariat.

(b) Statistical Handbooks: assembly, evaluation, analysis and publication of statistical data derived from the statistical survey; handbook on population to be followed by handbooks on agriculture and national accounts.

II. INDUSTRY, TRANSPORT AND NATURAL RESOURCES

1. Industry

GROUP 1. CONTINUING PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES OF HIGH PRIORITY

11-01 Industrial Planning

Origin: Terms of reference of the Commission, report of the first session, paragraph 59 and Commission resolution 18 (II).

Description:

Preparation of a Manual of Industrial Planning, in which guidance is given to governments on such aspects as the organization for planning for industrialization; the elements involved in industrial planning; the proper balance and mutual support of planning on the national level, on individual industrial branch level and project or plant level; the choice of appropriate techniques for dealing with the various problems faced in planning; and the effective means for the implementation of industrialization plans. (Project to be undertaken in conjunction with projects 01-01 (a) and 01-10(c)).

11-02 Study of Individual Industries

Origin: Terms of reference of the Commission; Commission resolution 18 (II)

Description:

Studies of selected industries appropriate for the region (e.g. fertilizers, cement, mechanical industries, pulp and paper, pharmaceuticals, etc.) including utilization of domestic raw materials and sources of energy, location and size of plants, appropriate technologies and inter-industry relations. The industries to be selected by ECA Secretariat in consultation with governments and other appropriate bodies.

GROUP 2. AD HOC PROJECTS OF HIGH PRIORITY

11-05 Feasibility Studies of Industries for Selected African Countries

Origin: Terms of reference of the Commission; Commission resolution 18 (II)

Description:

- (a) To collect data for feasibility studies for the establishment of specific industries in selected African countries, including information on the size of national markets for their products, and the availability of such factors as raw materials, power, industrial labour force, etc.
- (b) To prepare a preliminary appraisal of the feasibility of specific industries taking into account the size of domestic markets and to examine, on the basis of this appraisal, the desirability of joint projects between countries and/or the participation in existing or newly formed economic groupings.

2. Transport

GROUP 1. CONTINUING PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES OF HIGH PRIORITY

12-01 Transport 4/

Origin: Report of the First Session, paragraph 62 (d) and Resolution 18(II).

Description:

(a) Studies of transport problems in Africa, with emphasis on the role of the transport industry in promoting economic development particularly with regard to the general co-ordination of the various transport techniques.

(b) Provision of advisory services to Governments at their request.

3. Natural Resources

GROUP 1. CONTINUING PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES OF HIGH PRIORITY

13-01 Natural Resources

(VI) Origin: Report on the first session, paragraph 59.

Description:

Assistance to Governments at their request in connection with the preparation of hydrological, geological, geodetic and other scientific surveys of resources.

GROUP 2. Ad hoc PROJECTS OF HIGH PRIORITY

13-05 Groundwater development

Origin: Terms of reference of the Commission

Description:

Studies and seminars on economic and administrative aspects of groundwater development in selected African countries and territories, to be carried out in co-operation with the Department of Economic and Social Affairs at Headquarters. The co-operation of FAO and WHO will be sought. This project to be completed by the end of 1962.

4/ Suggestions for a more detailed work programme are presented in information paper E/CN.14/94.

III. AGRICULTURE (Referred to FAO for comment)

1. Agricultural Progress and Developments

GROUP 1. CONTINUING PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES OF HIGH PRIORITY

- 21-01. Review and analysis of current progress in the field of food and agriculture in Africa (an activity to be built up progressively over a number of years)

Origin: Report of the first session, paragraph 63

Description:

Supply of information on food and agricultural matters and contributions of ECA/FAO Joint Agriculture Division to documentation for :

- a) ECA studies and surveys involving food and agriculture, including documentation for ECA sessions and other meetings;
- b) FAO regional office and headquarters and FAO regional conferences and meetings, including second FAO Regional Conference for Africa and sixth Regional Conference for the Near East.

- 21-02 Agricultural Development programmes and planning (In co-ordination with project 01-01, FAO projects and the Department of Economic and Social Affairs at Headquarters)

Origin: Report of the first session, paragraphs 61 and 63; First FAO Regional Conference for Africa, resolutions 1, 3, 6; General Assembly resolution 1426 (XIV), FAO - ECA centre on Land Policy for East and Central Africa.

Description:

Examination of plans and of measures to promote agricultural developments and increase productivity in agriculture.

- a) Collection and analysis of information on agricultural development programmes for documentation outlined under project 21-01 above and for technical assistance programming and activities;
- b) The examination and classification of agricultural development projects, including assistance to governments;
- c) Analysis of particular problems of agricultural development, including:

- (i) The diversification of agriculture;
- (ii) Factors in the transition from subsistence to commercial agriculture, including land policies and agricultural credit and co-operatives.

GROUP 2. AD HOC PROJECTS OF HIGH PRIORITY

21-03 Forestry Development

Origin: Report of the second session, paragraph 118.

Description:

Survey of timber resources and requirements to commence in 1961 (formerly 21-05 d)

1. Distribution and Consumption of Agricultural Products

GROUP 1. CONTINUING PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES OF HIGH PRIORITY

22-01 Trade and Marketing of Agricultural Products (In co-ordination with projects 01-04, 02-01 and with FAO projects).

Origin: Report of First Session para 62 (f); Commission resolution 18 (II); First FAO Regional Conference for Africa, resolution 10.

Description:

Examination of trade in major agricultural products in sub-regions, and measures to improve marketing.

a) Studies of recent trends in the level and direction of exports of agricultural produce, on a regional and sub-regional basis (Formerly project 21-03 (a))

b) The marketing of agricultural products: continuation with FAO Headquarters and Near East Regional Office of meat and livestock marketing project and extension to other marketing problems including price relationships. (Formerly project 21-03(b)).

22-02 Food Consumption Levels

Origin: Resolution 18 (II)

Description:

Studies of demand and consumption levels for food and other agricultural products. (Formerly project 21-03(c); in coordination with projects 01-015 and 04-03)

3. Assistance and Advisory Services in the Field of Agriculture

GROUP 1. CONTINUING PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES OF HIGH PRIORITY

23-01 Technical Assistance to governments (Formerly 21-04)

Origin: Report of First Session, para 54.
FAO Conference resolutions.

Description:

Collaboration with Governments and with agencies providing technical and economic assistance: to collaborate with FAO technical assistance experts in African countries in the fields of agricultural economics, agricultural planning and marketing; to assist Governments in the formulation of requests for technical assistance under the Expanded Programme and other forms of aid within the framework of international arrangements; to assist Governments directly in national and regional projects... (a continuing activity which should expand with increasing aid to Africa).

GROUP 2. AD HOC PROJECTS OF HIGH PRIORITY

23-02 Specific Projects of importance to the Region.

Origin: Miscellaneous requests by governments to UN Special Fund, Expanded Technical Assistance Programme, etc.

Description:

a) Report on progress of locust control measures (Formerly 21-05(a)).

IV. COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND RELATED ACTIVITIES IN SOCIAL FIELD

GROUP 1. CONTINUING PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES OF HIGH PRIORITY

31-01 Assistance to governments in the planning, organization and administration of national community development programmes

Origin: Terms of reference of the Commission.

Description:

(a) Assistance in the organization of national seminars on planning and administration of community development by providing staff to assist national personnel in the organization and conduct of brief national seminars.

(b) Organization of teams to evaluate community development programmes in selected African countries, on request of the country concerned and financed from its own share of technical assistance funds (country allocation).

31-02 General survey of community development in Africa

Origin: Report of the Workshop on Community Development, recommendation No.5 (c)

Description:

A survey to be carried out periodically, utilizing information provided by member Governments to various United Nations bodies and supplemented by material collected directly by the ECA Secretariat. Appraisals of individual country community development programmes will be continued; such individual case studies will form part of the general survey.

[Project 31-03 has been included under Section V, as project 41-04]

31-04 Establishment of an ECA Clearing House on community development

Origin: Report of the Workshop on Community Development, recommendations No. 5 (b) and (c)

Description:

The activities to include: collection and distribution of material on principles, methods and techniques of community development; assistance in arranging exchanges of personnel between African countries; provision of information on training facilities, including fellowships available from international agencies and national Governments; organization of study tours; briefing of experts; organization of lending services of films and other audio-visual aids for member countries, etc.

GROUP 2. AD HOC PROJECTS OF HIGH PRIORITY

31-05 A workshop on Low - Cost Housing and community facilities within community development programmes in Africa

Origin: Terms of reference of the Commission; Economic and Social Council resolution 731 B (XXVIII)

Description:

A workshop to be organized jointly by ECA and the Department of Economic and Social Affairs and held in 1961. Participants to include housing experts and community development administrators. The programme of the workshop to include study of problems of planning and replanning of villages and small communities, including self-help housing programmes and the review of experience in building schools, markets, co-operative stores, community centres and other community facilities.

31-06 A Workshop on Planning, Organization and Administration of Social Welfare with particular reference to Family and Child Welfare 5/

Origin: Report of the 1960 Workshop on "Extension of Family and Child Welfare Services within Community Development Programmes"

Description:

Action arising from a workshop organized jointly by ECA and the Economic and Social Affairs Department at Headquarters in Accra in November 1960.

31-07 Study of the applicability of community development techniques to urban areas in Africa

Origin: Report on the first session, paragraph 62 (b): Economic and Social Council resolution 731 J (XXVIII).

Description:

A study to be carried out: (a) by initiating two community development pilot projects in urban areas of Africa to gain practical experience, and (b) by undertaking simultaneously a study, in co-operation with research institutions in Africa, of steps necessary to minimize the social disruption due to urban development. Special attention will be given to housing and social services which are necessary to cope with urban development problems. It is expected that this project will be carried on until the end of 1962 (in conjunction with projects 01-10 and 01-15(b))

5/ This project replaced the former project 31-06 - Training Courses for Women.

31-08 Study of the present state and progress of the co-operative movement in Africa

Origin: Commission resolution 9 (II)

Description:

A study to be carried out in co-operation with FAO, ILO and UNESCO on the present state of the co-operative movement in Africa: the types of co-operatives, their scope and programme, national legislation and other means for promoting co-operative activities, educational methods and techniques, training facilities for personnel and voluntary leaders, and the contribution of the co-operative movement to the economic development of African countries. The report, to be submitted to the fourth session of the Commission in 1962, should contain suggestions concerning the possibility of establishing a co-operative centre or centres in Africa for the training of Africans in the field of co-operation and for the publication and dissemination of educational material on co-operative methods and techniques.

31-09 Study Tour on Community Development methods and techniques

Origin: Report of the Workshop on Community Development, recommendation No. 5 (a)

Description:

Study tour for senior officials of requesting governments to visit community development projects in selected Asian countries in 1962.

V. TRAINING

GROUP 1. CONTINUING PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES OF HIGH PRIORITY

41-01 Training facilities in Africa.

Origin: Commission resolution 17 (II).

Description:

Consultations with universities, research institutions and other appropriate organizations in Africa regarding arrangements for the training of African staff in the field of economic development.

41-02 Training in economic and social planning

Origin: Commission resolution 16 (II).

Description:

An intensive programme of study and training designed to meet the need for an increasing number of economists, statisticians, public administrators, and managers of industry who are able to handle the problems and techniques of development programming. Programme to be carried out on a permanent basis at ECA Headquarters.

41-03 Training activities in statistics

Origin: Report on the first session, paragraph 51; report of the first Conference of African Statisticians, paragraphs 56, 62, and 63.

Description:

(a) Formulation of a comprehensive programme for increasing facilities for the training of statisticians on the basis of the UNESCO survey, requirements expressed by countries and consultations with universities. Report to be submitted to the second Conference of African Statisticians, and to be followed by arrangements for training.

(b) Assistance to and organization of sub-regional and regional training centres for middle-grade statisticians. Participation in regional in-service training courses for senior economists and statisticians.

(c) Establishment at the Headquarters of the Economic Commission for Africa of a small Mechanical Processing Unit for research and demonstration on methods of processing and analyzing data. This Unit would also service countries which do not possess adequate equipment, or where the volume of work does not justify the installation of such equipment.

41-04 Training courses in community development methods and techniques for national supervisory and administrative personnel

Origin: Report of the Workshop on Community Development, recommendation No. 5 (a).

Description:

Refresher training courses to be organized for national personnel such as provincial community development officers, principals of training centres, etc. Curricula to include the economic, social and educational aspects of community development.

41-05 In-service training for African economists and statisticians

Origin: Commission resolution 16 (II).

Description:

In-service training at the Headquarters of the Economic Commission for Europe and the Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East.