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**REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE SECOND CONFERENCE OF CHIEF EXECUTIVES
OF ECA-SPONSORED REGIONAL AND SUBREGIONAL INSTITUTIONS**

(Abidjan, the Ivory Coast, 1 - 5 December 1981)

Note by the Executive Secretary

1. The second Conference of Chief Executives of ECA-sponsored regional and subregional institutions was held at the headquarters of the African Development Bank (ADB) from 1 to 5 December 1981 in Abidjan, the Ivory Coast. The report of the Conference is herewith attached for the consideration of the ECA Conference of Ministers at its eighth meeting.

Matters arising from the second Conference of Chief Executives of
ECA-sponsored regional and subregional institutions

(i) Regular exchange of information between ECA and ECA-sponsored
institutions and among the institutions themselves

2. The second Conference decided that the first issue of a bulletin on the activities of the institutions should be submitted to the ECA Conference of Ministers at its eighth meeting.

(ii) A brief study of the host agreements of certain
ECA-sponsored institutions

3. The second Conference noted that the institutions had been established at the request of African Governments and in certain cases the immunities and privileges accorded to them by the host Governments did not enhance the financial and operational capacities of these institutions. Accordingly, the second Conference recommended a draft resolution for adoption by the ECA Conference of Ministers at its eighth meeting which would, inter alia, urge African host Governments to treat those institutions, which were their own, no less favourably than as provided in the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations.

(iii) Programme of work and priorities including programmes of the
institutions for the biennium 1982-1983 and consolidated
biennial report for the years 1980-1981

4. A separate document will be presented for consideration by the ECA Conference of Ministers at its eighth meeting on this issue.

(iv) Proposals relating to membership and contributions by member States
and establishment of a buffer fund to advance moneys to tide
institutions over temporary periods of financial difficulty

5. The second Conference agreed that a buffer fund should be established into which, as a mark of their belief in self reliance, institutions would themselves make initial contributions. The institutions were to seek the approval of their governing bodies to make contributions to the buffer fund. The second Conference felt that the example of the institutions in contributing to the buffer fund would encourage others to follow suite and recommended that, at its eighth meeting, the ECA Conference of Ministers should urge member States to pledge to this fund during the fourth Pledging Conference of African Plenipotentiaries and Institutions scheduled to take place in 1983.

REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE SECOND CONFERENCE OF CHIEF EXECUTIVES
OF ECA-SPONSORED REGIONAL AND SUBREGIONAL INSTITUTIONS

A. ATTENDANCE AND ORGANIZATION OF WORK

1. The Conference, which took place from 1 to 5 December 1981, was formally opened by Mr. Abdoulaye Kone, Minister of Finance and the Economy of the Ivory Coast.
2. The Conference was attended by the chief executives of the following ECA-sponsored institutions: African Association of Cartography (AAC), African Centre for Applied Research and Training in Social Development (ACAARTSD), African Centre for Monetary Studies (ACMS), African Development Bank (ADB), African Institute for Economic Development and Planning (IDEP), African Institute for Higher Technical Training and Research (AIHTTR), African Regional Centre for Engineering Design and Manufacturing (ARCEDEM), African Regional Centre for Technology (ARCT), African Regional Organization for Standardization (ARSO), African Remote Sensing Council (ARSC), Association of African Central Banks (AACB), the Association of African Tax Administrators (AATA), Association of African Trade Promotion Organizations (AATPO), Eastern and Southern African Mineral Resources Development Centre (ESAMRDC), Institut de formation et de recherche démographiques (IFORD), Port Management Association of Western and Central Africa (PMAWCA), Regional Centre for Services in Surveying and Mapping (RCSSM), Regional Centre for Training in Aerial Surveys (RECTAS), Regional Institute for Population Studies (RIPS), Transport African Highway Authority, West African Clearing House (WACH) and West African Regional Remote Sensing Centre (WARRSC).
3. The United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (ECA), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the ECA Multinational Programming and Operational Centres for Central Africa and for the Economic Community of the Great Lakes Countries were also represented. The Earth Resources Technology Satellite (ERTS) programme in Zaire, the Geological Society of Africa (GSA) and the Inter-African Coffee Organization (IACO) were represented by observers.

B. AGENDA

4. The Conference adopted the following agenda:
 1. Opening of the Conference
 2. Adoption of the agenda
 3. Progress report on follow-up action arising out of the Inaugural Conference of Chief Executives of ECA-Sponsored Regional and Subregional Institutions
 4. Consolidated biennial report of ECA-sponsored regional and subregional institutions for the years 1980 and 1981 /Conference of Ministers resolution 409 (XVI)/
 5. Programme of work and priorities including programmes of the institutions for the biennium 1982-1983
 6. Re-examination of the proposals related to membership and contributions by member States /Conference of Ministers resolution 409 (XVI)/

7. Establishment of a buffer fund for regional and subregional institutions to advance moneys to tide institutions over temporary periods of financial difficulty [Conference of Ministers resolution 409 (XVI)]
8. Reports of the working groups on:
 - (a) Financial and banking services;
 - (b) Earth resources services;
 - (c) Industrial development and services;
 - (d) Socio-economic development planning and management;
 - (e) Trade and transport;
 - (f) MULPOCs
9. Third UNDP programming cycle, 1982-1986: Progress report
10. Participation of ECA-sponsored regional and subregional institutions in the ECA Pan-African Documentation and Information System (PADIS)
11. Any other business
12. Date and venue of the third Conference of Chief Executives
13. Adoption of the report
14. Closure of the Conference.

C. ACCOUNT OF PROCEEDINGS

Opening addresses

5. In his opening speech, the President of ADB stressed that the most serious problems facing African countries related to food and agriculture, energy and human resources development, and hoped that the second Conference would provide the opportunity to examine ways and means of co-ordinating actions in those critical sectors. ADB hoped to play a role in that and also in the implementation of the Lagos Plan of Action which it had endorsed.

6. He described how the developing and least developed African countries were particularly vulnerable within the context of the world economic crisis and how their economic performance had been declining. The international community had been asked to help by increasing its economic support to those countries; however, recent international meetings such as that of the World Bank and IMF and the Cancun Conference had supported tighter lending policies and advocated more reliance on market forces and private investment. He then described how the Bank Group assisted African countries by providing direct financial assistance to projects designed to enhance development objectives particularly in very poor countries.

7. He referred to the increasing co-operation between ADB and ECA and said he was convinced that the second Conference would provide the appropriate forum for discussing the co-ordination of activities of all the institutions in order to ensure that their assistance to African countries was effective.

8. In his opening statement, the Executive Secretary of ECA expressed satisfaction that the Conferences of Chief Executives of ECA-sponsored regional and subregional institutions had now become a regular feature. He thanked the President of ADB for hosting the Conference and expressed great pride in the development of ADB, the oldest ECA-sponsored institution.

9. Several of the topics to be discussed arose out of the Inaugural Conference such as the establishment of regular exchange of information among ECA-sponsored institutions and with ECA itself, model regulations that could be adapted for use by the institutions, assistance to the institutions by ECA in the legal, administrative, management and audit fields and a model host agreement for the institutions. He then drew attention to resolution 409 (XVI), which had been adopted by the ECA Conference of Ministers at its seventh meeting and stressed the importance of that resolution in promoting and strengthening the institutions. The resolution had requested the submission to meetings of the ECA Conference of Ministers, of biennial reports and consolidated programmes of work of the institutions. The resolution had also called for new proposals for enhancing the membership of, and establishing a consolidated budget for the institutions. It also called for a study on the feasibility of a buffer fund to assist the institutions in times of need. These were all most important matters which affected the implementation of the Lagos Plan of Action and he hoped that the Second Conference would take urgent, practical and realistic decisions.

10. Finally, he referred to the assistance which ECA had given to some of the institutions in submitting projects to UNDP for funding during UNDP's third programming cycle. After a series of consultations and hard bargaining between ECA and UNDP, UNDP had now taken a decision on the projects that it would finance.

11. In his opening address, the Minister of Finance and the Economy of the Ivory Coast remarked that the second Conference was being held at a time of a serious world economic crisis in which the ruthless quest for wealth favoured the strong and crippled the weak. He called on Africa's trading partners to realize that lasting and equitable solutions could be found only in global co-existence which eschewed protectionism against African exports.

12. Africa, however, must be self-reliant and institutions such as ADB, the ECOWAS Fund, MACI, FOSIEC, UDEAC, the Community of the Great Lakes Countries and the African Centre for Monetary Studies were evidence of African attempts to solve economic problems and to promote co-operation in Africa. The second Extraordinary Session of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of OAU had adopted the historic Lagos Plan of Action which laid down guide-lines for the rapid economic development of Africa and which also constituted the marching orders of the institutions and ECA in promoting economic development and co-operation in Africa.

13. He wished the second Conference well and emphasized that all Africa was waiting for the practical, remedial proposals that would emerge from the Conference to enhance the economic development of the continent particularly in the production of finished and semi-finished products.

Progress report on follow-up action arising out of the Inaugural Conference of Chief Executives of ECA-Sponsored Regional and Subregional Institutions (Item 3)

14. Regarding the question of the regular exchange of information, the secretariat introduced working paper [ECO/IGO/II/3/(i)] and drew attention to the fact that the publication of the bulletin on the activities of ECA-sponsored institutions had not been possible because the necessary information had not been received. It was agreed that the publication of the bulletin was important if the activities of the institutions were to be disseminated as widely as possible and to the right quarters. Each institution was therefore to send to ECA not later than the end of February 1962 a page or two on their activities to be included in the first issue of the bulletin which would be distributed to African Governments as part of the documentation for the eighth meeting of the ECA Conference of Ministers.

15. Concerning model staff and financial regulations, the secretariat introduced working paper [ECO/IGO/II/3/(ii)] containing proposed rules which could be adapted by the institutions if they so wished, with the approval of their governing organs. The representative of the Trans-African Highway Authority stated that the financial regulations annexed to the document was silent about a Financial Controller, his functions and role. It was proposed that he should send his proposals to the secretariat for inclusion in a revision of the financial regulations. Attention was also drawn to various mistakes appearing in articles 10.6 and 10.2(ii) (b) of the staff regulations annexed to the document. It was decided that the secretariat should correct those and other mistakes and omissions in the entire document and send the corrected version to the institutions.

16. In introducing the working paper on a common legal, administrative, management and audit service, [ECO/IGO/II/3/(iii)], the secretariat pointed out that ECA had rendered related services to the institutions and had geared itself to do more. That was required, however, was for the institutions to prepare a programme to request ECA assistance. In that regard, it was agreed that, for a start, institutions should prepare their requests for the year 1962. That would enable ECA to work out an orderly programme of assistance to them.

17. The secretariat introduced the working paper on host country agreements [ECO/IGO/II/3/(iv)], and referred to the decision taken at the Inaugural Conference of Chief Executives which had led to the study. Attention was drawn to the fact that several standard provisions were to be found in all the agreements but that, in some cases, certain departures from accepted international practice were discernible. Concerning, *inter alia*, the refusal to grant immunity to premises used by institutions outside their headquarters for temporary purposes and the insistence on the right of host Governments to levy income tax or income derived from contributions paid by member States, and earned by officials of institutions who were nationals of the host countries and, in certain cases, where they were regarded as junior officials, whether they were nationals or not. Such practices adversely affected the morale of staff.

18. In the general debate that followed, it was pointed out that essentially host agreements represented what, within the limits of existing international law and practice, could be obtained through negotiations and that it was best to negotiate with potential host Governments the sort of agreement that would be most satisfactory when countries were competing to host an institution. Where problems arise with existing host Governments, the best thing to do was to try to solve matters on bilateral basis. Attention was also drawn to the situation that existed within ROSSM whereby, with the agreement of its member States, senior officials of ROSSM had been issued with a special ROSSM Laissez-Passer which was recognized by the member States. It was also explained that trainees at institutions were granted appropriate courtesy.

19. It was agreed, however, that a draft resolution should be submitted for approval by the ECA Conference of Ministers at its eighth meeting, which would urge African Governments which were hosts to African inter-governmental institutions to treat such institutions no less favourably than was provided for the United Nations in the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations, in order to enhance the financial ability and operational capability of the institutions. (see annex I). It was also agreed that ECA should produce a model host agreement that could be used in the future.

20. Concerning the organization of short-term seminars and workshops by the Eastern and Southern African Management Institute (ESAMI), the secretariat stated that it had not been possible to hold the envisaged seminars and workshops in 1981 and that, unfortunately, it had also not been possible to obtain any explanations from ESAMI, which was not represented at the Conference.

Consolidated biennial report of ECA-sponsored regional and subregional institutions for the years 1980 and 1981 (Item 4)

21. The secretariat introduced working paper (ECO/IGO/II/4), and drew attention to the proposals contained therein on the format and content of the consolidated biennial report and to the fact that the first such report was to be presented to the ECA Conference of Ministers at its eighth meeting. In the discussions that followed, it was agreed that the biennial report should deal with the years 1980 and 1981 with suitable references to annual reports and that, in order for it to make a good impact, it should be quantitative as to targets, output and achievements and should be in parts, each part dealing with the activities of the various working groups established by the Inaugural Conference. The working groups were to meet and prepare the format of the biennial report and its contents which the Chairman of each working group should co-ordinate and send to ECA not later than the end of January 1982 so as to enable the first biennial report to be circulated to African Governments well in advance of the eighth meeting of the ECA Conference of Ministers. Having regard to the vagaries of the postal system on the continent, it was agreed that, if necessary, individual institutions should also send their contributions directly to ECA.

Programme of work and priorities including programmes of the institutions for the biennium 1982-1983 (Item 5)

22. The secretariat introduced working paper ECA/IGO/II/5. It was stressed that the collation, analysis and synthesis of the work programmes of the institutions should be related to the Lagos Plan of Action and the Final Act of Lagos, and be quantifiable. For that exercise, the working groups should also examine the work programmes of their members to see how they could be linked and co-ordinated, etc, and should send, through their Chairmen, the results of their work to ECA not later than the end of January 1982, so as to enable them to be processed in time for the eighth meeting of the ECA Conference of Ministers. The President of ADB stated that the tentative lending programme of his Bank Group would be made available and that whilst it did not include projects for lending money to institutions, since the Bank Group confined its lending projects to its member States, he hoped that the institutions could give the Bank Group technical assistance in various aspects of the implementations of such projects.

Re-examination of the proposals relating to membership and contributions by member States (Item 5)

23. In introducing working paper ECO/IGO/II/6, the secretariat referred to the original proposals made by the Inaugural Conference which had been submitted to the ECA Conference of Ministers at its seventh meeting and which the latter had by implication rejected. What was needed now were new proposals to be submitted at the eighth meeting of the Conference based on the experience of Chief Executives in their efforts to increase the membership of their institutions and to obtain contributions due from member States.

24. A lively debate ensued in which it was, inter alia, pointed out that nothing could be achieved until African countries were convinced by the institutions through seminars, publicity and other forms of exposure in the right quarters, of what they stood to gain from the activities of the institutions. It was also suggested that the less expensive alternative of encouraging and promoting professional associations instead of establishing full inter-governmental institutions might be the answer. Some participants proposed that the payment of contributions in the local currencies of member States which could later be converted into convertible currencies by UNDP offices or the Association of African Central Banks, would ease the problems of non-payment of contributions by African countries which had competing demands on their limited foreign exchange resources. It was pointed out, however, that the needs of UNDP for local currencies were limited and that it was natural for host countries to expect some augmentation of foreign resources from hosting institutions. Whilst the Association of African Central Banks could do little to help in the situation, the West African Clearing House and, with the agreement of the Governments concerned, been used on occasions by some of its members to pay their contributions in what amounted to foreign currency through the use of local currency, to some West African organizations like ECOWAS. The establishment of a Pan-African Clearing House would go a long way to ease the situation with respect to institutions whose member States were far flung. It was suggested that given the Lagos Plan of Action as the marching orders of the institutions, African countries affected by the activities of the institutions should automatically become member States.

25. Finally, it was agreed that membership of institutions and payment of subscriptions went together and that a fund should be established to help to get the institutions off the ground and that at the eight meeting the ECA Conference of Ministers should be asked to request African Governments to make basic contributions to this fund whether or not they belonged to the institutions. It was, however, decided to elaborate further during consideration of agenda item 7.

Establishment of a buffer fund for regional and subregional institutions to advance moneys to tide institutions over temporary periods of financial difficulty (Item 7)

26. The secretariat introduced working paper ECO/IGO/II/7, and referred to the proposals contained therein which were based on suggestions made by some of the institutions.

27. In the discussion that followed, several participants suggested that African and other Governments and donor organizations should be persuaded to contribute to the buffer fund. It was pointed out that the matter had not been raised with UNDP since UNDP was project-oriented and was most unlikely to finance the salaries of officials of institutions and so forth. It was possible, however, that at the next ECA Pledging Conference which would take place in 1983, African Governments might be encouraged to make pledges to the buffer fund, or which could be used for the buffer fund, if the institutions themselves had set an example in self-reliance in that regard. What was therefore most important was that the institutions should be seen to be doing something themselves about the problem so as to induce Governments and donor organizations to help. Another point raised was that donors would be more inclined to pay into the buffer fund only in respect of identifiable projects. The Executive Director of ACARTSOD agreed whole-heartedly with the idea of self-reliance and said that, despite the fact that his institution suffered from a shortage of fund, it could, subject to the approval of its Governing Board, contribute up to \$US 15,000 to the buffer fund once it was formally established. The Conference then decided that the buffer fund should be formally established and that each Chief Executive should seek, as soon as possible, the approval of his governing organ, to contribute to the buffer fund, and to report the results to the Executive Secretary of ECA. In that regard, ECA was to address notes to the governing organs of the institutions concerned.

Reports on the working groups (Item 3)

28. The report of the Working Group on Earth Resources Services is attached as annex II to the present report. It was explained that specific emphasis had been placed on cartographic services because requests for assistance so far received were in the field of cartography.

29. The report of the Working Group on Industrial Development and Services is attached as annex III. It was explained that UNDP did not always insist on the supervision of projects financed by it by Chief Technical Advisers and, where such advisers had been appointed, they could for good reason be dispensed with. Since ECA was the executing agency of UNDP assistance to the institutions, it was the proper body to supervise the implementation of related projects. However, UNDP procedures required UNDP resident representatives to keep an eye on multilateral projects assisted by UNDP which were undertaken within their local jurisdictions.

The question of higher salaries being paid to UNDP employees assisting the institutions than those paid to actual employees of the institutions was discussed and it was decided that ECA should look into the matter particularly with respect to the adverse effects especially on locally recruited general services staff.

30. In answer to a comment, the Executive Secretary of ECA stated that Chief Executives could communicate directly with him and, to that end, he had established a liaison unit in his Office. However, on technical matters, he felt that it would be best for Chief Executives to continue to deal with the relevant substantive divisions at ECA which could provide day-to-day follow-up; on important issues, however, copies of correspondence could be sent to him. Finally, he hoped that as many Chief Executives as possible would attend meetings of the ECA Conference of Ministers in order to make their presence felt.

31. The reports of the Working Groups on Trade and Transport, Socio-Economic Development Planning and Management, and Financial and Banking Services are attached as annexes IV, V and VI respectively.

Third UNDP programming cycle, 1982-1985: Progress report (Item 9)

32. The secretariat introduced working papers ECO/IGO/II/9 and ECO/IGO/II/9/Add.1, and explained that the documents concerned only on-going projects of the institutions which had been approved by UNDP out of the number of projects submitted to it. It was pointed out that, out of the total amount of \$US 33.8 million requested, only about 50 per cent, amounting to \$US 17 million, had eventually been earmarked by UNDP as assistance to some of the institutions during its third programming cycle. In addition, the 1982 ceiling approved for the 1982-1985 programme, which amounted to \$US 4.7 million, represented 30 per cent of the total amount earmarked for the third programming cycle. Moreover, those ceilings represented only 13 per cent of the total amount requested for the third programming cycle. That situation demonstrated the financial constraints of UNDP and the need for careful management of resources. It was, however, explained that during the implementation of projects financed by UNDP adjustments could be made to transfer funds from one project to another and, for that purpose, new project documents should be submitted soon with respect to the approved projects.

33. In the discussions that followed, it was pointed out that some projects relating to institutions which were based in North Africa like ACARTSOD and AATPO were not shown in the working papers since negotiations were still going on for UNDP assistance through its Arab Bureau, as it had been decided that projects north of the Sahara would be financed through that Bureau and projects south of the Sahara through the Africa Bureau of UNDP. It was also explained that the criteria which UNDP used in determining which projects it would assist had been established by the ECA Conference of Ministers at its eighth meeting, but how much UNDP actually decided to give to projects was essentially its own business determined in its own Council. The fact was that recent pledges to UNDP had not been as large as had been expected and there was no likelihood of UNDP obtaining more funds. In the light of its financial limitations, UNDP had done its best.

34. The Executive Secretary stated that he had been informed that \$US 5 million had been allocated by UNDP for preparatory work on industrialization in Africa, but that it was not yet clear which particular projects would benefit. With respect to the MULPOCs, he informed the Conference that the request for regular posts for the MULPOCs was before the General Assembly. The MULPOCs could also have additional posts financed by UNDP depending on the results of the on-going MULPOC evaluation exercise.

Participation of ECA-sponsored regional and subregional institutions in the ECA Pan-African Documentation and Information System (PADIS) (Item 10)

35. The Director of PADIS introduced working paper ECO/IGO/II/10, and emphasized the role of full information and documentation as a prerequisite for realistic planning. It was for that reason that PADIS had been established to assist not only African countries but also entities like the institutions in their economic and social development endeavours. In that regard, PADIS was prepared to assist those institutions which helped themselves in establishing their own documentation and information systems.

36. In answer to a question by the Executive Director of ACANTSOE, the Director of PADIS stated that PADIS had prepared various manuals such as PADIS PROM and PADIS-ADMIN which could be used to serve a whole range of activities and help in procuring the type of information that ACANTSOE required. All that PADIS needed was a request to it and it would give technical assistance and advice in helping to establish the project concerned. The President of ALO thanked ECA for the assistance which PADIS had given the Bank in establishing an improved information system.

Any other business (Item 11)

37. The representative of the Geological Society of Africa stated that, although he was an observer at the Conference, his organization not being one sponsored by ECA, his organization could benefit from the activities of the institutions and the institutions could also benefit from the activities of his organization; he would therefore like his organization to be more closely linked to ECA and to enjoy its sponsorship. The representative of the Inter-African Coffee Organization, an organization not sponsored by ECA, thanked ECA for having granted it observer status and hoped that it would be possible to establish close working relationships with the institutions and to attend their regular conferences. He then announced that the Governing Council of his organization had agreed to deposit the basic constitutive legal documents of the organization with ECA. The Executive Secretary of ECA welcomed those developments and suggested that ECA and the Inter-African Coffee Organization could enter into an agreement on co-operation and assistance.

38. The representative of ERCS stated that his organization had made requests to ECA for assistance and hoped that it would be forthcoming. The Executive Secretary commented that ECA would be in a better position to assist after the African Remote Sensing Council meeting to be held in February 1982, in Kinshasa when, he hoped, ERCS, would have been fully converted into a regional remote sensing centre of the African Remote Sensing Council.

39. The Director of NECTAS informed the Conference that a regional conference on remote sensing and photogrammetry would be organized in co-operation with the International Society of Photogrammetry in August 1982 at NECTAS. All those who were interested in the regional conference should contact him. In addition, he raised the question of the establishment of a uniform salary structure for all institutions, based on the OAU salary structure. It was, however, decided that that issue should be included in the agenda of the next Conference of Chief Executives and that the Director of NECTAS and the Director-General of ACSSM should prepare a paper on this issue for discussion at that Conference.

40. The Executive Secretary of ECA informed the Conference that ECA would be 25 years old on 29 April 1983 and that he had established a committee at ECA to plan the celebrations for that occasion. The report of the committee would be circulated to Chief Executives.

Date and venue of the third Conference of Chief Executives (Item 12)

41. The Conference decided to hold the third Conference of Chief Executives of ECA-Sponsored Regional and Subregional Institutions at the headquarters of ECA during the first week of December.

Adoption of the report (Item 13)

42. The Conference adopted the draft report as amended.

Closure of the Conference (Item 14)

43. A vote of thanks was proposed to the African Development Bank for the splendid facilities and hospitality that it had extended for the Conference and Chief Executives. The motion was adopted by acclamation.

ANNEX I

Draft resolution

The Conference of Ministers,

Convinced of the important role that African multinational institutions in such fields as natural resources, agriculture, trade, industry and transport can play in the rapid economic and social development of African countries,

Aware that African countries are often too poor to establish and operate such institutions on their own,

Mindful of the fact that all ECA-sponsored regional and subregional institutions were established at the request of African Governments,

Recalling the Lagos Plan of Action^{1/} and the Final Act of Lagos^{2/} which give pride of place to economic co-operation among African countries,

Urges all African Governments providing host facilities to the headquarters of ECA-sponsored regional and subregional institutions to grant to such institutions all the facilities, courtesies, immunities and privileges necessary to enhance their financial ability and operational capability and to ensure that in any case such facilities, courtesies, immunities and privileges granted to such African institutions are not less favourable than those granted to the United Nations, an institution not limited only to African countries, under the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations, to which all African Governments have acceded.

1/ A/S-11/14, annex I.

2/ Ibid., annex II.

ANNEX II

Report of the Earth Resources Services Working groupsI. Introduction

Owing to unavoidable circumstances, not all Chief Executives of the institutions constituting the Earth Resources Group participated in the preparation of the report. Should it prove necessary, an addendum will be issued to the report.

II. Review of the report of the Inaugural Conference

The Group, after considerable deliberation, decided that section 3(g) of annex C1 of the report of the Inaugural Conference should be amended to read "Subsections (a), (b), (d), (e) and (f) above should also apply to the African Remote Sensing Council" and that the membership of the Working Group on Earth Resources Services should be expanded accordingly.

III. Progress reportA. Membership of African Association of Cartography

The Regional Centre for Training in Aerial Surveys, Ile-Ife, and the Regional Centre for Services in Surveying and Mapping, Nairobi, have become Associate Members of the African Association of Cartography, as recommended. (See section 3(a) of annex C1 to the report of the Inaugural Conference).

B. Regional short-term exchange of staff

The Remote Sensing Centre, Ouagadougou, participated in the on-the-job training conducted at the Regional Centre for Services in Surveying and Mapping, Nairobi, for a period of three weeks, in accordance with recommendation 3(c) contained in annex C1 to the report of the Inaugural Conference.

C. Training opportunity at the Regional Centre for Training in Aerial Surveys, Ile-Ife

The Group was assured that the Regional Centre for Training in Aerial Surveys at Ile-Ife was prepared to accord such training opportunities to the staff of other institutions as were accorded to participating member States, in accordance with recommendation 3(d) of annex C1 to the report of the Inaugural Conference.

D. Participation by chief executives of the Group in an observer capacity
at governing council meeting of other institutions

The chief executives of the Regional Centre for Training in Aerial Surveys, Ile-Ife, and the Regional Centre for Services in Surveying and Mapping, Nairobi, have started to attend the meetings of the other's Governing Council in an observer capacity as recommended in section 3(f) of annex C1 to the report of the Inaugural Conference, while the chief executives of the Regional Centre for Training in Aerial Surveys, Ile-Ife, and the Remote Sensing Centre, Ouagadougou, are about to put the recommendation into effect.

E. Other forms of co-operation

The Group notes with satisfaction that the Regional Centre for Services in Surveying and Mapping, Nairobi, assisted the Eastern and Southern African Mineral Resources Development Centre, Dodoma, in providing some technical advice on the acquisition of satellite imageries.

IV. Problems

The Group feels that the implementation of recommendation 3(c) contained in annex C1 to the report of the Inaugural Conference involves the following problems:

- (a) Shortage of staff at the institutions;
- (b) Clarification of the financial implications;
- (c) Need for co-ordinated programming by the institutions concerned.

It further believes that:

- (a) The institutions receiving the services should bear the costs;
- (b) Such services would not only be of assistance to the institutions but also beneficial to the individual members of staff concerned.

7. Remarks and recommendations

1. The Group feels that it should be mentioned in annex C1 to document E/CN.14/793/Add.1, Section 1, that there are six institutions in the Earth Resources Group, as indicated in the appendix to the report of the Inaugural Conference of Chief Executives.
2. To facilitate the implementation of decision 3(e), each institution should endeavour to update information about its activities and make relevant documents available.
3. The Group recommends that, in view of the urgent need to establish cartographic departments and to provide cartographic services in African countries, the Regional Centres at Ile-Ife and Nairobi, in collaboration with the Cartography and Remote Sensing Units of ECA, should provide consultancy services to that end.
4. Should the Constitution of any of the institutions (including AAC and ARSC) not permit the unimpaired execution of any of the recommendations, the Group calls upon ECA to take the required steps to effect the necessary amendments.
5. The Group calls on the Conference to express sincere gratitude to ECA, for submitting the report of the Inaugural Conference to the ECA Conference of Ministers at its seventh meeting and to request ECA to make every effort to ensure the acceptance of the resolutions and recommendations of the Conference of Chief Executives by the Conference of Ministers.

ANNEX III

Report of the Industrial Development and Services Group

A. Introduction

The meeting was attended by the chief executives of ALITR, ARCEDEM, ARCI, ARSO and ESAMRO.

The Group reviewed the report of the last meeting held in December 1980. The chief executives of each institution presented their work programmes for discussion and review.

B. Greater co-ordination of programmes

The Group observed that there was a common base for the programme of the institutions and decided that there should be greater co-ordination among the institutions in the formulation and implementation of their programmes. In particular, it was noted that the programmes of three institutions, ALITR, ARCEDEM and ARCI, could be more effectively implemented through joint programming and continuous consultations.

C. Exchange of information on work programmes

In order to facilitate co-ordination of the programmes of the different institutions, it was recommended that there should be a continuous exchange of information on work programme formulation as well as implementation.

D. Training

All the programmes of the five institutions had a strong training component. The Group recommended that intensive consultations should be held among the institutions in the design of training programmes. The Group further recommended that ALITR being the training institution, should be involved at all times in formulating training programmes.

E. Contact with the Executive Secretary

The Group felt that the present system of transmitting information to the Executive Secretary of ECA through the substantive divisions of ECA left a lot to be desired as the Group thought that the Executive Secretary did not receive all the views of the institutions. It therefore recommended that the chief executives should be able to have direct access to the Executive Secretary.

F. Inter-governmental institutions

The Group noted that ECA as well as OAU had organized meetings of chief executives of inter-governmental institutions. In order to avoid duplication and waste of resources the Group felt that ECA and the OAU secretariat should co-ordinate the convening of such meetings.

G. Administrative support in UNDP-assisted projects

UNDP-assisted projects for inter-governmental institutions for which other United Nations agencies acted as executing agency faced operational difficulties as under existing practice the project's chief technical adviser was solely responsible to UNDP for the administration of the assistance.

That state of affairs had resulted in the creation of mini-administrations within the central administration of the institutions with the consequence that, disparities were created between the employees hired with UNDP resources and those hired by the institutions with their own resources which might follow other systems of payments. Moreover, the advisers devoted more time to non-technical matters. It was also inevitable that if that state of affairs was not rectified, the position of the chief executive would be undermined. It was therefore suggested that:

- (a) UNDP assistance funds allocated for administrative support should be transferred to the institutions concerned;
- (b) The funds should be administered by the Chief Executive of the institution in consultation with the chief technical adviser in accordance with the rules and regulations governing the operations of the institutions and should be fully accounted for;
- (c) ECA, if necessary, should hold discussions with UNDP with a view to settling the issues arising.

H. Representation at the ECA Conference of Ministers

The Group decided that the current chairman of the Group should represent the Group at the ECA Conference of Ministers without prejudice to each Chief Executive attending the meeting.

ANNEX IV

Report of the Socio-Economic Development, Planning and Management Group

A. Attendance

The meeting of the Group was attended by the Chief Executives of the African Centre for Applied Research and Training in Social Development (ACARTSOD), the African Institute for Economic Development and Planning (IDEP), the Institut de Formation et de recherche démographique (IFORD) and the Regional Institute for Population Studies (RIPS). The Chief Executive of the Eastern and Southern African Management Institute (ESAMI) was absent.

B. Co-operation

The Group came to the conclusion that the different institutions within the Group should undertake activities that were closely interrelated, and decided that co-operation among member institutions should be intensified in the future with a view to arriving at a higher degree of co-ordination, rationalization and effectiveness in the various activities of those institutes.

It was also agreed that such co-operation should, in particular, cover the following areas:

Training:

- Exchange of teaching materials;
- Exchange of staff;
- Provision of teaching space for use by other members of the Group.

Research:

- Undertaking joint research in areas of common interest;
- Avoidance of any duplication in research programmes;
- Exchange of publications.

Advisory services:

- Co-operation in the provision of consultative services to Governments and organizations on a joint basis.

Conferences, seminars and other short-term activities:

- Reciprocal participation in activities organized by member institutions;
- Organization of joint conferences, seminars, workshops and other short-term activities.

Dissemination of information:

- Exchange of information on activities of member institutions on a regular basis for publication in the Bulletin of the institutions.

C. Problems

Members of the Group came unanimously to the view that shortages of funds and the irregularity with which such funds were made available represented the main constraints facing the members of the Group.

Both IFORD and IDEP had experienced certain difficulties in attracting qualified staff members to their institutions. While in the case of IFORD the problem was due mainly to the lack of funds, the problem facing IDEP was largely caused by insufficient applications by qualified personnel.

The lack of funds had also prevented RIPS from obtaining certain equipment considered essential for its operations. In the case of IFORD, the lack of its own building constituted a grave problem.

ACARTSOB brought to the attention of the Group the fact that, aside from the contribution of the host country, amounting to 50 per cent of the administrative budget of the Centre for the year 1981, no other member State had honoured its commitment to the budget. The Executive Director of ACARTSOB also outlined the serious implications of that situation for the future of the Centre and the effectiveness of its operations.

D. Consolidated biennial report for 1980-1981 and programme of work for 1982-1983

The Group felt that it was not in a position to present synthesized biennial reports for 1980-1981 and 1982-1983 within the short time available at its disposal in view of the fact that IFORD's report was presented in French and the reports of IDEP and RIPS were rather detailed documents that could not be satisfactorily summarized within a short time.

The Group, however, agreed that the main activities of the institutions could be classified under the following headings when presented in the synthesized reports:

- (a) Training activities;
- (b) Research;
- (c) Conferences, seminars, workshops and other short-term activities;
- (d) Advisory services;
- (e) Information dissemination.

Activities falling outside that range could appear separately under the name of each institution.

The Group decided to request the ECA secretariat to undertake the necessary analysis and synthesis of the reports in the light of the aforementioned comments. The Chairman of the Group, the Executive Director of IDEP, who would be in Addis Ababa from 1 to 3 January 1982 indicated his willingness to help the secretariat of ECA in that exercise.

ANNEX V

Report of Trade and Transport Working Group

A. Participation

The following organizations participated in the Group on Trade and Transport:
AATPO, ARSO, IACO, PMANCA and TANA.

It was noted that the number of trade and transport institutions represented at the meeting had increased over the previous year, which was a welcome sign for the co-ordination of the activities of the institutions concerned.

B. Deliberations and Decisions

After reviewing the report of its first meeting the Group reached the following decisions:

(a) To exchange on a regular and continuous basis the programmes of work of the respective institutions;

(b) To reiterate the importance of the Group's decision at its first meeting with regard to the exchange of information and in that regard to put the institution on each other's mailing lists for the dissemination of publications and documentation;

(c) To extend to each other invitations to attend meetings of the respective policy organs.

The Group also decided to rotate the chairmanship among the institutions according to the English alphabetical order.

ANNEXE VI

Report of the Financial and Banking Services Group

I. Suggested format for the consolidated biennial report

A. INTRODUCTION :

Brief outline of the objectives of the Lagos Plan of Action in the field of money, finance and banking

B. CURRENT MONETARY AND FINANCIAL PROBLEMS OF THE CONTINENT

C. PROGRAMMES OF EACH INSTITUTION TO RESOLVE SUCH PROBLEMS

D. CONCLUSIONS

II. Work programme

An examination of the work programmes of the institutions concerned revealed that there was no conflict or duplication of effort.

The machinery established for co-operation among the different institutions was considered satisfactory, and it was expected that in any situation where the expertise or special knowledge of one or more of the institutions was needed to accomplish a given task the existing inter-agency co-operation machinery would be used to obtain assistance.

III. Deadline for submission of documents

It was expected that contributions of each institution would reach ADE by 31 December 1981 and the report and work programmes would be transmitted to ECA by 31 January 1981.

IV. Chairmanship of the Committee

It was recommended that the chairmanship of the Committee should rotate annually among the chief executives of the institutions.