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REPORT ON THE INTEGRATED REGIONAL TRAINING,  
RESEARCH AND ADVISORY PROGRAMME FOR THE CONSERVATION AND  
MANAGEMENT OF AFRICAN WILDLIFE

Following consideration of the study report of the United Nations Joint Inspection Unit on regional training programmes in African wildlife management at Mweka, the United Republic of Tanzania and Garoua, the United Republic of Cameroon, the Council of Ministers of the Eastern and Southern African MULPOC, at its meeting held in Gaberone in February 1980, recommended that the Economic Commission for Africa should take the necessary steps to implement the recommendations of the Joint Inspection Unit (JIU). The MULPOC Council of Ministers recommendation was further given endorsement by the ECA Conference of Ministers at its meeting held in Addis Ababa in April 1980 when it adopted resolution 388 (XV) on the conservation and management of African wildlife. The resolution called upon the ECA secretariat to initiate action for converting the College of African Wildlife Management at Mweka into a full-fledged regional institution for the English-speaking African countries and broadening the scope and status of the Ecole de Faune at Garoua in order to serve all French-speaking African countries.

In response to resolution 388 (XV) the ECA secretariat prepared a Preparatory Assistance Project to try to obtain UNDP funds for work connected with the proposed conversion of the Mweka and Garoua centres into truly regional institutions for English- and French-speaking countries respectively. The draft project document was sent to FAO for comments as it is intended to seek the collaboration of FAO and other organizations in developing the programmes of the two centres. FAO comments were then incorporated in the revised project document submitted to UNDP for funding.

ECA also approached the Governments of the United Republic of Tanzania and the United Republic of Cameroon to seek their position on the proposed conversion, determine points of contact as well as communicate to them copies of the above resolution. In the event of either or both Governments being agreeable to having Mweka College and Garoua School converted, it was proposed to follow up with direct dialogue with the Governments to determine measures to be taken and the conditions to be fulfilled for the conversion. This, it was hoped, would involve negotiating meetings of officials, culminating in meetings of plenipotentiaries to conclude the necessary agreements.

The Government of the United Republic of Tanzania has finally decided not to change the status of Mweka Wildlife College. However, the College will continue to admit students from other African countries and its Governing Body will continue to have representatives from other African countries.

On the other hand, no response has been received from the Government of the United Republic of Cameroon. A further reminder has been sent to it.

Meanwhile, Portuguese-speaking countries are also examining the possibility of establishing a Wildlife Training School at Gorongosa National Park in Mozambique. A preliminary meeting was planned for the last quarter of 1981 involving five Portuguese-speaking countries, and the results of this meeting will be communicated to ECA.

Recommendation

The Committee may wish to:

- (a) Urge the Government of the United Republic of Cameroon to expedite its decision on the proposals submitted by the ECA secretariat in order to start preparatory work for the conversion of Garoua into a regional institution;
- (b) Urge the Executive Secretary of ECA to intensify his efforts in soliciting for funds for the conversion and development of Garoua Centre into a regional institution for the management of African Wildlife for French-speaking countries;
- (c) Call upon other United Nations agencies particularly FAO, UNESCO and UNEP to collaborate with ECA in their respective fields of competence in facilitating the conversion and development of Garoua centre as a regional institution;
- (d) Propose that the intended training school for Portuguese-speaking countries be incorporated in the ECA project proposals;
- (e) Look for alternatives to the Mweka College for English-speaking countries.