



UNITED NATIONS  
ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

47037



Distr.  
LIMITED

E/CN.14/AMA/112  
14 August 1979

ENGLISH  
Original: FRENCH

ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR AFRICA  
ASSOCIATION OF AFRICAN CENTRAL BANKS

Sixth ordinary meeting

Dakar (Senegal) 27-31 August 1979

TRADE AND ECONOMIC RELATIONS BETWEEN AFRICAN COUNTRIES AND  
THE SOCIALIST COUNTRIES OF EASTERN EUROPE

Note by the ECA secretariat

M79-2280

Explanatory notes

The designation "Socialist countries of Eastern Europe" used in this note conforms with the designation which has been used by the UNCTAD secretariat up to now in a series of studies on trade relations among countries having different economic and social systems. This designation covers seven European countries members of the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance (CMEA), namely Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, the German Democratic Republic, Hungary, Poland, Romania and the USSR. The present note therefore concentrates on trade and economic relations between European countries members of CMEA and African developing countries.

Export and import figures are expressed in f.o.b. terms, except for imports into Hungary which are given in c.i.f. terms and imports into Poland in the year 1977, which are also c.i.f.

"Dollar" means United States dollar.

## INTRODUCTION

1. A sustained expansion of trade and economic relations with the Socialist countries of Eastern Europe would, it is thought, help African countries in their development efforts, particularly in terms of strengthening their economic structure, diversifying their markets and sources of supply and increasing their export sales, thus contributing to a better utilization of Africa's human and natural resources.
2. African countries, which are becoming increasingly aware of the important role that the Socialist countries of Eastern Europe could play in promoting their trade and their economic development in general, have on many occasions shown that they are interested in developing and intensifying their co-operation between Africa and the Socialist countries of Eastern Europe. The Heads of State and Government of African countries recommended, at their meeting in Addis Ababa in May 1973 on the occasion of the tenth anniversary of the Organization of African Unity, that everything should be done to promote the expansion of trade and facilitate payments between African countries and Socialist countries and that arrangements should be made to facilitate the sale of African countries goods in Socialist countries.
3. At its last meeting held at the end of January 1979 in preparation for the fifth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development of African Ministers of Trade again underscored the need to develop trade and economic relations with the Socialist countries of Eastern Europe.
4. The aim of the present paper is to study the possibilities of expanding and intensifying trade and economic co-operation between those countries and developing Africa. The first two sections will review the general trends in trade and economic co-operation between the two groups of countries in recent years. The third section will analyse the prospects for expanding trade and economic co-operation.

## I. DEVELOPMENT OF TRADE RELATIONS

5. The developed market economy countries are by far the most important trading partners of African developing countries. Taking the average of the total value of the region's trade over the last five years, i.e. from 1973 to 1977, the developed market economy countries accounted for 83.6 per cent of total exports and 80.5 per cent of total imports. During the same period, the share of the Socialist countries of Eastern Europe was only 3.3 per cent and 4.8 per cent respectively. The sustained expansion of economic and trade relations with the Socialist countries could thus help African countries in their efforts to intensify their trade, and diversify their export markets and their sources of supply. To that end, a general analysis of trade flows over the last few years and the legal framework for such trade provides a useful basis for determining the prospects of expanding trade relations with the Socialist countries of Eastern Europe.

### A. Trends in trade flows (1970-1977)

#### General tendencies

6. During the period 1970-1977, for which data are available, Africa's exports to the Socialist countries of Eastern Europe increased in value at the average rate of 10.7 per cent a year. In absolute terms, they rose from 770 million dollars in 1970 to 1,565 million dollars in 1977. Between 1973 and 1977, the average annual value of exports was 1,629 million dollars (see annex, Table 1).

7. During the same period, the region's imports from the Socialist countries of Eastern Europe rose at an average rate of 14.3 per cent per annum from 1 billion dollars in 1970 to 2,547 billion dollars in 1977. The value of imports averaged 1,917 billion dollars between 1973 and 1977.

8. Despite this increase, Africa's trade with Socialist countries rose less rapidly than the region's trade as a whole. Thus the share of Socialist countries in Africa's total exports, which stood at 6.2 per cent in 1970, fell to 3.3 per cent in 1977. In the same period, the Socialist countries' share in imports also fell from 8.4 per cent to 4.8 per cent.

9. Over all, Africa's trade balance with Socialist countries was negative between 1970 and 1977. The deficit, which stood at 230 million dollars in 1970, reached 982 million dollars in 1977.

#### Commodity trade

##### i) Breakdown of African exports by main commodity groups

10. African exports to Socialist countries consist primarily of foodstuffs, drinks and tobacco, raw materials (excluding fuels), oils and fats. The main foodstuffs are coffee, cocoa beans, fruits, vegetables and cereals. Raw materials (excluding fuels), oils and fats include seeds, oilseeds and kernels, animal and vegetable oils and fats, textile fibres, fertilizers and unprocessed ores, ores and metal waste.

11. These commodities account for more than 60 per cent of the total value of Africa's exports to Socialist countries. Manufactures accounted for 12.6 per cent in 1976 and 16.2 per cent in 1977, whilst mineral fuels averaged 12.05 per cent between 1971 and 1977.

##### ii) Breakdown of African imports by commodity group

12. African imports from Socialist countries consist primarily of capital goods: machines, transport equipment, other manufactured articles and foodstuffs, drinks and tobacco. In 1977 these commodities accounted for over 70 per cent of the total value of African imports from Socialist countries. The share of machines and transport equipment dropped from 51 per cent in 1972 to 36.6 per cent in 1977. Imports of other manufactures (sections 6 and 8 of SITC), which had increased between 1972 and 1974, dropped slightly as from 1975 to 23.7 per cent in 1977 as against 25.6 per cent in 1974.

#### Trade by country

13. The distribution of trade with the Socialist countries is marked by a strong concentration of trade flows in a small number of countries. On the African side, out of the 32 countries for which data, albeit fragmentary ones, are available, it would appear that during the period 1970-1976, a dozen or so countries alone accounted for over 90 per cent of the total value of trade, in terms of both exports and imports. Listed in decreasing order of their market share, they are: Egypt, Algeria, Morocco, Nigeria, Ghana, Guinea, the Sudan, the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Tunisia and the Ivory Coast.

Although its share has fallen considerably since 1970, Egypt is still by far the main trading partner of the European countries members of CMEA in terms of Africa's trade with that group.

14. Among the Socialist countries, the USSR, Czechoslovakia, Poland and Hungary are Africa's main clients and suppliers. The Soviet Union, however, alone accounts for over 60 per cent of the value of trade between the two groups of countries. Although its trade is still at a low level, Romania has sustained trade relations with almost all African countries. It seems, moreover, from available fragmentary data, that its share in Africa's exports and imports to and from Socialist countries increased considerably in 1977.

#### Main constraints on the development of trade

15. There are a certain number of constraints to the development of trade between Africa and the Socialist countries of Eastern Europe. They are in general of a historical, institutional or structural nature. Africa's historical links with the developed market economy countries are not conducive to the development of trade with Socialist countries. Undoubtedly, attempts to change the tastes and habits of African consumers who are used to Western goods and to introduce new marketing and distribution structures for goods from Socialist countries meet with a number of difficulties. In many cases, if not the majority, the transnational corporations have such a hold over the marketing structures for imports and exports that the Socialist countries have difficulty in getting a foothold in the African market. The existence and strengthening of preferential trade systems between African countries and the developed market economy countries has made this type of constraint on the development of trade relations between African and the Socialist countries worse.

16. Other factors which continue to hamper the expansion of trade are the lack of an institutional framework able to promote the development of trade rapidly, the lack of frequent contact between the representatives of the two groups of countries and the inadequate information on existing and potential trade opportunities on both sides.

17. Lastly, there are other obstacles to the development of trade such as the lack of transport and communications between the two groups of countries.

## B. Legal framework

18. The legal framework for trade and economic relations between African countries and the European countries members of CMEA was basically laid down in the early 1960s and had developed further in recent years. Despite differences in scope and nature, the legal arrangements in force between the two groups of countries essentially take the form of intergovernmental trade and payments agreements and protocols, and intergovernmental economic, industrial, scientific and technical co-operation agreements.

19. Of the intergovernmental trade and payments agreements, the latter deserve special attention because of the role they play in the regulation of the trade account. There are basically two forms of preferential payments in force between Africa and the European countries members of CMEA: agreements providing for bilateral clearing schemes and agreements requiring payments to be effected in convertible currency. Normally, bilateral trade agreements between States contain provisions governing payments, but the latter may also be worked out by agreement between credit institutions, central banks or foreign trade banks.

### Payments agreements involving bilateral clearing schemes

20. This type of agreement often provides for reciprocal or unilateral credit, often called technical credit, to facilitate trade between the two contracting parties. The value is often expressed in the currency of the African country in question and bears a low rate of interest. There are no recent data on payments agreements involving bilateral clearing schemes concluded between African countries and European members of CMEA. An outline of the agreements concluded in the 1960s is annexed hereto.

### Payments agreements based on convertible currency

21. The system of making settlements between African countries and the Socialist countries of Eastern Europe is as follows: Two countries undertake to grant export or import licences for products shown on an "indicative" list, which is so called because it can be modified or supplemented by agreement between the two parties. The goods are traded duty-free.

22. These trade agreements contain clauses stipulating the currency in which payment is to be effected, which is usually the United States dollar or any other freely convertible currency. The agreements provide further that payments relating to commercial transactions should be effected in accordance with the currency regulations of each of the parties to the agreement.

23. Several African countries have concluded trade agreements which provide for regulation in freely convertible currencies with some Socialist countries of Eastern Europe. Mention may be made in this regard of the agreements concluded by Bulgaria with Algeria, Benin and Nigeria; Czechoslovakia with Benin, Morocco, the Niger and Nigeria; the German Democratic Republic with Ghana, Egypt and the Sudan; Hungary with Algeria, Egypt, Mali, Morocco, the Sudan and Tunisia; Poland with

Algeria, Egypt, Mali, Morocco, the Sudan and Tunisia; Romania with Algeria, Guinea, the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya and Tunisia; and USSR with Ghana and Tunisia.

24. Newly independent countries such as Angola, Mozambique and Cap Verde have also signed agreements relating to settlements in convertible currency with the Socialist countries of Eastern Europe.

#### Assessment of the two payments systems

25. There are some advantages to commercial regulation by way of bilateral clearing systems. The regulation arrangements laid down in the majority of clearing agreements lead to foreign exchange savings. Some agreements provide that African countries may settle their debit balances by deliveries of goods in the case of an excessive overdraft or the expiry of the payments agreement. This type of agreement also helps to put African countries' balance of payments with their partners on a sounder footing. Mutual or unilateral technical credit facilities on advantageous terms also help to promote trade. Some bilateral clearing arrangements are also known to contain a price clause stipulating that the world market price will be used as the basis for determining the prices of goods to be traded. This provision may make it possible to fix the prices at which goods are traded between African countries and the European members of CMEA equitably.

26. The bilateral clearing system has nevertheless some major disadvantages. The bilateralism and nonconvertibility of currency which this system involves are a serious handicap to the development of trade. Although in principle trade should be balanced, imbalances emerge to the detriment of some African countries which have adopted bilateral clearing systems.

27. Because trade is of a bilateral nature, African countries with credit balances can not transfer their holdings from one Socialist country to another for payment purposes. This lack of flexibility is hardly conducive to expanding African exports to the Socialist countries of Eastern Europe. The nonconvertibility of currency also tends to strengthen the bilateral nature of trade and thus to check the development of exports.

28. Although a number of bilateral clearing agreements concluded at the beginning of the 1960s are still applied, new types of payments are gradually replacing this type of agreement. There have been several cases where bilateral clearing arrangements have been abandoned in favour of a system of regulation in convertible currency. This latter type obviously has a great advantage in its flexibility but in view of the permanent deficit in their trade balance with the European members of CMEA, payment in convertible currency tends to put strong pressure on the foreign exchange reserves of most African countries.



## II. ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL RELATIONS

29. A fundamental improvement in trade relations between the Socialist countries of Eastern Europe and African countries which will promote the economic development of the latter can not be found in the trade field alone. It is becoming increasingly clear that trade co-operation should lead to a form of economic co-operation that will in particular promote industry.

30. For some years a number of African countries have entered into an ever-increasing degree of economic co-operation with the European countries members of CMEA. This co-operation takes various forms: industrial co-operation, scientific and technical co-operation and co-operation in the field of planning.

31. It is under these economic co-operation agreements that Socialist countries grant African countries long-term intergovernmental loans, aimed primarily at providing the resources required for the economic development of the recipient countries by financing the supplies needed for complete industrial plants and equipment.

### A. Industrial co-operation

32. As a general rule, industrial co-operation focuses on key industrial sectors in the countries concerned, namely mining, energy production, metallurgy, light industry and the food industry. It covers mainly the supply of complete industrial plants and equipment for ongoing projects and the training of local personnel.

33. African countries have concluded a large number of intergovernmental industrial co-operation agreements with European countries. They are long-term agreements, for periods of five to ten years or more. However, there is very little information about the contents and current status of the various co-operation agreements between African countries and each of the seven Socialist countries of Eastern Europe. A review of the agreements concluded in the 1960s and 1970s contained in annex II.

### B. Scientific and technical co-operation

35. Intergovernmental scientific and technical co-operation agreements are aimed primarily at the following fields: exchange of scientific, technical and economic information; transfer of know-how, experience and technology from the Socialist countries; expert and consultancy missions and training of personnel in African countries; organization of seminars and exhibitions as well as other scientific and technical activities. A number of African countries have established this kind of relations with the European members of CMEA. Nevertheless, there is only fragmentary information on the intergovernmental agreements concluded since 1970.

36. Bulgaria has concluded scientific and technical co-operation agreements with the following countries: Ethiopia, Ghana, Guinea, Nigeria, the United Republic of Tanzania and Zaire. Mention may also be made of the agreements signed by Czechoslovakia with the Sudan and by the German Democratic Republic with Ethiopia and the Sudan. Scientific and technical co-operation agreements have been concluded by Hungary with such countries as Guinea, Nigeria, Tunisia and the United Republic of Tanzania. Others have been concluded by Poland with Algeria and by Romania with several countries including Algeria, Burundi, Cap Vert, the Congo, Ghana, Guinea, Madagascar, Morocco, Togo and the United Republic of Tanzania. In the case of the Soviet Union, scientific and technical co-operation agreements have been signed with a number of countries among which figure the United Republic of Cameroon, the Congo, Madagascar, Nigeria, the Sudan and Ethiopia.

### C. Financial co-operation

37. It has been seen that the Socialist countries of Eastern Europe use their economic agreements as the vehicle for the granting of long-term intergovernmental loans to African countries. As a general rule, CIEA countries supply them with equipment on credit for the execution of co-operation projects. The terms on which the credits are granted are in principle favourable to the recipient countries, bearing in mind their long maturities, low interest rates and the fact that interest is paid only when the credits have been effectively used. It is common practice for the credits to take the form of deliveries of goods, including manufactured and semi-finished products. Some agreements provide for repayment to be made in the form of traditional exports and manufactures.

38. There is however no information on the volume or origin of loans. The only data available relate to the total debt of African countries at the end of 1976 and debt servicing with regard to all planned economy countries, i.e. all the European countries members of CIEA plus China. These data indicate that at the end of 1976, the total debt of African countries owed to the European countries members of CIEA and China was 2,472 million dollars (amount disbursed). During the same year, total debt service amounted to 176 million dollars or 6 per cent of the total outstanding debt (see annex, table 7). A recent study gives some information on loans granted by European countries to African least developed countries (see table 8).

39. In terms of the distribution of the debt by country, loans have been concentrated in a small number of countries. At the end of 1976, nine countries together accounted for 88 per cent of the total debt of African countries owed to European members of CIEA and China. Those nine countries, with their share of the debt, were as follows: Egypt (22 per cent), Guinea (16 per cent), Algeria (13 per cent), the United Republic of Tanzania (11 per cent), Zambia (9 per cent), Mali (8 per cent), Somalia (5 per cent), Zaire (2 per cent) and Ghana (2 per cent). Egypt alone accounted for over one fifth of the total outstanding debt at the end of 1976.

### III. PROSPECTS OF EXPANDING TRADE AND ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION

39. Despite the many difficulties which now beset trade and economic co-operation between African countries and the European countries members of CMEA and the relatively low level of trade between the two groups of countries, it is in principle possible to develop mutual trade and economic relations and to foresee a strengthening of these relations in the short and long terms.

40. The increase in the number of long-term co-operation undertakings is one of the most important factors in the expected growth of trade and economic co-operation between the two regions.

41. The development of the countries members of CMEA and the rise in their production and consumption needs should normally lead to an increase in the demand for products from African countries, in particular non-ferrous metals, iron ore, wool, cotton, bananas, citrus fruits, coffee, cocoa and oilseeds. Manufactures should also become more dynamic element of CMEA countries' imports from Africa. An increase in their industrial potential will also clearly lead to an increase in Africa's exports of manufactures.

42. The prospects of developing trade and economic co-operation between African countries and the Socialist countries of Eastern Europe can be defined more clearly as the outcome of a joint search for measures to strengthen the application of existing trade and economic co-operation agreements and to diversify the composition of trade more in the long-term.

#### A. Measures to develop trade and economic relations

43. At its last meeting held this year in preparation for the fifth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the Conference of African Ministers of Trade stressed the need to adopt a comprehensive programme on trade and economic relations between developing countries and the Socialist countries of Eastern Europe. African countries are interested in seeing that the programme includes the following measures:

#### Trade development potentials for exports of developing countries

44. (i) The Socialist countries of Eastern Europe should take the necessary measures to identify and accommodate in the medium- and long-term plans of CMEA members the potential areas of trade development with developing countries, particularly in the field of manufactured and semi-manufactured products. In this manner, developing countries would be aware of the import potential that the Socialist countries of Eastern Europe would have for their exports, particularly in sectors where developing countries have a comparative advantage. All effort would be made by developing countries to utilize such areas of export interest.

45. (ii) The Socialist countries of Eastern Europe should adopt other policy measures which would ensure the growth of demand in their countries for products of developing countries and the consequent imports from developing countries. These policy measures should result in an increase in the share of developing countries in the markets of the Socialist countries of Eastern Europe, especially in the import market for processed and semi-processed goods. Special measures could also include subcontracting and tripartite ventures.

46. (iii) The Socialist countries of Eastern Europe are also invited to reserve increasing shares in their import programmes for imports from developing countries.

#### Expansion and improvement of preference schemes

47. (i) The Socialist countries of Eastern Europe should expand and improve without delay their schemes of generalized preferences. A preferential duty free entry should be granted to all manufactured products of developing countries, particularly those based on processing of their commodities and raw materials and on all tropical products.

48. (ii) Action should be taken by the Socialist countries of Eastern Europe to remove all forms of tariff quotas, ceilings, maximum country accounts and such other exclusions and non-tariff barriers. This should be done on the basis of non-reciprocity and non-discrimination.

49. (iii) Such improvement should, inter alia, recognize the need for increased imports of manufactured and semi-manufactured products from African countries.

#### Payments arrangements

50. Limited progress has been made in the field of payments. In order to improve the situation the following measures should be implemented:

(i) All payments should be made in convertible currency, unless in those cases where developing countries express a preference for or interest in other special arrangements like the clearing account system.

(ii) Improvement in the CMEA payments arrangements by inter alia, the use of transferable roubles, so that developing countries can use their surplus balances in transactions with other CMEA countries, or transfer such balance into convertible currencies.

#### Financial assistance

51. (i) The Socialist countries of Eastern Europe should adopt the necessary measures which would make the Special Fund of the International Investment Bank effective. Through this Fund, resources should continue to be made available to developing countries for the identification and financing of investment projects in individual developing countries or through the regional development banks.

52. (ii) Through this bank, CMEA countries should be able to arrange for an increase in the percentage in convertible currencies of the total resources earmarked for financial assistance to developing countries and a lowering of the rates of interest levied on borrowings in convertible currency by developing countries.

B. Possibilities of using the transferable rouble

53. In the first part of this paper, bilateral clearing schemes and the possibility of using convertible currencies were reviewed. However, in the context of measures to develop trade and economic relations between Africa and the European countries members of CMEA, mention should be made of another manner of effecting payments. The system of multilateral payments in transferable roubles introduced by the countries members of the International Bank for Economic Co-operation (IBEC) gives non-member States the possibility of using their surplus balance held in one country member of IBEC for the settlement of accounts with another country member of that Bank. However, a country which is not a member of CMEA but which is envisaging making payments in transferable roubles should take into account various factors which are linked to this type of payment, the most important of which are the role of planning, the modalities for price fixing and exchange rates.

54. Although the rules laid down by the IBEC Board do not require trading partners to schedule payments in advance, from the practical point of view it is necessary to do so because in the CMEA countries planning covers trade or long-term delivery contracts. The question of prices also has to be taken into account. Trade within CMEA is based on world prices calculated annually from the average prices of the past five years and converted into transferable roubles. These special prices applied on the markets of the Socialist countries of Eastern Europe are quite far from the real level of world prices. Moreover, not all the Socialist countries of Eastern Europe have the same price level and the structure of "adjusted world prices" expressed in transferable roubles differs from country to country. Hence it is difficult for a third country to know exactly what price to apply in transferable roubles transactions. There is also the difficulty of establishing the exchange rate for the transferable rouble. The transferable rouble has several rates of exchange, or more precisely co-efficients for the conversion of the national currencies of the countries members of IBEC for the purposes of trade within CMEA. In view of the fact that the national currencies of the member countries can be used only within those countries, they can not be taken as the basis for establishing the exchange rate between the transferable rouble and the convertible currency of a third country.

CONCLUSIONS

55. In recent years, there has been little progress in trade and economic relations between African countries and the Socialist countries of Eastern Europe. Structural and geographical diversification of trade has been limited. A number of obstacles continue to lie in the path of trade expansion. The possibilities for economic co-operation have not been fully exploited.

56. Both sides should make efforts to increase their trade appreciably and diversify it and intensify economic co-operation between the two groups of countries. These objectives can not be attained without the two groups of countries manifesting the political will to develop and strengthen their mutual co-operation relations. Many of UNCTAD's resolutions strongly urge developing countries and the Socialist countries of Eastern Europe to make greater efforts to promote trade and economic co-operation between them. Nevertheless, at the fifth session of the Conference held in Manila from 7 May to 13 June 1979, the parties concerned were not able to reach any agreement on the best ways of promoting such co-operation.

57. This negative outcome clearly demonstrates the need for further efforts and a strong political will to work out the best ways of developing and intensifying trade and economic co-operation between the developing countries, and in particular the African ones, and the Socialist countries of Eastern Europe for the benefit of all concerned.

## ANNEX

Table 1: Africa's trade with the Socialist Countries of Eastern Europe  
(value in millions of dollars, f.o.b)

Year	<u>Africa exports to Socialist Countries</u>		<u>Africa imports from Socialist Countries</u>		<u>Trade balance</u>
	Value	Change in %	Value	Change in %	Value
1970	770		1 000		-230
1971	837	8.7	1 011	1.1	-174
1972	968	15.6	1 080	6.8	-112
1973	1 134	17.1	1 284	18.8	-150
1974	1 619	43.0	1 906	48.4	-287
1975	2 036	13.3	1 957	2.6	+79
1976	1 795	1.6	1 891	-3.4	-96
1977	1 565	-12.8	2 547	34.7	-982
Total	10 724		12 676		-1 952
Average	1 340.5	10.7	1 584.5	14.3	-244

Source: United Nations, monthly bulletin of statistics, Vol. XXXIII, No.5,  
May 1979.

**Table 7: Socialist Countries' share of Africa's trade**

Year	EXPORTS			IMPORTS		
	Value in millions of dollars			Value in millions of dollars		
	World	Socialist Countries	Share in percentage of the world	World	Socialist Countries	Share in percentage of the world
1970	12 310	770	6.2	11 880	1 000	8.4
1971	12 570	837	6.6	13 497	1 011	7.5
1972	12 795	968	7.6	15 068	1 080	7.2
1973	20 634	1 134	5.5	20 370	1 284	6.3
1974	38 314	1 619	4.2	31 803	1 906	6.0
1975	33 993	2 036	6.0	40 940	1 957	4.8
1976	41 399	1 795	4.3	42 683	1 891	4.4
1977	47 783	1 565	3.3	52 557	2 547	4.8
Total	219 798	10 724	4.9	228 798	12 676	5.5

Source: United Nations, monthly bulletin of statistics, Vol. XXXIII, No. 5, May 1979.



Table 3: Africa's exports to Socialist Countries by main commodity groups

SITC	1971		1972		1973		1974		1975		1976		1977	
	Millions of \$	%	Millions of \$	%	Millions of \$	%	Millions of \$	%	Millions of \$	%	Millions of \$	%	Millions of \$	%
0-1														
Food, beverages and tobacco	281	33.6	306	31.6	384	33.9	515	31.8	626	30.8	665	37.0	545	34.8
2-4														
Crude materials	385	46.0	302	3.2	349	30.8	695	42.9	764	37.5	524	29.2	550	35.1
3														
Mineral fuels and related materials	14	1.7	166	17.2	202	17.8	114	7.1	230	11.3	328	18.3	172	11.0
5														
Chemicals	25	3.0	24	2.5	26	2.3	39	2.4	66	3.2	44	2.5	45	2.9
7														
Machinery and transport equipment	2	0.2	17	0.7	4	0.3	3	0.2	9	0.5	2	0.1	0	0
6-8														
Other manufactured goods	130	15.5	162	16.8	169	14.9	253	15.6	340	16.7	232	12.9	253	16.2
Total	837	100	967	100	1 134	100	1 619	100	2 035	100	1 795	100	1 565	100

Source: United Nations, monthly bulletin of statistics, Vol. XXVIII, No. 5, May 1979.

Table 4: Africa's imports from Socialist Countries by main commodity groups

SITC	1971		1972		1973		1974		1975		1976		1977	
	Millions of \$	%	Millions of \$	%	Millions of \$	%	Millions of \$	%	Millions of \$	%	Millions of \$	%	Millions of \$	%
0-1 Food, beverages and tobacco	117	11.8	76	7.7	103	8.8	298	15.9	281	15.3	273	15.3	375	15.4
2-4 Crude materials	89	9.0	75	7.6	108	9.1	185	9.9	143	7.8	125	7.3	217	8.9
3 Mineral fuels and related materials	82	8.3	87	8.8	87	7.4	220	11.8	179	9.8	177	9.9	205	8.5
5 Chemicals	47	4.7	39	3.9	47	4.0	99	5.3	108	5.9	116	6.5	169	6.9
7 Machinery and transport equipment	411	41.4	506	50.9	564	47.9	587	31.5	669	36.5	657	36.9	891	36.6
6-8 Other manufactured goods	246	24.8	210	21.1	267	22.7	477	25.6	452	24.7	434	24.4	577	23.7
Total	992	100	993	100	1 176	100	1 866	100	1 832	100	1 782	100	2 434	100

Source: United Nations, monthly bulletin of statistics, Vol. XXXIII, No.5, May 1979.

Destination	BULGARIA (1)			CZECHOSLOVAKIA (2)			GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC (3)			HUNGARY (4)			POLAND (5)			ROMANIA (6)			USSR (7)			
	1975	1976	1977	1970	1975	1976	1977	1970	1975	1976	1977	1970	1975	1976	1977	1970	1975	1976	1977	1970	1975	1976
Algeria	6.2	16.6		2.4	11.0	4.2	6.2	0.7		2.8	24.7	6.7		4.5	39.1		4.4	46.2	8.4	62.0	186.8	78.1
Angola											8.7										0.6	
Benin						5.2	3.9															
Botswana																						
Central African Empire																						
Congo																						
Egypt	10.3	37.9		36.8	93.1	72.5	120.9	45.3		17.6	17.7	24.8		19.6	55.7		18.7	72.4	2.8	0.2	3.3	2.6
Equatorial Guinea																						
Ethiopia				0.4	1.2	1.8	0.7							1.9	11.3							
Gabon						1.2	0.3															
Ghana	0.9	3.0		4.9	4.0	3.2	1.0			4.1	-	12.1										
Guinea	0.7	0.3		2.9	0.3	...	2.0			0.6	-	8.3										
Ivory Coast						2.3	2.7			0.5	-	15.7										
Kenya				1.1	3.4	2.3	2.0															
Liberia				...	...	3.2	...															
Libya	0.3	10.9																				
Mali																						
Morocco	2.8	13.9		7.2	20.0	11.0	7.9	2.8		4.4	8.2	5.4		12.3	106.4		0.6	32.1	22.1	19.6	57.1	66.7
Mozambique																						
Nigeria	4.0	0.8		0.8	0.7	12.4	14.0			4.1	2.6	4.8										
Rwanda				...	...	3.7	0.2															
Senegal				...	...	3.7	0.2															
Sierra Leone																						
Somalia				3.6	2.7	2.2	2.3	1.9		4.8	7.3	7.5		3.4	4.3		2.3	3.2	3.4	49.9	11.0	19.3
Sudan																						
Togo																						
Turkistia	3.0	5.4		1.4	13.6	7.0	6.4							4.9	15.5		0.1	1.0	3.7	3.0	9.7	6.5
Uganda						1.0	1.0															
United Republic of Cameroon																						
United Rep. of Tanzania																						
Tanzania				...	...	0.8	0.5	0.8														
Zaire																						
Zambia				...	2.0	1.3	...															
Total	28.2	88.8		63.5	152.8	135.8	172.0	51.5		38.9	60.5	106.8		46.5	233.8		27.2	236.2	191.9	530.4	1199.4	850.8
Percentage of overall total	3.6	4.5		8.0	7.3	12.4	47.3	6.5		4.9	3.0	9.8		6.0	11.9		3.5	12.0	52.7	67.5	60.8	77.8



Table 7: Loans from Socialist countries of Eastern Europe to least developed countries (net disbursements in millions of dollars)

Country	Total debts	Total debt service
1. Algeria	360.0	35.8
2. Angola	0.0	0.0
3. Benin	3.9	0.2
4. Botswana	0.0	0.0
5. Burundi	3.9	0.0
6. Cape Verde	0.0	0.0
7. Central African Empire	6.2	0.4
8. Chad	3.5	0.0
9. Comoros	1.3	0.0
10. Congo	94.2	0.4
11. Djibouti	0.0	0.0
12. Egypt	599.5	52.1
13. Equatorial Guinea	0.0	0.0
14. Ethiopia	14.5	2.6
15. Gabon	0.0	0.0
16. Gambia	0.0	0.0
17. Ghana	55.1	14.7
18. Guinea	430.1	43.0
19. Guinea-Bissau	0.0	0.0
20. Ivory Coast	0.0	0.0
21. Kenya	0.2	0.1
22. Lesotho	0.0	0.0
23. Liberia	0.9	0.2
24. Libya	0.0	0.0
25. Madagascar	9.3	0.0
26. Malawi	0.0	0.0
27. Mali	219.8	0.0
28. Mauritania	8.3	0.0
29. Mauritius	0.8	0.1
30. Morocco	31.8	1.3
31. Mozambique	0.0	0.0

Table 7: Loans from Socialist countries of Eastern Europe to least developed countries (net disbursements in millions of dollars) (continued)

Country	Total debts	Total debt service
32. Niger	0.0	0.0
33. Nigeria	2.7	0.6
34. Rwanda	8.0	0.0
35. Sao Tome and Principe	0.0	0.0
36. Senegal	6.0	0.6
37. Seychelles	0.0	0.0
38. Sierra Leone	12.6	6.7
39. Somalia	150.8	0.7
40. Sudan	38.0	9.2
41. Swaziland	0.0	0.0
42. Togo	0.0	0.0
43. Tunisia	8.2	2.2
44. Uganda	47.2	2.5
45. United Republic of Cameroon	2.3	0.4
46. United Republic of Tanzania	292.5	1.0
47. Upper Volta	3.3	0.0
48. Zaire	55.9	0.0
49. Zambia	271.5	1.1
<b>Total</b>	<b>2 742.3</b>	<b>175.9</b>

Source: External debt of developing countries: current situation and future perspectives, OECD, 1979.

**Table 8: Loans from Socialist countries of Eastern Europe to least-developed African countries**

C o u n t r i e s	Net concessional disbursements (in millions of dollars)									
	1968	1969	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974	1975	1976	1977
1. Benin	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,8	-	-0,1	(-0,6)
2. Burundi	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
3. Central African Empire	-	-	-	-	1,4	0,2	0,5	1,5	0,9	(-0,3)
4. Chad	-	0,4	0,6	0,4	0,9	0,1	-	-	-	(0,4)
5. Comoros	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	(-)
6. Ethiopia	0,6	-0,3	0,8	0,5	0,0	-1,1	-1,7	-2,1	-2,0	-2,2
7. Guinea	14,3	7,3	38,2	30,7	27,4	25,1	29,3	53,6	-12,4	(35,7)
8. Mali	-	5,2	1,9	1,2	1,8	3,6	1,3	8,5	5,0	(-6,2)
9. Rwanda	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
10. Somalia	1,8	2,3	0,9	1,3	3,2	7,7	4,9	11,4	23,0	(42,7)
11. Sudan	6,7	1,1	13,3	9,7	4,6	-2,1	-4,7	-7,2	-6,6	(-6,7)
12. Uganda	0,4	0,7	0,5	2,1	5,7	0,5	7,1	9,3	18,9	(-5,7)
13. United Republic of Tanzania	0,0	0,2	1,2	0,3	-0,5	0,3	0,2	1,2	1,1	2,0
14. Upper Volta	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	(-)
<b>Total</b>	<b>23,8</b>	<b>16,9</b>	<b>57,4</b>	<b>46,2</b>	<b>44,5</b>	<b>34,3</b>	<b>38,7</b>	<b>76,2</b>	<b>27,8</b>	<b>-13,1</b>

Source: UNCTAD secretariat based on information supplied by the World Bank.

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