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Third Session of the Conference  
of the African Demographers

Dakar, Senegal, 19-24 February 1979

REPORT ON ECA POPULATION ACTIVITIES 1975-1978 AND PROGRAMME  
OF WORK 1980-1981 WITH PROJECTIONS TO 1982-1983

I. Report on Activities - 1975-1978

1. The review of ECA African Population Programme has been outlined in various official publications of the Commission, including those presented to previous sessions of the Conference of African Demographers. Since 1974, when the Conference last met, this programme has been under constant review. Consequently, a number of changes have been effected with the primary goal of providing, as much as possible, better and more effective services to the region. Most of the reviews were undertaken in response to the expressed views of various legislative and recommendatory bodies of the Commission.
2. The major recommendations endorsed by the Conference of African Demographers at its second session in Addis Ababa 1/ were quite articulate on improving the supply, analysis and evaluation of demographic data. Specific areas of interest expressed in the endorsed recommendations focused, for example, on giving greater support to the African Census Programme, improving the quality of statistics on migration and urbanization, studying the possible effect of female employment on fertility in Africa, and of the factors which influence family size, especially in urban areas. Also endorsed were studies on population policies and programmes in Africa, evaluation of census and survey data, population dynamics and their interrelations with socio-economic variables, and problems of measuring the economically active population.
3. Besides, the Conference also endorsed recommendations relating to demographic training and research in Africa. The functions of the various UN-sponsored training centres as well as the scope of training and research expected of the centres were considered. In particular, the Conference, recognizing the inter-disciplinary approach to population, endorsed the recommendation that the course at the UN-sponsored Institutes should embrace subjects such as Sociology, Economics, Mathematics, Statistics and other relevant topics as ancillary to Technical Demography. Also endorsed was the view that the demographic content of the existing middle level statistical courses should be strengthened, and that the training courses at all other UN-sponsored centres should include field experience as well as short term ad hoc courses of different types and levels.

1/ Report of the Second Session of the Conference of African Demographers,  
E/CN.14/POP/120, Annex II, pp.1-6

4. Apart from endorsing the above recommendations, the Conference also considered the draft resolution passed by the Working Group on Fertility Levels and Differentials in Africa and adopted it with few amendments. 2/ The adopted draft resolution was also subsequently amended and adopted by the Conference of African Ministers at its third meeting in Nairobi, 24-28 February 1975. 3 This resolution 273(XII) recalled the previous resolution 230(X) of 13 February 1971 4/ and noted that the Ministers then request the Executive Secretary to carry out a study of population levels and trends in relation to economic and social development and to speed up the establishment of sub-regional centres for the training of demographers.

5. Furthermore, resolution (273(XII)) also took note of the report of the second session of the Conference of African Demographers. It then invited the Executive Secretary to continue the studies on interrelations of population growth and economic and social development, and requested him to strengthen the population infrastructure of the secretariat of the Commission and to take necessary action to implement fully ECA population programmes. It also requested Governments of the region to give due attention to the socio-economic conditions of parents and children and to ensure the integration of family planning, subject to national sovereign rights and priorities, into development planning. Finally, the Governments were also urged to support the UN-sponsored training centres.

6. The Regional Post World Population Conference Consultation, Lusaka, Zambia, 16-22 April 1975, provided another useful opportunity for representatives of African Governments to air their views on ECA's proposals for a population programme of action for Africa. 5/ The meeting, among other things, expressed the view that adequate attention should be given to the impact of economic development on population and vice-versa; that a strategy for development should define the effect of population size, structure, growth and distribution on sustained economic and social development; that the role of women should also be emphasized in development programmes and that women should participate fully in development efforts; that social and economic development programmes should concentrate on rural areas; that countries should aim at a rapid reduction in morbidity and mortality and that comprehensive maternal and child health services should be important components of preventative health; and that population education for young persons both in schools and outside should be given adequate attention, while family life education should form an integral part of MCH services.

7. The meeting also emphasized the importance of migratory movements in development, noting that lack of employment opportunities and irrelevant orientation of school curricula were two principal factors related to migratory movements, especially the rural-urban variety. The problems of definition and methodology in data collection and research in migration studies were under-scored as well as the need for in-depth studies on the magnitude, direction and correlates of internal migratory movements and the characteristics of migrants. Noting that the principle of sovereignty and the problem of the brain drain were overriding issues in international population movements in Africa, the Conference emphasized the need for studies on international migration in countries where specific problems existed.

2/ Ibid., p.19; also Part II, Annex I, pp.25-26

3/ Resolution 273(XII) on Integrated Programmes on Population; E/CN.14/RES/273(XII), 183rd Meeting 28 February 1975

4/ Resolution 230(X) on Population, E/4997 - E/CN.14/519, 163rd Meeting 13 February 1971.

5/ Report of the Regional Post World Population Conference Consultation, Lusaka, Zambia 16-22 April 1975, E/CN.14/POP/L42

- Proposals for a Population Programme of Action for Consideration by African Governments, 1975

8. The need for more efficient systems of data collection in the region was underlined with a recommendation that efforts should be made to improve the situation particularly through the training of local staff at all levels. Several participants underscored the significance of censuses, surveys and vital registration for obtaining reliable estimates of demographic trends. Generally, it was observed that data collection should not be limited to data that were essentially demographic in character: other forms of related social and economic data should also be collected.
9. In discussing the type and content of demographic training programmes, it was agreed that a broadly based population study was consistent with the recommendation on the inter-disciplinary nature of demographic training. It was further recommended that middle-level training should be given very serious considerations at the UN-sponsored training centres. On information and clearing house activities, ECA was requested to assist in publicizing demographic activities in the various countries of the region through the distribution of reports on studies and projects undertaken.
10. Recently, ECA undertook a major reorganization of the entire work programmes and activities of all its divisions. To this end, it adopted a new framework of principles for the implementation of the New International Economic Order in Africa.<sup>6/</sup> The Revised Framework seeks to promote collective self-reliance, intra-African co-operation and integration. On the basis of this framework, the Commission prepared a medium term plan for 1976-1981 <sup>7/</sup> which served as basis for the 1978-1979 biennium programme of work which was approved by the Conference of African Ministers in Kinshasa, during February/March 1977. The revised framework places special emphasis on the establishment of the Multinational Programming and Operational Centres (MULPOC). The centres which replaced the UNDATs are expected to assist ECA in the field in identifying and implementing projects of particular interest to specific subregions or groups of countries.
11. Basically, the new framework is intended to promote and facilitate efficient planning in the countries of the region. Governments are to be encouraged and helped to adopt the unified approach to development planning and analysis with its emphasis on distribution, structural and institutional changes and thorough diagnoses of current weaknesses as well as development potentials. It will also search for appropriate policies including spatial planning tied to urbanization policy, integrated rural development, internal migration and planning for specific social groups such as children and women. The new type of planning advocated requires a new approach to research, including statistical and other information collection system and analysis. Special mention is made of the need for integrated national surveys, particularly at the micro socio-economic level.
12. The resolutions, recommendations and observations discussed above in addition to other activities and interests generated by the World Population Conference have been instrumental in shaping ECA thinking on population in African development. Recently, the UNFPA mounted a mission to evaluate population programmes and activities in the region. The draft report of the mission has already started to generate new ideas which when eventually implemented could, if the final report is accepted by the Commission, modify considerably the future course and orientation of ECA population programmes and activities. Based, however, on the views outlined above, a summary of the main activities undertaken as well as those proposed for the near future will be given below.

<sup>6/</sup> Revised Framework of Principles for the Implementation of the New International Economic Order in Africa, E/CN.14/ECO/90/Rev.3

<sup>7/</sup> Revised Medium Term Plan 1976-1981, E/CN.14/TECO/31/Rev.2

# A. General Retrospective Review of Research and Studies

13. For each major project in the programme of work and priorities since 1975, we present briefly the status report on its implementation, showing whether project was completed or continuing, papers prepared and/or major contributions, and reasons for the postponement or non-completion of the projects. The listing and numbering of projects follows the format in the recently approved work programme of the Commission.

## Project No.

## Project Implementation Status Report

9.481.01

Assistance to countries and territories in formulating, implementing and evaluating national population policies and programmes as an integral part of and aid to economic and social development planning.

At the request of IPPF, background papers and curricula were prepared on (a) The Demographic Background to Development  
(b) The African Family in Transition and  
(c) The Methodology of Education, Training and Evaluation for the workshop on African Family Studies organized at Nairobi (1975).

9.481.02

Study of trends in the adoption of population policies and programmes and their implementation within the context of development planning in Africa.

Prepared the main background document for the Post World Population Conference Consultation on the application of the WPPA entitled: Proposals for a Population Programme of Action for African Countries, E/CN.14/POP/L35/Rev.1 (1975).

9.481.03

Study of the impact of changes in population growth structure and movements, etc., on economic and social development planning

1. Macro case-studies on the relationships between population and economic and social development in Senegal and Madagascar were completed and reviewed (1975); In 1976 the case studies on Kenya and Ivory Coast were also finalised; also during 1977/78 additional studies on Zaire, Niger and Benin were completed, while the studies on Morocco and Upper Volta were commissioned for completion in the near future.

2. The following papers were contributed for the ECA Annual Survey of Economic and Social Conditions in Africa:

- (a) Population Trends in Africa (1974)
- (b) Demographic Trends and Policies (1976)
- (c) Demographic Trends and Policies (1978)

3. Study completed on: L'Echange de la Main-d'oeuvre entre la Cote d'Ivoire et des Pays Voisins du Sahel: Base d'une approche de la Sous Region.

4. Work is continuing on the analysis of the replies of African Governments' to the UN Third Inquiry on Population.

9.481.04

Study of the demographic effects of integrated rural development projects

This project was not executed in 1978 as planned because the funds expected from the UN Trust Fund for African Development were not made available.

9.481.05

Studies on migration, urbanization and population distribution and their relationship to the economic and social development of the sending and receiving areas.

1. During 1975/76, studies on the volume and implications of migration to Accra, Kinshasa, Lagos and Libreville were completed and the following working papers published:

- (a) Volume and Implication of Migration to Lagos, ECA/PD/WP/1
- (b) Volume and Implication of Migration to Accra, ECA/PD/WP/2

2. The study of the definitions of urban population in Africa which was started in 1975 was completed in draft in the first half of 1976 but this still needs further review.

3. A paper was completed on: "Evaluation, Adjustment and Analysis of Migration Data", for the Workshop on Methods of Demographic Data Evaluation, Adjustment and Analysis, Accra Ghana, December 1977.

4. Another paper on "The Demographic Configuration of the less developed countries", was completed for the Seminar on Population Issues in Planning Metropolitan, Lagos, University of Lagos.

5. Work will be continuing in (1978 and beyond) on a

- (a) Five different demographic surveys of Federal Civil Servants, Industrial establishments, Lagos households, environmental quality and public space requirements, for planning Nigeria's New Federal Capital. Field work on all the five surveys has been completed and data processing is in progress. The project, jointly being operated with the Statistics Division, Regional Institute for Population Studies and the Federal Capital Development is financed by the Nigerian Government.
- (b) Study on Population Distribution and the Siting of Industries (In collaboration with Socio-economic Research and Planning Division).

9.481.09

Comparative study of the administration and evaluation aspects of family planning programmes in Africa

This study was started in 1976 but had to be abandoned because resources were not available and because of insufficient data on the subject matter.

9.481.10

Study of the role of private international organisations in the implementation of family planning programmes and their impact in the region

The first draft of the study which was completed in the first part of 1978 is still to be finalized.

9.482.01

(a) Assistance to countries and territories in defining the interrelations between population trends and socio-economic development; in conducting pertinent methodological studies; in designing, executing and analysing demographic surveys; in evaluating and adjusting data; and in implementing the recommendations of the World Population Plan of Action

(1) At the request of the Government, the survey study on rural exodus in the Central African Republic was undertaken (1975-76). A two volume report was issued: Republique Centrafricaine et CEA, Les Motivations de l'Exode Rural en Republique Centrafricaine, Tome I et II, Mars 1976

(2) As a result of the difficulty in recruiting a country expert for Mali under the African Census Programme, the Division assigned one of its regional advisers to implement and manage the 1976 census of Mali in collaboration with the Division of Statistics (1976-77).

(3) At the request of the Government of Nigeria, the Division, as indicated in 9.481.05, worked with the ECA Statistics Division and the Regional Institute for Population Studies, to conduct 5 different demographic surveys needed to provide data for planning the new Federal Capital of Nigeria (1976-1978).

(4) At the request of the Government, a staff member visited Mauritius in 1977 to collect fertility data for analysis. A draft report, now over-due, is ready.

(5) Analysis of Mortality in Brazaville was undertaken at the request of the Government of the Congo in 1977.

(b) Mission undertaken to assist Governments in completing the questionnaire on the UN Third Inquiry on Population.

9.482.02

Evaluation, adjustment and analysis of demographic data including preparation of population projections

Progress in the execution of this project has been hampered by the delay in tabulating national census results. However, work was commenced on:

- (a) Evaluation of the 1973 Census of Libya. (In collaboration with Regional Institute for Population Studies, Accra) 1977/78.
- (b) A Monograph on "Fertility and Mortality in Libya" will be started; data has already been collected for this work.

9.482.03

Studies on the types, volume and trends in migratory movements in Africa

Although preliminary work began on this project, progress has been rather slow because of inadequate staff resources.

9.482.04

Studies on mortality including levels, trends, patterns and preparation of life tables

1. A paper was prepared on "Recent Experiences in Mortality Data Collection and Analysis in African Countries" (In collaboration with the Statistics Division).
2. Work on the comparative analysis of mortality in Maghreb countries was completed (1977).
3. A comparative study of mortality in East Africa (Kenya, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia) began in 1977 and is presently nearing completion.
4. As indicated under 9.482.02 work on the monograph on "Mortality in Libya" based on the 1973 census data was started early in 1978; progress has been slow because of inadequate staff resources.

9.482.05

Studies on the demographic aspects of labour force in Africa including trends in female participation rates

No aspect of this project was implemented for lack of resources. It has therefore been carried forward to 1979. In the absence of internal resources, a consultant may be hired to undertake this study.

9.482.06

Study of the demography of nomadic populations

As no aspect of this project was executed as planned in 1978, it will be carried forward to 1979.

9.482.07

Study of international migration trends in selected countries

Not implemented for lack of resources.

9.482.08

Studies on fertility levels, patterns, differentials, trends, the socio-cultural factors influencing them and their implications for development

- (1) Two relevant working papers were published:
  - (a) "Fertility, Education and Population Growth in Africa", ECA/PD/WP/1976/2
  - (b) Fertility Levels, Patterns and Differentials in Africa and their Implications for Economic and Social Development, ECA/PD/WP/1976/1
- (2) A study on "Fertility Differentials among Different Occupational Groups of Women" was also completed.
- (3) A draft report was completed on the analysis of fertility in Mauritius.
- (4) Work on a Monograph on "Fertility and Mortality in Libya" was started in 1978 and will continue into 1979.

9.482.09

Study of the relationship of infant and childhood mortality to fertility levels and patterns in selected African countries

The first round of the Zambia fertility/Mortality Survey began in July 1978 and was successfully completed the following September. Two other rounds will follow subsequently. The survey, which is funded by the Ford Foundation, is jointly being executed by the Population Division and the National Office of Statistics, Lusaka, Zambia.

9.482.10

Study on sub-fertility and infertility in the Central African sub-region and their policy implication

Inadequate staff resources and time prevented the implementation of this project. Those that could have handled it were fully busy executing other pressing projects.

9.482.11

Study on marriage in Africa, its changing patterns and relationship to fertility

This study could not be completed because of the commitment of the Division to other pressing projects.



9.482.20

(c) Collection and dissemination of information

Efforts to publish a revised version of the Demographic Handbook for Africa was hampered by the unavailability of relevant data from the 1970 round of censuses in most of the participating countries. Otherwise, progress in up-dating the 1975 edition has been commendable.

9.482.25

Manual on demographic concepts and definitions suitable for Africa

A draft of this manual was completed and sent to the countries for comments and observations. Preparation of the final report after the receipt of these comments is expected to continue into 1979.

**B. Case Study and National Seminars**

14. At its first session held in 1971, the ECA Conference of Ministers, by resolution 230(X), requested the ECA Secretariat to undertake a series of case studies on population growth and economic and social development in the various African countries. The ECA Population Division then decided to call on a number of experts to conduct these studies.

15. Two types of studies were envisaged according to the Population Division's work programme. The first, a "macro study" covering the entire country was to be based on United Nations population projections using "high, medium and low growth" assumptions. For the sectoral projections, the experts were to use projections prepared by various specialised agencies such as ILO, UNESCO, FAO.

16. These studies were to begin with a brief account of past and future economic development during the Second Development Decade, taking into account the increase in national income, savings and investments, changes in the rural, traditional and economic structure, and the changes resulting from demographic trends that determine and impede development.

17. On the social level, the study was to analyse past, current and projected developments in the employment and unemployment situation, housing, public health, maternal and child health, education, marriage patterns and family structure, social and urban problems, as well as other constraints and determining factors resulting from population trends.

18. On the strictly demographic level, family size and structure, fertility, mortality, urban development, internal and international migrations and other variables had to be considered. These considerations were to help the experts to analyse the economic development plans of the countries studied, to consider the possible causes of the shortage of skilled labour, the infrastructural difficulties of a growing population and technological progress in agriculture and industry.

19. That was to be followed by a separate study on the impact of these demographic projections on food requirements, employment, education, housing, health, etc.... according to the different assumptions and including, in each case, an estimate of the funds that would have to be committed. The effect of economic development on social change and on population growth was also to be reviewed.

20. Since the project was launched in 1971, the following countries have carried out these "macro studies": Algeria, Benin, the United Republic of Cameroon, Egypt, Ethiopia, the Ivory Coast, Kenya, Lesotho, Madagascar, Mali, Mauritius, Nigeria, Senegal, the Sudan, the United Republic of Tanzania, Togo, Tunisia and Zaire.

21. The second series was to consist of "micro studies". As defined by the Population Division, the purpose of these was to examine, inter alia, the effect of the welfare of the family of having many children, the effect of repeated childbirth on the health of mother and children as well as breast-feeding and weaning habits, diet and malnutrition, educational facilities, per capita income, housing and family food supply.

22. This series of studies was also to consider the values attached to and preferences regarding family size and the cultural origin of such values and preferences as well as the factors which militate against a change over to smaller families.

23. According to this programme, the Population Division has received the studies undertaken by Ghana, the Ivory Coast, Nigeria, Senegal, the Sudan, Tunisia and Zaire. According to the Population Division's 1971 forecast, the "macro studies" were to cover all countries in the region while the "micro studies" were to cover half of these countries. However, full coverage of the continent has not yet been achieved and the programme is continuing.

24. In view of the importance of the interrelationship between demographic, economic and social factors in the development of African populations, the ECA Conference of Ministers, at its third meeting, by resolution 273(XII), invited the Executive Secretary to continue studies on interrelations of population growth and economic and social development, including a study to define population programmes within the context of other essential services in such fields as community development, agriculture and rural and urban development.

25. A number of experts were contacted to undertake these studies but only a few of them responded. Consequently, the Population Division was compelled to turn to other experts who could undertake the studies and submit their reports in time.

26. The case studies have led to the organisation of national seminars on the subject of "Population and Development Planning". Three such seminars have been held since the beginning of the project. The first and second were respectively in Lome, Togo and in Bamako, Mali, in 1975, and the third in Mauritius in 1977.

27. During these national seminars, national experts in the various social and economic disciplines and their counterparts in the various United Nations agencies, exchanged views on the economic and population problems of the countries in which the seminars were held.

28. The agenda of these seminars focused on:

- Trends in population and economic growth of the host country;
- Population and economic problems of the host country and Africa;
- Population changes;
- Demographic factors affecting national socio-economic development plans;
- Education, health and housing problems in the host country and in Africa; and
- Labour problems in the host country and in Africa.

C. Information Service and Clearing House Activities

29. During the period 1975-1978, the Division continued its publication of the African Population Newsletter on a quarterly basis and the African Population Studies Series on an ad hoc basis. The number 2 of this series containing the "Report of the Seminar on the Techniques of the Evaluation of Basic Demographic Data" and some of the papers presented at that Seminar was published. The third in the series has been given to the printers and is expected to be out during the course of 1979. This issue contains two studies prepared by the Division as part of its work programmes on "Fertility Levels Patterns and Differentials in Africa and their Implications for Economic and Social Development" and "Fertility, Education and Population Growth in Africa."

30. The African Directory of Demographers which has been in preparation since the last quarter of 1975 was finally published in 1978. We have also began collecting information for updating this publication. The third edition of the Demographic Handbook for Africa was published in 1975 while the fourth edition is at present being prepared for publication in 1979.

31. As recommended at the second session of this Conference, another draft of the Manual on Demographic Concepts and Definitions suitable for Africa was completed and sent to the Statistical Offices for comments. These comments have been received and work is continuing on the final version of this document which will be completed and published in 1979. This Conference wish to decide whether the draft of the final version should be sent to participants for comments before publication. One other way of dealing with the problem would be to organize an expert group to examine the draft before its finalization and publication.

32. For the first time in our publication programme, we are planning to publish some of the country case studies on the relationship between population and socio-economic development prepared by consultants for the ECA. The first one on Kenya is due for publication during 1979. A consultant has also been engaged to review some of those prepared earlier for publication. This will be continued as a means of helping decision makers and planners to understand the issues covered in these case studies.

33. The secretariat also continued its Clearing House Activities by obtaining various documents either on purchase or free of charge for distribution within the region. Overall, the ECA intends to expand its information service and clearing house activities considerably during the 1980s provided funds would be available as expected. The indications are that the UNEPA may be inclined to give additional support as a means of helping to create greater awareness of population trends within the region and their implications for socio-economic development. For a start, a consultant has already given directions on the organization of the population documentation unit of the division and made recommendations on how work in this area can be improved.

#### D. Advisory Services

34. During the period under review, a number of countries were assisted in the analysis of demographic data from censuses or surveys. Among these were Rwanda and Zaire in the analysis survey data, and Congo in the analysis of Mortality Data from the country's latest census. Mention should also be made of assistance given to Mauritius in the on-going analysis of fertility data from its 1972 census, and the continuing assistance being given to Libya in the analysis of its 1973 census. A number of monographs are supposed to result from the joint efforts being made by the Office of Statistics in Libya, the Regional Institute for Population Studies, Accra, and the ECA.

35. Mention should also be made of assistance towards the execution of three large scale projects given by the staff of the Division. These were:

- (i) the assistance given to the Central African Empire in a study of Rural Exodus in that country. This involved a field survey planned, conducted and processed under the direction of a regional adviser of the division. A final report on the survey was prepared for the Government in 1975.
- (ii) Another regional adviser of the division assisted Mali in the organization of its most recent census of 1976. As an exceptional measure, the regional adviser acted as a country expert in the preparation and organization of the census. This became necessary because of the difficulty experienced by the United Nations in the recruitment of a substantive country expert to organize the census.
- (iii) Staff of the Population Division in collaboration with staff from the ECA Statistics Division and the Regional Institute for Population Studies (RIPS) Accra assisted the Government of Nigeria in conducting field surveys, which are expected to yield data for the planning of the country's new capital. Five different field surveys have already been completed. The data obtained from these surveys are to be analysed during 1979 after the completion of the data processing. It is important to note that the cost of the project including that of the assistance given by the staff of the ECA was fully financed by the Nigerian Government. This is the first time the staff of the Division have been involved directly in the implementation of such a large scale field project.

36. In addition, assistance was provided to Zaire, Liberia, Togo, Mali, Ivory Coast, Mauritius, and Senegal in the development of various projects for UNEFA financing.

37. For the future, it is expected that advisory services would be considerably expanded in order to assist countries analyse their census data in detail and help with other aspects of population work, especially the integration of population policies in socio-economic development planning. It has been suggested that the regional advisers may now be based in the subregional offices of the Multinational Programming and Operational Centres. As members of these teams, the advisers will be closer to the countries they will be serving. It is expected that this approach will make their services more accessible and effective.

F. Meetings, Seminars and Conferences

38. From January 1975 to January 1979, staff members of the Population Division organised and participated in a number of important conferences and seminars. In most of these, the Division prepared and presented papers. The meetings involved are listed below according to the organisers. This is followed by a full list of the papers presented at these meetings by the Division.

39. (a) Meetings Organized or Co-sponsored by the Economic Commission for Africa

- (i) The Regional Post World Population Conference Consultation, Lusaka, 16-22 April 1975.
  - (ii) Meeting of Experts on the Role of Communication Media and Information Services in Population-oriented Development Programmes (ECA/OAU/UNESCO), 16-23 January 1979.
- (b) Meetings Organized by Agencies, Institutions and Establishments other than ECA
- (i) Eighteenth Session of the Population Commission, New York, 3-17 February 1975.
  - (ii) Inter-agency Co-ordinating Committee on Demographic Projections, Geneva, 12-16 May 1975.
  - (iii) Tripartite Seminar on Labour and Population Policies with Reference to Women and Youth Problems, Mombasa, 5-12 May 1975 (ILO).
  - (iv) Administrative Co-ordinating Committee on Population, Geneva, 16-18 June, 1975.
  - (v) Conference on Migration and Civil Registration, 5-12 July 1975 (OCAM).
  - (vi) Seminar on the Implications of rapid Population Growth on Social and Economic Development, Livingstone, Zambia, 22-29 November 1975 (ILO).
  - (vii) Twelfth Session of the Administrative Co-ordinating Committee on Population, Rome, December 1975.
  - (viii) Nineteenth Session of the Population Commission, New York, January-February 1977.
  - (ix) National Seminar on Methods of Projecting School Enrolment, Brazzaville, 15-29 March 1976 (UNESCO).
  - (x) National Seminar on Population and School Enrolment, Lome 2-11 August 1976 (UNESCO).
  - (xi) Seminar on Analysis and Utilization of Demographic Data for National Planning, Policy Formulation and Plan Implementation, Accra, 20-30 March 1976. (Regional Institute for Population Studies)
  - (xii) Seminar on Improvement of Vital Registration, Lome 25 February - 3 March 1976 (OCAM).
  - (xiii) Meeting of Population Co-ordinators on Population and Education in Africa, Nairobi, 18-25 April 1976 (UNESCO).
  - (xiv) Inter-agency Working Group on Demographic Projections, Amman, May 1976.
  - (xv) National Workshop on Participation of the Organized Sector in Family Welfare Programmes in Tanzania, Dar-es-Salaam, 14-16 December 1976 (ILO).

- (xvi) Seminar on Population and Means of Subsistence, Mauritius, May 1977 (International Alliance of Women).
- (xvii) Seminar on Arab Scholars and Census of Palestinians, Damascus, June 1977 (Economic Commission for West Asia).
- (xviii) 1977 International Population Conference, Mexico, August 1977.
- (xix) Seminar on Population, Employment and Development Planning, Nairobi, 7-12 November 1977 (OAU/ILO).
- (xx) Fourth Project Collaborators' Meeting: Ad Hoc Surveys of Infant and Early Childhood Mortality and Fertility Patterns: Alexandria, 31 October - 4 November, 1977 (WHO).
- (xxi) Seminar on Population issues in Planning Metropolis of Lagos, Lagos, November 1977 (University of Lagos).
- (xxii) National Seminar on the Role of Population in Economic and Social Development, Mauritius, 14-21 November 1977 (ILO).
- (xxiii) Seminar on Population and Development in the Maghreb Countries, Tunis, 28 November - 7 December 1977. (Centre Demographique, ONU, Roumanie).
- (xxiv) Workshop on Methods of Demographic Data Evaluation, Adjustment and Analysis, Accra, 19-24 December 1977 (Regional Institute for Population Studies).
- (xxv) United Nations Working Group on Comparative Analysis of the World Fertility Survey Data, Geneva, December 1977.
- (xxvi) Inter-agency Consultative Committee of UNEPA, Geneva, March 1978.
- (xxvii) Administrative Co-ordinating Sub-committee on Population, Geneva, March 1978.
- (xxviii) Third Colloquium of Maghreb Demographers, Tunis, 24-30 April 1978.
- (xxix) Seminar on Population and Social and Economic Development in Africa, Addis Ababa, 22-27 May 1978. (Association of Social Work Educators in Africa).
- (xxx) Seminar on Development of Training Curriculum in Family Welfare in Africa, Lusaka, 18-23 September 1978 (IPPF and Association of Social Work Educators in Africa).
- (xxxi) First Symposium on Population Growth and its Relevance to Socio-economic and Technological Development.
- (xxxii) Second Meeting of the UN Working Group on Comparative Analysis of the World Fertility Survey Data, Geneva, 31 October - 2 November 1978.
- (xxxiii) Inter-agency Meeting on UNEPA African Inter-country Programme Strategy in Sub-saharan Africa, Nairobi, 30 January - 2 February 1979.
- (xxxiv) Twentieth Session of the Population Commission, New York, January - 6 February 1979.

41. (c) Population Division Papers Presented at Meetings, Seminars and Conferences (1975-1978)

In this presentation, the numbers in parenthesis, following the listing and numbering above, refer to the meeting or seminar or conference where the paper was presented.

- (i) Proposals for a Population Programme of Action for Africa following the recommendations of the 1974 World Population Conference (a.i).
- (ii) Population Policies in Africa (a.ii).
- (iii) Population Growth and Socio-economic Development in Africa (b.iii).
- (iv) Some thoughts on Demographic Aspects of Development Planning in Africa (b.xi).
- (v) Problems of Population and Development Planning with Special Reference to National Population Policy (b.xv).
- (vi) Some Recent Experiences in the collection of Mortality Data in Africa (Paper written in collaboration with the Statistics Division) (b.xx).
- (vii) Demographic Configurations of the Less Development Countries (b.xxii).
- (viii) Factors influencing Fertility Changes in Mauritius (b.xxiii).
- (ix) Population and Economic Development in Maghreb (b.xxiii).
- (x) Evaluation, Adjustment and Analysis of Migration Data (b.xxiv).
- (xi) Population in Africa and Social Education Programmes (b.xxviii).
- (xii) Facts and Policies on Population in Africa (b.xxix).
- (xiii) Population and Development Planning (b.xxxi).
- (xiv) Review of African Development Planning Objectives of Relevance to UN Comparative Analysis of World Fertility Survey Data (b.xxxii).
- (xv) ECA's Views on Strategy for Inter-country Activities in the Field of Population during the period 1980-1983 (b.xxxiii).



## F. Training and Research Programmes

42. The ECA Population Division made efforts to respond to the training needs of the region in population studies. In the period under review, the progress made by the United Nations sponsored regional demographic training centres, especially in terms of the increase enrolment, underlines the high level of interest shown by the countries of the region. Thus, the mainly post-graduate institutes located in Cairo (Egypt), Accra (Ghana) and Yaounde (Cameroon) continued to provide the major focus of ECA activity in the field of training on a multinational basis. Other forms of training activities organised mainly on sub-regional or national levels were also focused on.

### (a) Multinational Training Programmes

43. The Cairo Demographic Centre (CDC) was established by an agreement signed between the United Nations and Arab Republic of Egypt on 8th February 1963 to serve interested countries of Africa as well as Arabic-speaking countries outside Africa. At the time of its establishment, the Centre was a regional project under the supervision of ECA. Much later, after 1968, it became an interregional project and so the primary responsibility for its management was transferred to the United Nations Headquarters, New York. Despite this, ECA continues to monitor its activity and to participate in the Advisory Committee and other scientific and technical meetings of the Centre. Three basic training courses leading respectively to the General Diploma in Demography, the Special Diploma in Demography, and the M. Phil. in Demography are offered by the Centre. These courses are undertaken in addition to various research programmes carried out by the staff and students.

44. The Regional Institute for Population Studies (RIPS), Accra, Ghana was initiated by ECA Resolution 230(X) which invited the Executive Secretary to speed up the establishment of sub-regional centres for training demographers in Africa. Before this, the ECA had already undertaken all the preliminary work on the siting of the Institute. Following this Resolution, an agreement was signed between the United Nations and Ghana Government on 4 December 1971. The Institute which was established to serve the English-speaking countries of Africa began its operations on 8 February 1972. Since then, the ECA in collaboration with the United Nations Population Division and the Office of Technical Co-operation, New York, actively participates in the Governing Council and Advisory Committee Meetings, and manages the disbursement of the Institutes consultancy funds; it also participates in seminars organised by the Institute and also contribute to the Institutes teaching programme.

45. In addition to the research being carried out by staff and students of the Institute, two basic training courses are given. The first is a 12 months course leading to a post-graduate diploma in Population Studies of the University of Ghana, and the second is a Master of Arts degree in Population Studies also of the University of Ghana, which lasts for at least 9 months. Persons admitted to the latter course are those who have either obtained the post-graduate diploma in population Studies of the University of Ghana or an equivalent qualification from other Institutions of higher learning.

46. Institute de formation et de recherche démographique (IFORD), was also initiated by ECA Resolution 230(X). It was established by an agreement concluded between the United Nations and the Government of Cameroon in November 1971 to serve interested French-speaking African States. Like the Institute in Accra, Ghana, the ECA undertook preliminary work on the siting of the Institute, which started functioning in November 1972. The training programme of the Institute which was originally designed to last for 3 years has recently been cut down to two following a decision reached by the Governing Council and Advisory Committee of the Institute. ECA monitors the progress of the Institute, participates in its Governing Council and Advisory Committee meetings and has taken part in its seminars and teaching programmes.

47. From the preceding outline, it seems clear that the three regional institutes have common objectives and activities. These could be summarised to include provision of training and research in Demography and related fields for the relevant countries of the region; the execution of demographic research and the publication of the results obtained; the provision of informative or consultative services in demographic and related fields to countries served by the institutes and, where possible, the provision of ad hoc courses, in-service training and special courses for participants drawn from the countries served by the institutes and Centre.

48. In operating the institutes, the United Nations and the host Governments have shared responsibilities. With minor variations, the United Nations has responsibility for providing the services of the Directors of the institutes; the services of full-time teaching staff and short-term consultants; the award of annual fellowships to students of participating countries; the payment of fees and expenses for field research work within countries served by the institutes; the supply of books, periodicals, journals, teaching material and technical apparatus to trainees and libraries of the institutes; the cost of the travel within the region of the Director and other experts assigned to the institutes in connection with their research and training programmes; and the travel cost for members of the Governing Council and the Advisory Committee when they meet to discuss the administration, programmes and welfare of the institutes.

49. Generally, each of the host Governments (Cameroon, Ghana, Egypt) provides, also with minor variation, the services of full-time teaching staff and research fellows; part time services of teaching staff from other institutions in their countries; necessary technical, administrative and clerical staff; premises, furniture, office space, telephone, telegraph and postal services as may be required for the good functioning and administration of the institutes; housing accommodation for United Nations fellows; transportation of staff and trainees within their countries in connection with the training requirements of the institutes; medical, housing and transport facilities for United Nations officials assigned to the institutes; and monthly salary, travel or other allowances for nationals of their countries assigned as trainees, research workers and assistants at the institutes.

50. For the effective implementation and administration of their programmes, the three institutes have each a Governing Council and an Advisory Committee. The membership of these are clearly defined in the Agreements establishing the institutes. Basically, the Governing Council, which should convene not less than once each year, is responsible for the overall establishment and evaluation of the research, training and advisory programmes of the institutes and for the related requirements for their proper functioning. Part of this responsibility includes the approval of the internal regulations of the institutes. Membership of the Council is shared equally between the United Nations and the host Governments. In the case of the respective institutes in Ghana and Cameroon, it is made up of 8 members, 4 representing the United Nations and 4 the host Governments.

In the case of Cairo, there are 6 members, 3 appointed by the Government and 3 by the United Nations. In all the three centres, the host Government appoints the Chairman of the Council. The Advisory Committee functions as an advisory organ in the evaluation of the programme of the institutes. It reviews the training and research programmes and makes such recommendations to the Governing Council as would give expression to the interests of the countries served by the institutes.

51. The institutes have each made significant progress since they first became operational. Up to 1976, the following African countries, among others, sent trainees to the Cairo Demographic Centre: Algeria (10), Botswana (1), Egypt (171), Ethiopia (4), Ghana (9), Kenya (3), Lesotho (2), Liberia (8), Libya (15), Morocco (10), Nigeria (19), Sierra Leone (5), Somalia (3), Sudan (60), Swaziland (1), Tanzania (4), Tunisia (4), Uganda (3), Zaire (3), Zambia (2) and ANC (S. Africa) (1). Thus during 1963-76, African trainees on various levels of courses in the Centre numbered 338 out of 481, representing 70.3 per cent of the fellowships. 8/

52. From the start to the end of 1977 academic year, six post-graduate diploma and five Master degree classes have been organized at the Regional Institute for Population Studies, Accra. Exactly 92 of the 104 students who completed the diploma course were successful. 9/ A recent report notes that since the inception of the Institute, forty-one students have been admitted to the Masters Degree Programme. Of these, twenty-four completed the course. Two of those who completed have their theses under adjudication while the other twenty-two have been adjudged successful. Of the seventeen theses which have not been completed, one is from the group of students admitted in 1975 while two are from the 1976 group. All the three students have, however, submitted the first drafts of their theses. Ten of the remaining students are from the 1977 group and it is expected that nine of them will soon complete their work. The four other students have just only started work in 1978. Thus it is expected that by early 1979, of the forty-one students admitted to the course of study, thirty-seven would have successfully completed their work. 10/ It is significant that the students so far admitted to the Accra Institute by 1978 came from 18 English-speaking African countries, namely: Azania, Cameroon, Ethiopia, Gambia, Ghana, Nigeria, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Mauritius, Sierra Leone, Somalia, Sudan, Swaziland, Tanzania, Uganda and Zambia. Outside Africa, one student came from Papua New Guinea. Of the 41 M.A. Degree students, 8 were from Ghana, 9 from Ethiopia, 3 from Nigeria, 8 from Sierra Leone, 4 from Sudan, 1 from Liberia, 1 from Kenya, 6 from Uganda and 1 from Zambia.

53. At the Yaounde Institute, the first batch of 9 students was admitted in 1972 and 7 of them were promoted to the second year in the 1973-74 academic year. Only 6 of those promoted returned for the second year course (1 from Benin, 3 from Mali and 2 from Cameroon). In the 1974-75 academic year, the first batch of 6 third year students obtained the "Diplome de Demographie Approfondie". In the same academic year 1974-75, there were

8/ S.A. Huzayyin, Activities of the Cairo Demographic Centre, 1973-1976

9/ Regional Institute for Population Studies, List of Students Admitted to the Institute  
Titles of Research Papers and Seminars of Results

10/ Regional Institute for Population Studies, Annual Report of the Director on the  
Work of the Institute for the Period July 1977 to June 1978, RIPS/GC-7/7

5 students in the second year class and 20 in the first year. At the end of the academic year, 19 of the 20 students were promoted to the second year. During the 1975-76 academic year, there were 3 students in the third year, 19 in the second and 15 in the first year. Of the 22 countries supposed to be served by IFORD, these which have so far sent students to the institute are Algeria, Benin, Cameroon, Congo, Gabon, Madagascar, Mali, Mauritania, Senegal, Upper Volta, Togo and Zaire. 11/

54. In addition to the relatively successful training programmes, the three institutes have also been successful in executing research activities, especially those connected with the course work of the students. The bulk of the research work undertaken to far have used primarily data derived from secondary sources. A few small scale surveys have been undertaken to provide additional research material for student thesis and dissertation. The institutes have also been effective in assisting some countries served by them in the collection and analysis of demographic data through the services of their teaching and research experts. A number of important publications, such as the Research Monography Series of the Cairo Demographic Centre, have also been made available for public use. The Cairo Demographic Centre has also translated a number of important textbooks in Demography into Arabic for the use of the Arabic-speaking countries it serves. The Regional Institute for Population Studies, Accra now publishes the newsletter African Demography which was formerly the joint responsibility of IDP, INED, INSEF, MINCOOP and ORSTOM.

55. As indicated in the introduction to this report on activities, the regional demographic training centres were required at several ECA meetings to organise, from time to time, ad hoc courses on population and its relation to social and economic development. This type of course which forms part of the academic programmes of the centres has not unfortunately recieved adequate attention. Obstacles in the way of providing such courses include inadequate staffing and scarce resources, which have to be improved to fulfil in greater measure this long-felt need.

56. The three institutes under review ate multi-national mostly in terms of the use of the training facilities provided. Apart from the bilateral support given by the host Governments and the United Nations, none of the countries benefiting from the projects contribute materially to their support. This is probably the next stage of development to be considered especially in view of the possible phasing-out or reduction of United Nations support for the institutes. When this stage is reached, in the not very distant future, all interested countries of the region benefiting from the facilities provided by the projects would be expected to contribute substantially to the funding and management of the institutes. In fact the Governing Council of the Regional Institute for Population Studies, Accra has decided that appropriate action be taken to approach the Governments concerned in this regard.

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11/ Statistical Training Programmes in Africa, E/CN.14/CAS.9/19, p.6

(b) Other Training and Research Activities

57. In addition to training activities connected with the multi-national regional centres, other sub-regional and national training programmes have been in operation in the region and have contributed significantly to the advancement of demographic knowledge in the region. The list of such centres is long and only a few of them will be mentioned here.

58. The Institute of Statistical, Social and Economic Research, University of Ghana, which now runs the former Achimota-based United Nations-sponsored middle level statistical course includes demography in its training programme. The Demographic Unit at the University of Dar-es-Salaam offers under-graduate and post-graduate courses to students in other related disciplines. Also, the middle level East African Statistical Training Centre, also located at the University, provides demographic training. A population studies centre has been established at the University of Nairobi; previous to this, the University has been running demographic courses at both under-graduate and post-graduate levels. At Addis Ababa University, demography forms part of the statistical training programme. Similarly, demographic courses were offered at the national Universities of Oran and Algiers. High and/or middle level statistical training centres at Rabat, Abidjan, Yaounde, Tunis, Algiers, and Dakar also offer courses in demography. United Nations-sponsored demographic units have been operating at the national Universities in Liberia and Sierra Leone respectively. Nigerian Universities that undertake demographic training and research include Ahmadu Bello University, University of Ibadan, University of Ife, University of Lagos, University of Nigeria, University of Benin, and University of Port Harcourt. Finally, the teaching of demography in medical schools in Africa has been on the increase. This accords with the fact that medical courses are becoming more and more community oriented.

59. Apart from formal education programmes, most national statistical offices have demographic sections which sponsor various types and levels of demographic surveys, research, analysis and evaluation. The contribution of these offices in reinforcing the training and experience gained by staff members in formal institutions of learning cannot be under-estimated.

60. As part of its work programme, the Population Division continued to support the teaching of demography in the East African Statistical Training Centre in Dar-es-Salaam. Each year, since 1970, a staff member of the Division visited the Centre to deliver lectures in demography to middle and intermediate level students. In Ethiopia, lectures were also given, each year during 1974-77, to nurses and public health staff members participating in special training courses organised by the Ethiopian Family Guidance Association.

61. The cutback of funds prevented the Population Division from organising demographic training workshops as envisaged in its programme of activities. In particular, courses on methods and techniques of demographic analysis, which would have proved useful in the current exercise of census analysis and evaluation in the countries of the region, have had to be postponed. It is now expected that one of such courses on the techniques of fertility and mortality analysis will be organised in collaboration with the UN-sponsored regional institutes in 1979.

(c) Co-ordination and Integration of Regional Training Activities within ECA

62. The improvement of the efficiency of the regional training centres in their day-to-day administration deserves serious consideration. At the heart of the problems experienced in the past has been the division of responsibilities towards the centres among various United Nations bodies. Recently, it has been considered important that the centres as other regional projects, should be fully integrated within the ECA. Thus, rather than share responsibilities disproportionately, as at present, it is being recommended that the Commission should take care of almost everything. It is expected that this will make the work and progress of the centres to relate more meaningfully to the over-all regional work programme and priorities of the Commission as approved by the biennial meetings of the Conference of Ministers. It will also make for better co-ordination of management at all levels and reduce considerably delays in decision-making and policy implementation.

63. The need to integrate the regional centres within the ECA accords fully with recent General Assembly and ECOSOC thinking on the restructuring of the economic and social sectors of the United Nations systems. Resolution 32/L97 adopted by the General Assembly states clearly that the regional commissions should be enabled fully to play their role under the authority of the General Assembly <sup>12/</sup> and that they should exercise team leadership and responsibility for co-ordination and co-operation at the regional level. <sup>13/</sup> The resolution further demands that close co-operation with the UNDP should be established and appropriate arrangements made to enable the regional commissions to participate actively in operational activities. <sup>14/</sup> It also requested that the General Assembly and ECOSOC should take measures to enable the regional commissions to function expeditiously as executing agencies for intersectoral, subregional, regional and interregional projects. <sup>15/</sup>

64. The views expressed in the above resolution of the General Assembly are also contained in ECOSOC Resolution 1978/74 on regional co-operation and development. This resolution states the conviction that the regional commissions are in a particularly advantageous position to promote subregional, regional and interregional co-operation in their respective regions. Thus the commissions should be given the necessary authority and adequate budgetary and financial support to promote more effective co-operation at all levels, in accordance with paragraphs 24 and 25 of the Annex to General Assembly Resolution 32/L97. <sup>16/</sup>

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<sup>12/</sup> General Assembly Resolution 32/L97, Restructuring of the Economic and Social Sectors of the United Nations Systems, A/RES/32/L97, para. 19

<sup>13/</sup> Ibid., para. 20

<sup>14/</sup> Ibid., para. 23

<sup>15/</sup> Idem.

<sup>16/</sup> ECOSOC Resolution 1978/74, Regional Co-operation and Development, E/RES/1978/74, paras. 1-6.

65. In order to give effect to these resolution, discussions have been going on for sometime between the ECA and UN Headquarters on the decentralization of regional project to ECA including RIPS and IFORD. These discussions have finally led to the decision to decentralize the two institutes to the ECA with effect from January 1980. This will imply that the ECA will become the executing agency for these projects and will therefore become the main organization responsible for the implementation of the programmes of the institutes. It must however be stressed that the co-operation that has always existed between the ECA and UN Headquarters in the management of the operations of the institutes will still continue.

G. Monitoring of Population Trends and Policies

66. Paragraph 107 of the World Population Plan of Action requested that monitoring of World Population trends and policies be undertaken continuously as a specialized activity of the United Nations and be reviewed biennially by the appropriate bodies of the United Nations system beginning in 1977. In line with this recommendation, the Economic and Social Council in its decision 87 (LVIII) of 6 May 1975 requested the Population Commission to examine on a biennial basis the results of the continuous process of monitoring of the World Population Plan of Action (WPPA) and to bring its findings to the attention of the Council.
67. The Population Commission therefore had its first examination of the first monitoring exercise undertaken by the United Nations at its nineteenth session held in New York in January 1977. The exercise was undertaken by organisations of the United Nations system including the regional commissions. The ECA Population Division contributed a section to the report on conditions and trends within the African region.
68. Two main reports were presented to the Population Commission: "Concise report on monitoring of population trends" and "Concise report on monitoring of population policies". The latter was based on replies of Governments to the Third Inquiry among Governments, statements made during the regional Post-World Population Conference Consultations, national development plans and other official sources.
69. The report on trends covered population growth, mortality, fertility, migration, population distribution and urbanization, aspects of population structure including age and sex, groups of special social and economic significance, labor force, dependency, agricultural population and agricultural labour force. The report also includes chapters on wider aspects of population and development, namely, the relation between population and employment, education and demographic variables and the relation between population and food. In preparing the report on policies, the Secretariat was able to provide for the first time a detailed analysis of Governments' perceptions and policies with respect to population variables in the 156 States Members of the United Nations or members of the specialized agencies, using the material referred to in the preceding paragraph. The report on policies relating to population growth, mortality, fertility, spatial distribution and migration discusses the main changes which have occurred in those perceptions and policies since the Bucharest Conference.
70. Commenting on the reports, several representatives of the Commission felt that a more detailed and up-to-date analysis of the rapid demographic changes that had been taking place in recent years, particularly in fertility and international migration, was necessary for the understanding of new or emerging circumstances. It was recommended that future reports should include more detailed analysis of the interrelations between population and development and other important issues, such as human rights and integration of women in development and the 'brain drain'.
71. The next exercise is to take place in 1979 and the ECA is to make a contribution to it as it did in the last one. Some Member States of this Commission have already contributed through their replies to the Fourth Inquiry on Population and Development.



#### H. Review and Appraisal of the World Population Plan of Action

72. As recommended in the WPPA, this exercise is to be undertaken once in every five years. The first one is therefore due in 1979. As a means of getting part of the relevant data for the first exercise, the Population Commission decided at its nineteenth session that a Fourth Inquiry on Population and Development be undertaken by the United Nations. A timetable for the exercise was also agreed upon by the Commission.

73. A questionnaire for the Inquiry which was prepared in collaboration with the ECA has already been sent to the Governments and replies are still being received. The ECA is already undertaking a detailed analysis of the questionnaire received so far and it is expected that this will be published to give a comprehensive view of developments taking place within the region.

74. The ECA has also given its own views on its activities with regard to the recommendations of the WPPA and on those parts of the plan that need to be amended or stressed. As a member of the ACC Sub-committee on Population which is the interagency body in charge of the review and appraisal, the Commission has been participating fully in the whole exercise.

I. Inter-agency Co-ordination and Collaboration with other Organization Interested in Population Programmes in Africa

75. The need for co-ordination and collaboration among all organizations in the implementation of population projects within the region has often been stressed at various meetings and conferences. In the past, the ECA, at the formal level, tried to forge co-ordination and collaboration through the organization of annual meetings of all United Nations Organizations and of non-United Nations Organization interested in population work in Africa. These meetings began in 1971 and continued until 1974. Deliberations at these annual meetings and frequent consultations at the substantive level often resulted in the identification of projects of common interest. Since 1974, however, it has not been possible to organize the meetings because of the lack of the resources needed. However, the UNFPA has agreed to provide funds and it is now expected that the fifth in the series will be held some time in April 1979.

76. This situation, however, did not prevent co-ordination, especially among the United Nations system of organizations. Thus the ECA collaborated with the UN Population Division, New York and the UNFPA in the organization of the Regional Post-World Population Conference Consultation in Lusaka in 1975 to which the other United Nations Organizations contributed very useful inputs in their respective areas of competence. The ECA Population Division also collaborated with the other United Nations Organizations in the implementation of specific projects. As already shown in section E of this document the ECA prepared papers for and participated in a number of seminars/meetings organized by the different United Nations Organizations.

77. Collaboration between the ECA and the regional institutes for Population Studies has also continued during the period. The ECA also collaborated closely with the United Nations Population Division, New York in the backstopping of the activities of the institutes.

78. At the global level, the ECA continued to take active part in the activities of the ACC Sub-Committee on Population and its specialized group on inter-agency projections. Notable among the activities undertaken during the period under review are those on monitoring of population trends and review and appraisal of the world population plan of action. Mention should also be made of the fact that the ECA and other regional commissions were admitted to membership of the Inter-Agency Consultative Committee of the United Nations Fund for Population Activities for the first time in 1977. This has enabled the commissions to present their views on activities within their respective regions directly to this body instead of through the Population Division, New York as was the case previously.

79. As can be seen from section E, the ECA also prepared papers for and participated in various meetings organized by Non-United Nations Organizations. In addition, some of these organizations consulted the division in the implementation of some of their projects within the region.

80. The Conference of African Demographers at its last session appealed to the UNFPA to provide the ECA with the necessary resources to enable it implement its work programme in full. However, the period after the last session of the Conference coincided with the period of greater demands on the UNFPA, which made it impossible for the FUND to provide the extra funds needed. In particular, the secretariat did not obtain the extra resources required in terms of personnel to enable it implement its work programme. The staff strength has remained at the same level as it was in 1971. This accounts for the gaps in project implementation indicated in the report on activities.

81. One of the areas affected most was the organization of conferences, seminars and meetings. Since 1975 the Division has been unable to organize any of the planned meetings. The only major meeting organized was the Regional Post World Population Conference Consultations which was financed by the UNEFPA directly, and was not part of the original work programme presented to the Conference at the last session. Among the planned meetings that could not be held were the Conference of African Demographers, the Regional Inter-agency Co-ordination Meetings on Population, the Meetings of Non-UN Organizations interested in Population Work in Africa, the Training Courses on Techniques in Fertility Analysis, the Seminar on Mortality Surveys and Data in Africa. Also affected considerably was the work of the information services and clearing house activities of the division.

## II. Programme of Work for 1980-1981 (with projections to 1982/83)

82. From the preceding review of past activities, it can be seen that during the past five years the Population Division had inadequate resources due to the stringent ceiling of funding by the UNFPA, which pegged its support to the Division at the 1975 level. Now that a UNFPA evaluation team has recommended a restructuring and expansion of the Division's total commitments, we expect a stepped-up financing for new projects and the upgrading of old ones. Some of the changes and innovations which are expected to take place will involve the reorganization and modernization of the Information Services and Clearing House Unit and giving greater support to the implementation of the micro and macro case studies on the relationship between population and economic and social development. The approved programme of work for the biennium 1980-1981 with projections to 1982-1983 are as follows:

9.480

## POPULATION

A.

## BROAD ISSUES AND TECHNIQUES RELATING TO DEVELOPMENT

## Subprogramme 1

9.481

Relevant aspects of population policies and programmes within the framework of economic and social development

## Origin:

Central Assembly resolution 2211(XXI); ECOSOC resolution 1347(XLV); sixth session of the Commission (report, E/4651, paras. 517-524); sixth Conference of African Statisticians (report, E/CN.14/CAS.6/27), Expert Group on Population (report, E/CN.14/POP/23); first and second sessions of Conference of African Demographers; first session Conference of Ministers (resolution 230(X); second session Conference of Ministers and third session Conference of Ministers (resolution 273(XII); the World Population Plan of Action.

## Project aim:

The objective of this subprogramme is to create increased awareness of the short-term and long-term issues relating to different aspects of population structure, movements and changes among African Governments and assist them in the formulation and implementation of effective population policies and in the integration of the population aspects in the process of the planning for development.

The need for increased awareness of population issues and of the need for population policies has become more urgent in the light of the persistent high rate of growth of population in the region, the unlikelihood of its slowing down sufficiently rapidly in the next few decades, the continuing shift of population structure in favour of the young and the associated issues of education, employment and production and the possible intensification of a drift from rural areas to a few large urban centres with serious economic and social consequences.

Priority A

Work Content:

9.481.01 (a) Assistance to countries and territories (1980-1983):

*In formulating, implementing and evaluating national population policies and programmes as an integral part of and aid to economic and social development planning; and in implementing the recommendation of the World Population Plan of Action.*

(b) Studies:

9.481.03

*Study of the impact of changes in population growth structure and movements, etc., on economic and social development planning (1980-1983) (in collaboration with Socio-economic Research and Planning Division) - see also 9.481.26; 9.481.28 and 9.241.02 and 9.241.04;*

9.481.05

*Studies on volume, trends and policies of migration, urbanization and population distribution and their relationship to the economic and social development of the sending and receiving areas (1980-1983). (In collaboration with Socio-economic Research and Planning Division) - see also 9.481.26; 9.481.28; 9.291.06; 9.291.26; 9.291.28; 9.531.04; 9.531.05 and 9.531.28.*

9.481.06

*Study of international migration policies and their effects on the movements of migrant labour in the Western and Southern African subregions (1980-81) - see also 9.241.02 and 9.242.07 and new seminar on subject;*

9.481.08

*Study of the interrelationships of population distribution with the environment and resources with special reference to the Sahel (1980). (In collaboration with UNSO) - see also 9.481.04; 9.531.05 and 9.531.28.*

9.481.09

*Comparative study of the family planning programmes in selected countries (1981-1982). (See also first new meeting after 9.482.28).*

New

*Study of manpower policies in relation to population trends in selected countries 1981-1982.*

(d) *Conferences, meetings, seminars and expert working groups (1980-1983);*

9.481.26

*National seminars on the role of population in economic and social development (1980-1983, two seminars per year) - see also 9.481.02, 9.481.03, 9.481.05, 9.482.05, 9.241.02, 9.241.04 and 9.242.15;*

9.481.28

Seminar on the use of demographic data and analysis in socio-economic planning. (In collaboration with Socio-economic Research and Planning Division) (1980) - see also 9.481.02, 9.481.03, 9.481.05, 9.241.02, 9.241.04 and 9.242.15;

New

Expert Group on family planning programmes in Africa (1983).

New

Seminar on the socio-economic implications of migration policies and trends in Southern Africa (for the Southern African countries, 1982).

New

Second African Population Conference (1981) (in collaboration with Statistics Division and IUSSP.)

**Related Programmes:** Close collaboration with United Nations Headquarters and other relevant United Nations organs will be maintained in the conduct of the above subject as also with the Statistics, Social Development and the Socio-economic Research and Planning Division of ECA.

Subprogramme 2  
9.482

Population dynamics and economic and social development

Origin:

General Assembly resolution 2211(XXI); ECOSOC resolution 1347(XLV); ninth session of the Commission (report, E/4651, paras 517-524); sixth Conference of African Statisticians (report, E/CN.14/CAS.6/27); Expert Group on Population (report, E/CN.14/POP/23); first and second sessions of Conference of African Demographers; first session Conference of Ministers (resolution 230(X)); second session Conference of Ministers; and third session Conference of Ministers (resolution 273(XII)); the World Population Plan of Action.

Project aim:

The objective of this subprogramme is to develop, test and apply techniques of demographic research in the context of African development; to study and evaluate factors accounting for demographic growth rates and structural changes as aids to the design of socio-economic policies and the planning for socio-economic development.

Priority A

Work content:

9.482.01

(a) Assistance to countries and territories (1980-1983):

In defining the interrelations between population trends and socio-economic development; in conducting pertinent methodological studies; in designing, executing and analysing demographic surveys; in evaluating and adjusting data; in implementing the recommendations of the World Population Plan of Action.

(b) *Studies:*

- 9.482.02      *Evaluation, adjustment and analysis of demographic data including preparation of population projections (1980-1983);*
- 9.482.04      *Studies on mortality including levels, trends, patterns and preparation of life tables (1980-1983) (to be fed into 9.482.21); - see also 9.291.06; 9.291.26; 9.291.28, 9.531.04 and 9.531.05);*
- 9.482.05      *Study of the trends in the demographic aspects of labour force with emphasis on female participation rates (1980);*
- 9.482.06      *Study of the demography of nomadic population (1980). (In collaboration with UNSO and UNEP). Project to be fed into 9.482.21;*
- 9.482.07      *Study of international migration trends in selected countries (1981-1982) (to be fed into 9.241.04, 9.531.02 and 9.482.21);*
- 9.482.08      *Studies on fertility levels, patterns, differentials, trends, the socio-cultural factors influencing them and their implications for development (1980-1983) (to be fed into 9.241.04 and 9.531.02; and new seminar planned for 1983);*
- 9.482.09      *Study of the relationship of infant and childhood mortality to fertility levels and patterns in selected African countries (1980-1983) - to be fed into 9.241.04 and 9.531.02;*
- 9.482.10      *Study of sub-fertility and infertility in the Central African sub-region and their policy implications (1982) (In collaboration with WHO for 1983).*
- 9.482.11      *Study of marriage, its changing patterns and relationship fertility (1982-1983).*
- New      *Study of the implications of population trends for investment in education (1982-1983) (see also 9.481.03).*
- New      *Study of fertility trends in selected countries with and without family planning programmes (1983).*
- (c) *Collection and dissemination of information*
- 9.482.20      *Demographic Handbook for Africa (1983).*
- 9.482.21      *African Population Studies Series (1980-1983).*
- 9.482.22      *Preparation of Bibliographies (1980-1983).*

- 9.482.23 African Population Newsletter (1980-1983).
- 9.482.24 African Directory of Demographers (1982).
- New Manual for social workers with special reference to population.
- (d) Conferences, meetings, seminars and expert working groups.
- 9.482.26 Conference of African Demographers, fourth session (1981); fifth session (1983).
- 9.482.27 Regional Inter-Agency Co-ordination Meeting on Population (1981 and 1983).
- 9.482.28 Meeting of Non-United Nations Organizations interested in Population work in Africa (1981 and 1983).
- New Second African Population Conference (1981).
- New Expert Group on Demographic Analysis for African Countries (1981). (see 9.482.02)
- New Seminar on the demographic aspects of manpower development and employment 1983 (in collaboration with ILO and ECA Public Administration Division).
- New Seminar on fertility patterns and trends in the Central African sub-region and their policy implications 1983. (see also 9.482.09 and 9.482.11).

Related programmes: Close collaboration with United Nations Headquarters and other relevant United Nations organs will be maintained in the conduct of the above project as also with the Statistics, Social Development and the Socio-economic Research and Planning Division of ECA.

Subprogramme 3  
9.483

Regional training and research

Origin:

General Assembly resolution 2211(XXI): Commission terms of reference; ninth session of the Commission (report, E/4651, para. 522); sixth Conference of African Statisticians (report); Expert Group on Population (report); first session and second session of Conference of African Demographers, first session Conference of Ministers (resolution 230(X); second session Conference of Ministers and third session Conference of Ministers (resolution 273(XII)).



**Project aim:**

The objective of this subprogramme is to assist the governments in the training of personnel for work in the field of population by encouraging them to make full use of the regional demographic training centres at Accra, Yaounde and Cairo and available national institutions and to avail themselves of the research facilities of the institutions. Each country should be able to train at least one demographer each year as recommended by the African Regional Post World Population Conference Consultation in Lusaka in 1975.

**Priority A**

**Work content:**

9.483.01

(a) Assistance to countries and territories (1978-1979):

In demographic training at national institutions incorporating demography in the training programmes of economists, planners, doctors, nurses and other related professions; the maintenance of the regional demographic training and research institutions at Accra (for English-speaking countries) and Yaounde (for French-speaking countries) and also partly for the Cairo Demographic Centre and in implementing the recommendation of the World Population Plan of Action on training.

(b) Studies:

9.483.02

Training course on the techniques of fertility and mortality analysis (1982).

**Related programmes:** Close collaboration with United Nations Headquarters and other relevant United Nations organs will be maintained in the conduct of the above project as also with the Statistics, the Social Development and the Socio-economic Research and Planning Divisions of ECA, and the regional training institutes.