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A G E N D A I T E M 5



REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

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REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

A. INTRODUCTION

1. During the period between March 1977 and March 1979, the Executive Committee held three meetings, namely its seventeenth meeting from 10 to 12 October 1977 at Arusha, United Republic of Tanzania; its eighteenth meeting from 2 to 4 May 1978 at Khartoum, Democratic Republic of the Sudan; and its nineteenth meeting from 23 to 25 October 1978 again at Arusha, United Republic of Tanzania. The agendas of those meetings are reproduced in annex I of this report.

B. SUMMARY OF DECISIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Enlargement of the Executive Committee

2. At its seventeenth meeting, the Committee decided that suggestions concerning the enlargement of the Committee and the distribution of seats should be forwarded to the secretariat, which would submit to the next meeting of the Committee, which would be a plenary meeting, a detailed report outlining all the suggested alternatives. After taking a decision on the matter, the Committee would then make a recommendation to the Conference of Ministers at its fifth meeting.

3. The Committee, however, was unable to consider the matter again at its eighteenth meeting since no suggestion was received by the secretariat on the subject. During the nineteenth meeting of the Committee, a representative of one member State proposed that the enlarged membership of the Committee should be distributed as follows: Central Africa - six members; East Africa - four members; North Africa - three members; Southern Africa - five members and West Africa - eight members, giving a total of 26 seats on the Committee.

4. Moreover, the subject of the enlargement of the Executive Committee was also considered as part of the review of the structure of the institutional machinery of the Commission and it was suggested that further discussion on the subject of the enlargement of the Executive Committee should be taken up together with the discussion on the review of the structure of the Commission.

Review of the structure of the Commission in the light of the request contained in General Assembly resolution 32/197

5. At its nineteenth meeting the Committee considered the institutional machinery of the Commission, including the enlargement of the Executive Committee. After a lengthy discussion, the Committee decided to make the following recommendations to the Conference of Ministers:

(a) The ECA Conference of Ministers should meet every year, particularly to co-ordinate its decision-making process with that of OAU and the Economic and Social Council;

(b) Since the Executive Committee had been unable to reach a consensus, the question of the retention or abolition of the Executive Committee was left to the Conference of Ministers. Should the Conference decide to retain the Committee, the latter would meet prior to the meeting of the Conference of Ministers. If the Committee was abolished by the Conference of Ministers, the Conference should then establish a preparatory committee of officials whose composition it would determine;

(c) Existing sectoral conferences should be co-ordinated by the ECA and OAU secretariats as well as by other United Nations agencies in order to enhance their efficiency and make them less frequent and conflicting. No other standing sectoral conferences should be established. However, in view of the importance of the United Nations Transport and Communications Decade in Africa, there was no objection to the proposed Conference of African Ministers responsible for Transport, Communications and Works;

(d) The present Conferences of African Planners, Statisticians and Demographers should be combined;

(e) The Technical Committee of Experts should be abolished; and

(f) The ECA work programme should be derived from the decisions of the Conference of Ministers, the various sectoral ministerial conferences and the MULPOC Councils of Ministers and should be co-ordinated by the ECA secretariat for submission for approval by the Conference of Ministers.

6. In considering this question, the Committee had before it documents E/CN.14/ECO/148 and E/CN.14/ECO/163.

Co-operation within the United Nations system

7. At its seventeenth meeting, the Committee took note of the report on meetings between the Director-General of FAO and the Executive Secretary of ECA (E/CN.14/ECO/119) and approved the Memorandum of Understanding with IMCO (E/CN.14/ECO/123) and the document on co-operation between ECA and UNEP (E/CN.14/ECO/125).

Progress report on the implementation of the work programme and resolutions adopted at the fourth meeting of the Conference of Ministers

8. At its seventeenth meeting, the Committee approved the report submitted by the secretariat and specifically in the field of statistics urged all member States to supply statistical data to the secretariat to enable it to carry out its tasks.

Medium-term plan, 1980-1983

9. This item was considered by the Committee at its eighteenth meeting and after commenting on the document submitted by the secretariat (E/CN.14/706 - E/CN.14/TECO/40) the Committee decided to endorse the plan, subject to the comments it had made.

United Nations Trust Fund for African Development

(a) Progress report on pledging

(b) Utilization of funds already received

10. At its eighteenth meeting, the Committee recommended that a further appeal should be made to those Governments which had not paid up their pledges to do so as soon as possible and that the other African Governments should be urged to pledge and pay their contributions before the next Pledging Conference which would be held in connexion with the fourteenth session/fifth meeting of the ECA Conference of Ministers to be convened in Rabat, Morocco, in March 1979.

11. At its eighteenth meeting and on the proposal of the representative of Djibouti, the Committee adopted resolution ECO(XVIII)/Res.7 by which, after welcoming the recent accession to independence of the Republic of Djibouti, which had become the forty-ninth country member of the Commission, the Committee invited all member States to provide their material support to the secretariat of the Commission, within the framework of the United Nations Trust Fund for African Development, to enable it to meet the needs of the Republic of Djibouti as expressed in paragraphs 1 and 2 of the resolution.

Development planning, projections and policies

(a) Survey of Economic and Social Conditions in Africa, 1976-1977

12. The Committee considered this item at its eighteenth meeting. By resolution ECO(XVIII)/Res.3, after commending the secretariat of the Economic Commission for Africa for the efforts it had made in preparing the Survey of Economic and Social Conditions in Africa, 1976-1977, the Committee urged member States, inter alia, to strengthen the will for collective self-reliance which should be increasingly seen as the only viable approach to development in the present circumstances of the world economic situation.

(b) IDEP: General Assembly request in connexion with resolution 320 (XIII) of the Conference of Ministers

13. The Committee considered this item at its eighteenth meeting. After recalling Conference of Ministers resolutions 320 (XIII) and 285 (XII) dealing with measures for strengthening IDEP and mobilizing the necessary resources for the programmes and other related activities of the Institute, and noting that the General Assembly had requested the Economic and Social Council to transmit the statute of the African Institute for Economic Development and Planning to the Conference of Ministers of the Economic Commission for Africa for consideration and revision in the light of the proposals made by the Secretary-General in his report, the Committee, by resolution ECO(XVIII)/Res.1, endorsed the statute of the Institute as adopted by ECA Conference of Ministers in resolution 320 (XIII) at its fourth meeting held in February/March 1977 and revised in the light of the above-mentioned proposals. Accordingly, the Committee recommended that the revised statute be submitted to the fourteenth session/fifth meeting of the Conference of Ministers for approval together with an amendment to article IV.2(d) of the statute which would read as follows:

"Present an annual report on the work of the Institute including a complete audited report in respect of all income and expenditures at the appropriate meetings of the Executive Committee of the Economic Commission for Africa or the Conference of Ministers".

14. Member States were also urged by the same resolution to pay their contributions in arrears in respect of the Institute and to continue payment of their assessed contributions on a prompt and regular basis.

15. The revised statute of the Institute is annexed to this report (see annex II).

Economic co-operation

Report of the Conference on Migratory Labour in Southern Africa

16. At its eighteenth meeting, the Committee endorsed the resolutions and Charter of Rights for Migrant Workers in Southern Africa contained in part II of the report (E/CN.14/ECO/142) and adopted resolution ECO(XVIII)/Res.5 by which it requested the Economic and Social Council to recommend it to the General Assembly for adoption and to call for general compliance with the Charter of Rights for Migrant Workers in Southern Africa as adopted by the Lusaka Conference on Migratory Labour on 7 April 1978. The resolution also urged the United Nations and all organizations of the United Nations system, as well as African and non-African Governments and organizations, to extend to the African States affected by the migration of labour to the Republic of South Africa, all material, financial, technical and political support for the initiation and implementation of specific development programmes and projects aimed at enabling those States to utilize fully their available labour force for the development of their own economies.

Education and training

Expanded training and fellowship programme for Africa

17. The Committee considered this item at its eighteenth meeting. By resolution ECO(XVIII)/Res.4, after recalling Conference of Ministers resolution 306 (XIII) on co-operation in manpower development, which inter alia called upon member States to provide scholarships, fellowships and student places for the training of Africans other than their own nationals in their institutions and also upon the secretariat to take action aimed at fostering intra-African co-operation in manpower development and utilization, the Committee appealed to member States to give their full support for the implementation of the programme. Specifically it appealed to them to provide through ECA scholarships and fellowships for training other Africans in their national institutions and to provide adequate financial resources for the implementation of the above-mentioned programme through increased contributions to the United Nations Trust Fund for African Development and thereby ensure the necessary funds for training.

Human settlements

Report of the Intergovernmental Regional Committee on Human Settlements

18. The Committee considered this item at its nineteenth meeting and decided to bring the report as a whole and the remarks made concerning it to the attention of the Conference of Ministers (see document E/CN.14/ECO/162 - E/CN.14/HUS/33).

International trade

(a) Negotiation of a new co-operation agreement between the ACP countries and the European Economic Community

19. At its nineteenth meeting the Committee agreed that the document the secretariat had submitted on the subject (E/CN.14/701 - E/CN.14/ECO/152) should be transmitted to the Committee of Ambassadors at Brussels as well as to African Governments members of the ACP group.

20. The Committee also decided that, when so requested, ECA should, within the limits of its resources, provide African negotiators with the necessary technical support, including the preparation of studies and provision of appropriate statistical information in order to assist the group in every way in clarifying issues raised in the negotiations. Equally, ECA should provide a forum for African negotiators to prepare and agree on African standpoints with respect to the issues being negotiated.

21. At the national level, Governments should provide constant technical, political and financial support to their negotiators.

(b) Review of the implementation of the resolutions adopted at the fourth session of UNCTAD and preparations for the fifth session

22. At its nineteenth meeting, the Committee took note of the documents submitted by the secretariat, which highlighted the major issues concerning the implementation of resolutions adopted at past sessions of UNCTAD and pointed to the need for careful preparations for the fifth session.

23. It was understood that participants would urge their Governments to give careful consideration to the papers submitted (E/CN.14/702 - E/CN.14/ECO/157 and Add.1) so they could make a proper assessment of the way in which resolutions had been implemented in preparation for the fifth session of UNCTAD. ECA was asked to assist them in co-ordinating their views so they could confront the international community effectively.

(c) Ninth special session of the Trade and Development Board

24. At its eighteenth meeting the Committee also adopted resolution ECO(XVIII)/Res.8 whereby it requested the Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa to work out the implications for Africa of the conclusions reached at the ninth special session of the Trade and Development Board and to submit his findings to the next meeting of the Conference of Ministers.

(d) The African region and international negotiations

25. At its nineteenth meeting, the Committee agreed that:

(a) Document E/CN.14/700 - E/CN.14/ECO/158, together with document E/CN.14/ECO/152, should be circulated to African ambassadors of ACP States at Brussels and to all African Governments;

(b) ECA should continue to examine that important issue until Governments were fully conscious of its importance and took the necessary action;

(c) ECA should, through its own studies and other papers, develop information which could assist member States in evaluating not only their own bargaining power (such as mineral and other resources) but also the positions of those with whom they proposed to conduct international negotiations. That would partly compensate for the present overwhelming superiority of advanced countries in that respect;

(d) ECA should continue to put forward studies and ideas of the kind set out in the paper and on issues such as that dealt with so as to introduce order into the current disorderly examination and handling of African countries by member States; and

(e) A draft resolution on the subject which would also recall the OAU Declaration on Co-operation, Development and Economic Independence would be considered by the Conference of Ministers at its fifth meeting at Rabat in March 1979.

Natural resources

(a) Co-operation in the field of natural resources

26. At its nineteenth meeting, after noting the little support member States gave the Regional Centre for Training in Aerial Surveys, the Regional Centre for Services in Surveying and Mapping and the East African Mineral Resources Development Centre, the Committee decided to transmit to the Conference of Ministers document E/CN.14/ECO/147 and to draw attention to the disappointing result as conveyed in the secretariat paper.

(b) Follow-up and implementation of the Mar del Plata Action Plan

27. At the nineteenth meeting of the Committee some of the participants supported the recommendations of the follow-up meeting in their entirety, pointing out their timeliness. They supported, in particular, the proposal to set up an intergovernmental committee on water as well as the African Regional Interagency Water Resources Board. As the follow-up meeting had suggested two avenues to membership on the intergovernmental committee, one representative underlined the need to have all member States involved in such a committee. As to the membership of the Regional Interagency Water Resources Board, a suggestion was made that it should not be restricted to United Nations agencies only but that consideration should be given to intergovernmental organizations existing in Africa.

28. Other members, however, while supporting the other recommendations of the follow-up meeting, did not see any merit in setting up yet another intergovernmental committee. There was an urgent need to strengthen existing subregional organizations such as the Mano River Union, the River Niger Commission and the Lake Chad Basin Commission. It was suggested that the ECA secretariat could assume the co-ordinating role and that stress should also be laid on the strengthening organs at the national level. It was important to avoid duplication.

29. The Committee accordingly decided that documents E/CN.14/ECO/161 and ECA/NRD/WR/78/2/Rev.1 should be forwarded to the Conference of Ministers together with the comments it had made on them.

(c) Project on the promotion of the use of solar energy in Africa

30. At its nineteenth meeting the Committee approved the project in question (E/CN.14/ECO/155). Since then a Regional Seminar on Solar Energy in Africa has been held, the report of which appears under the Conference of Ministers' agenda item I5(c).

Public administration

Purchasing and materials management in Africa

31. At its nineteenth meeting, the Committee agreed that:

(a) Public purchasing and materials management was an important area which warranted serious attention at the national level in terms of mechanisms, management practices and personnel training and utilization;

(b) At the regional level, the feasibility of developing bulk purchasing of materials and equipment and of co-operation in training personnel should be explored; and

(c) Since the establishment of the African Purchasing and Supplies Organization (APSO) had received the endorsement of the Conference of Ministers, efforts to persuade more States to join the organization in accordance with Conference of Ministers resolution 317 (XIII) should be continued. Accordingly, participants should encourage their Governments to give due consideration to subscribing to the APSO constitution.

32. The secretariat should explore ways and means of organizing training workshops, seminars and fellowships for the training of personnel.

33. The Executive Secretary should submit periodic progress reports on APSO to the Executive Committee.

Science and technology

(a) Intergovernmental Committee of Experts for Science and Technology Development

34. At its nineteenth meeting the Committee could not agree on whether the Intergovernmental Committee of Experts for Science and Technology Development should be maintained either with its present terms of reference or revised ones or be abolished. It was felt that that item was part of the whole question of the review of the structure of ECA and it was therefore decided that the question should be referred to the Conference of Ministers for a decision.

35. In considering this item, the Committee had before it document E/CN.14/ECO/151.

(b) African Regional Centre for the Transfer, Adaptation and Development of Technology: Progress report

36. The Committee considered the report submitted by the secretariat on this item at its seventeenth meeting, took note of it and agreed that the documents relating to this item should be referred to Governments of member States for detailed study in preparation for the meeting of plenipotentiaries to be held in Kaduna, Nigeria. The attention of participants was drawn to article 14 of the draft constitution of the African Centre for Technology (E/CN.14/ECO/127/Add.2, annex I) which required further study by member States.

Statistics

Report of the tenth session of the Conference of African Statisticians

(a) Revised work programme

(b) Statistical Training Programme for Africa

(c) African Household Survey Capability Programme

37. At its eighteenth meeting, by resolution ECO(XVIII)/Res.9, the Committee:

(a) Approved the report of the tenth session of the Conference of African Statisticians and the revised ECA statistical work programme;

(b) Approved in principle the Statistical Training Programme for Africa (STPA);

(c) Endorsed the project document on operational support for the improvement and expansion of the Statistical Training Programme for Africa, subject to the addition of two posts for the Institute of Statistics and Applied Economics at Makerere University and empowered the Executive Secretary to sign the document on behalf of African Governments;

(d) Endorsed the project document on the regional component of the African Household Survey Capability Programme and authorized the Executive Secretary to sign the document on behalf of African Governments.

Transport, communications and tourism

United Nations Transport and Communications Decade in Africa

38. At its eighteenth meeting, the Committee considered this item on its agenda. By resolution ECO(XVIII)/Res.2, after noting with appreciation General Assembly resolution 32/160 of 19 December 1977 endorsing the recommendations made in Conference of Ministers resolution 291 (XIII) and proclaiming a Transport and Communications Decade in Africa during the years 1978-1988, the Committee appealed to the Secretary-General of the United Nations inter alia to provide the Economic Commission for Africa with the necessary financial and staff resources that would enable it to discharge fully its responsibilities during the Decade; urged member States to take advantage of the opportunity afforded by the Decade to accord the highest priority to the development of transport and communications in Africa; requested the Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa and the Administrative Secretary-General of the Organization of African Unity to prepare and convene, by early 1979, a meeting of ministers concerned with matters relating to transport, communications, works and planning to define Africa's global strategy for the development of transport and communications, including telecommunications, in the region; and also requested the Executive Secretary to take the necessary steps, in collaboration with the Administrative Secretary-General of OAU, to bring the matter of the United Nations Transport and Communications Decade before the next meeting of OAU.

Least developed countries

Development issues of the least developed African countries

39. At the nineteenth meeting of the Committee it was agreed that there was need for ECA to focus special attention on the problems of the least developed countries in Africa with a view to monitoring and co-ordinating the activities of the various international organizations and the donor institutions.

40. To that end, the Executive Secretary was requested to convene periodically high-level meetings (preferably at ministerial level) of the least developed African countries and/or international organizations and donor countries to review progress and prepare action-oriented programmes. The first meeting should be held some time in 1979.

41. Highest priority should be given to the least developed African countries in the Third United Nations Development Decade and in programmes under the United Nations Decade for Transport and Communications in Africa in the field of transport and communications and in food production and human resources development.

42. To enable ECA to undertake the monitoring and co-ordinating role mentioned above, a special unit on least developed countries should be created in the ECA secretariat. To that end, the Secretary-General of the United Nations should be requested to provide the necessary resources.

43. The special requirements of the least developed African countries should also be taken into account during the second Pledging Conference at Rabat in March 1979.

Staff and administrative questions

44. At its nineteenth meeting, the Committee considered this item in its agenda and, on the question of ECA Library, agreed that its existence should be publicized in African universities and other institutions and that access to the Library should be broadened. The Committee also decided, with regard to the new building, that a further appeal should be made to those member States which had not yet responded to earlier invitations to contribute to the furnishing and adornment of the new building so that it would truly reflect all aspects of African cultures.

45. The Committee also decided, in accordance with operative paragraph 5 of resolution 294 (XIII), to transmit to the Conference of Ministers the report on staff and administrative questions (E/CN.14/ECO/150).

Introduction of Arabic as a working language of the Commission

46. At its eighteenth meeting the Committee considered this item in its agenda. By resolution ECO(XVIII)/Res.6, after recalling the General Assembly's decision of 15 December 1975 concerning the adoption of Afrabic as an official and working language of the Economic Commission for Africa in addition to English and French, the Committee noted that the funds made available to ECA did not allow it to implement the decision of the General Assembly and requested the Economic and Social Council to recommend to the General Assembly that it provide in its next budget for the additional funds needed to implement this resolution.

Preparations for the twenty-first anniversary of the Economic Commission for Africa

47. This item was considered by the Committee at its eighteenth meeting. It was decided that, on their return, participants should consult with their Governments and forward any suggestions they might have to the secretariat. The final decisions as to what events should mark the anniversary would then be left to the secretariat on the understanding that due attention would be paid to the principle of subregional distribution. It was also agreed that the question of the twenty-first anniversary of ECA should be raised at the forthcoming summit meeting of OAU in order to ensure that the events would have the necessary political support.

48. At its nineteenth meeting, the Committee again considered the question and, in view of the importance of the activities connected with the anniversary celebrations and the consequent need for financial resources, it decided to adopt a resolution by which, after noting with satisfaction the efforts already made by the Secretary-General of the United Nations, it expressed gratitude to him and invited him to make further efforts to make available to the ECA secretariat the financial resources required for the implementation of the activities connected with the anniversary celebrations.

Preparations for the fifth meeting of the Conference of Ministers

49. The Committee considered this item at its nineteenth meeting and approved the provisional agenda and the programme of work of the fifth meeting of the Conference of Ministers with the following amendments:

(a) Item 5 of the provisional agenda should read: "Report and recommendations of the Executive Committee";

(b) A new item entitled "International Year of the Child" was added to the provisional agenda.

Other decisions

50. During the period under review the Committee also decided to take note of the following reports submitted to it for information:

(a) Report of the Pledging Conference held in Lagos from 26 to 29 April 1977 (E/CN.14/686-ECA/PLDG/PWP/77/E.Rept.)

(b) Report on the sixty-third session of the Economic and Social Council (E/CN.14/ECO/126)

(c) Afro-Arab co-operation (E/CN.14/ECO/120)

(d) Report on the Regional Conference on the Implementation of Plans of Action for the Integration of Women in Development (E/CN.14/ECO/128/Rev.1 - E/CN.14/ATRCW/77/Rept.)

(e) Report of the African Regional Meeting on the United Nations Conference on Science and Technology for Development (E/CN.14/ECO/160 - E/CN.14/UNCSTD/AFREG/2)

(f) External debt problems: Possible impact on the African countries of the recommendations of the first ministerial session of the Trade and Development Board (E/CN.14/ECO/153)

(g) Report on the second regular session of the Economic and Social Council in 1978 (E/CN.14/ECO/119 and Addendum)

(h) Integration of women in the development process: report of the evaluation mission (E/CN.14/ECO/145)

ANNEX I

E/CN.14/696

Annex I

AGENDAS OF THE SEVENTEENTH, EIGHTEENTH AND NINETEENTH MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

I. Agenda of the seventeenth meeting of the Executive Committee

1. Opening of the meeting
2. Election of officers
3. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work
4. Fourth meeting of the Conference of Ministers: Progress report on the implementation of the work programme and resolutions
5. Report of the Pledging Conference held in Lagos from 26 to 29 April 1977
6. Co-operation within the United Nations system:
 - (a) Co-operation between ECA and FAO
 - (b) Co-operation between ECA and IMCO
 - (c) Co-operation between ECA and UNEP
 - (d) Co-operation between ECA and UNESCO
7. Afro-Arab co-operation
8. African Regional Centre for the Transfer, Adaptation and Development of Technology - progress report:
 - (a) Report of the interagency mission
 - (b) Report of the intergovernmental meeting of experts
9. Report on the Regional Conference on the Implementation of Plans of Action for the Integration of Women in Development
10. Report on the sixty-third session of the Economic and Social Council
11. Enlargement of the Executive Committee and election of members for the period 1977-1979
12. Other matters
13. Date and place of the next meeting
14. Adoption of the report and closure of the meeting

II. Agenda of the eighteenth meeting of the Executive Committee

1. Opening of the meeting
2. Election of officers
3. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work
4. Survey of economic and social conditions in Africa, 1976-1977
5. Medium-term plan 1980-1983
6. United Nations Transport and Communications Decade in Africa
7. United Nations Trust Fund for African Development:
 - (a) Progress report on pledging
 - (b) Utilization of funds already received

8. Expanded training and fellowship programme for Africa
9. IDEP - General Assembly's request in connexion with resolution 320 (XIII) of the Conference of Ministers:
 - (a) Report on the African Institute for Economic Development and Planning
 - (b) Election of one member of the Governing Council
10. Report of the Conference on Migratory Labour in Southern Africa
11. Preparation for the twenty-first anniversary of the Economic Commission for Africa
12. Report of the tenth session of the Conference of African Statisticians:
 - (a) Revised work programme
 - (b) Statistical training programme for Africa
 - (c) African Household Survey Capability Programme
13. Introduction of Arabic as a working language of the Commission
14. Other matters
15. Date and place of the next meeting
16. Adoption of the report and closure of the meeting

III. Agenda of the nineteenth meeting of the Executive Committee

1. Opening of meeting
2. Election of officers
3. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work
4. Development issues of the least developed African countries
5. Integration of women in the development process: report of evaluation mission
6. Co-operation in the field of natural resources
7. Science and technology:
 - (a) Report of the African Regional Meeting
 - (b) Intergovernmental Committee of Experts for Science and Technology Development
 - (c) Project on the promotion of the use of solar energy in Africa
8. Follow-up and implementation of the Mar del Plata Action Plan
9. Purchasing and materials management in Africa
10. The African region and international negotiations
11. Negotiation of a new co-operation agreement between the ACP countries and the European Economic Community

12. External debt problems: Possible impact on the African countries of the recommendations of the first ministerial session of the Trade and Development Board
13. Review of the implementation of the resolutions adopted at the fourth session of UNCTAD and preparations for the fifth session
14. Report on the second regular session of the Economic and Social Council in 1978
15. Report on the meeting of Intergovernmental Regional Committee on Human Settlements
16. (a) The Executive Committee: Composition and enlargement thereof
(b) Review of the structure of the Commission in the light of the request contained in General Assembly resolution 32/197
17. Twenty-first anniversary of the Economic Commission for Africa
18. Preparation for the fifth meeting of the Conference of Ministers
19. Staff and administrative questions
20. Any other matters
21. Date and place of the next meeting
22. Adoption of the report and closure of the meeting

ANNEX II

Statute of the African Institute for Economic Development and Planning

Article I

Purpose and Functions of the Institute

1. The primary purpose of the Institute shall be the training of specialists and senior officials of those services and institutions in Africa responsible for economic development and planning. Such training shall include appropriate supportive research activities. The Institute shall also organize seminars of varied duration on practical problems of national or regional development and on the planning of various economic factors. The functions of the Institute shall be as follows:

(a) To provide at its headquarters training courses of varying duration on various aspects of development and planning. The details of such courses and the requirements for admission shall be determined periodically by the Governing Council on the advice of the Advisory Board on Studies and Research. The Council will also determine the type and nature of the certificates to be awarded at the end of such activities;

(b) To organize in African countries, in co-operation with the appropriate national services and the specialized agencies concerned, seminars of varying duration on practical problems of national and regional development and planning;

(c) To provide advisory services at the request of Governments and in so far as the training programme allows;

(d) To establish documentation which will be made available throughout Africa to research workers, to national institutions dealing with economic development problems and to subregional organizations in the field of economic planning and development;

(e) In undertaking these four functions, the Institute should take into account the paramount importance of promoting and defending the economic independence of African countries.

Article II

Site of the Institute

1. The headquarters of the Institute shall be situated at Dakar, Senegal.

2. The host Government shall provide, in agreement with the United Nations, adequate premises, facilities and services as required for the efficient operation of the Institute.

Article III

Status and organization of the Institute

1. The Institute is a subsidiary body of the Economic Commission for Africa.
2. The Institute shall have its own Governing Council and budget. It shall be subject to the Financial Regulations of the Staff Regulations of the United Nations, except as may be otherwise provided by the General Assembly. It shall also be subject to the Financial Rules, the Staff Rules and all other administrative issuances of the Secretary-General, except as may be otherwise decided by him.
3. In addition, there shall be an Advisory Board on Studies and Research, a Director and supporting staff.

Article IV

The Governing Council

1. The Governing Council shall be composed as follows:
 - (a) The Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa, who shall be ex-officio Chairman;
 - (b) A representative of the Government of Senegal;
 - (c) Twelve members appointed by the Conference of Ministers of the Economic Commission for Africa on the recommendation of the Conference of African Planners. These members, selected on the basis of their personal competence and experience in affairs connected with the work of the Institute, must be nationals of 12 different African countries, chosen with due consideration for the principle of geographic distribution. They shall be appointed for a period of four years and shall be eligible for reappointment. To achieve continuity, six of the 12 shall initially be appointed for two years. Vacancies occurring due to disability or resignation shall be filled for the interim period by the ECA Executive Committee or the Conference of Ministers whichever meets first;
 - (d) During the period of UNDP assistance to the Institute, a UNDP representative who will normally be the UNDP resident representative at Dakar, shall participate as a non-voting member in the deliberations of the Governing Council;
 - (e) The Director of the Institute shall act as secretary of the Governing Council.
2. The Governing Council shall:
 - (a) Lay down general principles and policies governing the operations of the Institute, including the general conditions of admission;
 - (b) Review and approve work programmes and the relevant budgets;

(c) Examine and approve the Director's annual report on the work and progress of the Institute, including the budgetary and financial report for the preceding year;

(d) Present an annual report on the work of the Institute at the appropriate meeting of the Executive Committee of the Economic Commission for Africa;

(e) Review the administration of the Institute and make such recommendations as it may deem appropriate;

3. The Governing Council shall hold an ordinary session twice a year, once to adopt the budget and programme activities and once to review the management report and statement of accounts. It may hold an extraordinary session at the request of the Chairman or one third of its members. The Governing Council shall adopt its own rules of procedure.

Article V

The Chairman of the Governing Council

1. The Chairman of the Council shall:

(a) Convene the Governing Council and prepare its agenda;

(b) By delegation of authority from the Secretary-General of the United Nations, appoint the Director and other staff of the Institute;

(c) With the approval of the Governing Council, solicit and receive aid from specialized agencies of the United Nations, intergovernmental agencies, non-governmental organizations and other sources.

Article VI

The Director

1. The Secretary-General of the United Nations, upon recommendation by the Executive Secretary of ECA, shall appoint the Director of the Institute. The Executive Secretary shall consult with the Governing Council before making his recommendation. The initial appointment of the Director shall be for three years, renewable for succeeding periods of two years each.

2. The Director will be assisted by a Deputy Director.

3. The Director shall have the responsibility for the organization, direction and administration of the Institute. In accordance with the policies laid down by the Governing Council, he shall:

(a) Submit the programme and budget of the Institute to the Governing Council for approval;

(b) Carry out programmes and effect disbursements as provided in the budget through which funds have been allocated;

(c) Submit to the Governing Council annual reports on the activities of the Institute, together with a complete report on revenue and expenditure for the preceding period;

(d) Submit the names of senior personnel for approval and appointment by the Secretary-General of the United Nations or the Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa, depending on the level of the posts to be encumbered;

(e) Select and appoint personnel of the Institute other than those in (d) above, after consultation with the Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa;

(f) Make the necessary arrangements with other national and international organizations for the utilization of the services offered by the Institute, it being understood that arrangements with national organizations will be made with the approval of the Governments concerned.

Article VII

Advisory Board on Studies and Research

1. The Advisory Board on Studies and Research shall be composed of:
 - The Director of the Institute;
 - The Deputy Director;
 - Two senior lecturers nominated by the Director;
 - A representative of the Economic Commission for Africa;
 - A representative of each of the United Nations agencies concerned;
 - Four professors or research workers appointed by the Chairman of the Governing Council, having regard to the principle of equitable geographical representation;
 - Two senior members of appropriate university disciplines outside Africa, one from a developed country and one from a developing country, to be appointed by the Governing Council and proposed by the Chairman.
2. Members of the Board appointed by the Chairman of the Governing Council shall normally be requested to serve for at least three years.
3. The Director shall be the Chairman of the Advisory Board on Studies and Research.
4. The Advisory Board on Studies and Research shall be responsible for giving technical advice with regard to the design of research and study programmes of the Institute.
5. The Board shall be convened at least once a year by its Chairman. At its meeting, it shall formulate recommendations to be submitted to the Governing Council on the future work programme of IDEP.

Article VIII

Co-operation with the secretariat of the Economic Commission for Africa

The secretariat of the Economic Commission for Africa shall, within the limits of its resources, assist the Institute in every possible way in order to facilitate its work in economic planning for Africa. In particular, ECA should, from time to time, make available to the Institute experienced staff to give lectures, to assist in supervising research and to participate in seminars.

Article IX

Financial resources and rules governing the financial management of the Institute

1. The Institute shall derive its finances from contributions made by African Governments and by UNDP. The Institute may derive further resources in cash or in kind from the United Nations, its specialized agencies, other governmental organizations and institutions, Governments and non-governmental organizations. Acceptance by the Institute of offers of such further assistance shall, in every case, be subject to the decision of the Chairman of the Governing Council, in consultation with the Director of the Institute, in accordance with the basic aims of the Institute and the relevant provisions of the rules governing the financial management of the Institute. The Chairman of the Governing Council shall report on the matter to the Council at its next session.

Article X

General remarks

1. This statute supersedes that adopted pursuant to resolution 93 (VI) of 27 February 1964 at the 109th meeting of the Economic Commission for Africa.
2. The Secretary-General is requested to issue revised administrative instructions to ensure the effective implementation of this statute.