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ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR AFRICA
Seminar on Urgent Administrative
Problems of African Governments
Addis Ababa, 2-12 October 1962

SEMINAR

ON URGENT ADMINISTRATIVE PROBLEMS OF AFRICAN GOVERNMENTS

Arising out of the discussion of the Plenary Session on the subject of United Nations Technical Assistance in Public Administration, held on Monday, 8 October 1962, the following resolution is submitted:

Considering that Technical Assistance is accepted as a need, and

Considering that the application of Technical Assistance could be made more efficient, and

Considering that the Economic Commission for Africa is called upon to play a role in Technical Assistance in the field of Public Administration,

the following recommendations are made:

1. That Technical Assistance be related more closely to the desire of the peoples of Africa for balanced national development.
2. That more care be taken in the selection, briefing, supervision and evaluation of experts posted in African countries.
3. That better coordination be achieved between the technical assistance activities of the members of the United Nations Family and whenever possible, between the United Nations and the bi-lateral programmes.
4. That the countries should set up or strengthen existing internal agencies to plan and coordinate the activities of technical assistance within their scope.
5. That fellowships should be used whenever possible but with better selection of candidates and fields of study.
6. That the OPEX type of assistance be used whenever possible provided it serves the ends of national development.
7. That the Public Administration Division of ECA should establish early contacts with the Governments of Africa, using the Resident Representatives of the Technical Assistance Boards as an initial base, to assist them with their technical assistance programmes. The Seminar considers that reconnaissance surveys should be made in sufficient numbers to accelerate the introduction of the action ECA is to take in the decentralization of technical assistance operations.