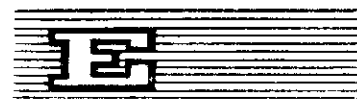




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OVERVIEW OF DEVELOPMENTS IN THE AFRICAN LEAST DEVELOPED
COUNTRIES, 1980-1981

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I. INTRODUCTION

1. The economic situation in the African least developed countries remained difficult during 1980-1981. Despite more favourable weather conditions in Africa over-all, some least developed countries experienced irregular rains and drought which led to a precarious food supply situation. The foreign exchange position tightened in virtually all countries as import prices, particularly of oil and oil products, rose again and the need for food imports increased further. While export prices showed a generally rising trend, most countries were unable to take advantage of this as export volumes remained stagnant, if they did not actually decline, because of long-term adverse trends in output and exceptional circumstances in some countries. The consequent reduction in import capacity coupled with domestic supply shortages deprived industry of essential raw materials and spare parts. There was widespread under-utilization of capacity. Reduced production constrained growth in government tax receipts, which in turn brought about large-scale bank borrowing to finance budgetary deficits. The average rate of price inflation accordingly remained high. Balance of payments deficits widened and international reserves fell to dangerously low levels. External public debt rose again, exacerbating the already heavy debt-service burden currently running at over 25 per cent of exports of goods and services in some countries.

2. In short, developments in the African least developed countries over the past two years demonstrated once again the pervasive effects of these countries' underlying structural weaknesses and their poor ability to adjust to disturbances. Consistent policies and measures urgently need to be applied to provide relief from current imbalances and lay the basis for longer-term growth and structural adjustment. In this regard, the support of the international community, particularly in respect of the urgent provision of adequate external resources, assumes a central and crucial role.

II. GROWTH, DOMESTIC SAVINGS AND FIXED CAPITAL FORMATION

3. The growth rate of the combined GDP of the 21 African least developed countries stagnated in 1980, reaching only 3.2 per cent as compared with 3.1 per cent in 1979, barely above the average rate of population growth. The rate of growth in 1980 was well below the 1978 rate two years previously (4.6 per cent) and not different from the annual average for the 1970s (3.1 per cent). The corresponding rates of growth of GDP for developing African countries as a whole were 4.5 per cent in 1980, 6 per cent in 1979 and 5.9 per cent in 1978. In 1980, seven of the African least developed countries (the Central African Republic, Chad, the Gambia, Guinea-Bissau,

Lesotho, Mali, and Uganda) registered negative rates of growth. The decline in GDP was particularly steep in Chad and Guinea-Bissau, where it reached 6 and 5 per cent respectively. On the other hand, a few countries (Cape Verde, Comoros, Guinea and the Niger) grew at about the average rate for developing African countries as a whole, and one country (Botswana) surpassed it by far, with a growth rate of 12.6 per cent.

4. Preliminary estimates for 1981 indicate that total GDP for the African least developed countries rose by 3.4 per cent. This compares with an over-all rate of growth for all developing African countries of 4.1 per cent.

5. Thus, in terms of growth, the African least developed countries made no worthwhile gains during the past few years. The prevailing unfavourable international environment constrained growth in the developing African countries as a whole. However, because of their inherent structural weaknesses, the inflexibility of their productive sectors, their fragile institutional framework, their general lack of skills and gross inadequacies in their infrastructure, the African least developed countries have been most severely hit by the impact of adverse external factors. In 1979 and 1980, the unit value index of imports of the non-oil-exporting developing African countries, which can be assumed to be the same as that of the least developed African countries, rose by 17 and 25 per cent respectively. About one third of these increases were the result of movements in petroleum prices. At the same time the volume of exports from the least developed countries remained depressed as long-term adverse trends in output, coupled with exceptional circumstances such as drought and civil strife in some countries, held down export supplies.

6. The shortage of foreign exchange led to a drastic curtailment of imports in virtually all the least developed countries. This in turn deprived the export sector of inputs necessary for normal operation, further aggravating the foreign exchange crisis and slowing down economic expansion in general.

7. At the domestic level, the lack of growth in the agricultural sector continued to be the most pervasive factor affecting total economic growth in the least developed countries. This sector accounts for about 82 per cent of the economically active population of the African least developed countries, 44 per cent of their total GDP and 90 per cent of their export earnings. In 1980-1981, droughts, floods and pests took their toll on agricultural production in countries such as the Gambia, Malawi, Lesotho,

the Sudan and the United Republic of Tanzania. In most countries, farm gate prices continued to be kept at exceptionally low levels and the surplus was used to subsidize urban consumption. Facilities and arrangements for the distribution and marketing of products left much to be desired.

8. Value added in agriculture rose by 2.6 per cent in 1980 in the African least developed countries as a whole, an increase barely equal to the rate of population growth. Although this represented a slight improvement over 1979, it was insufficient to offset the accumulated losses sustained as a result of the low rates of growth of agriculture during the 1970s (an average of 1.7 per cent per annum). In per capita terms there remained considerable shortfalls in 1980; these were particularly marked in Chad, the Gambia, Guinea-Bissau, Lesotho, Malawi and Mali. However, as a result of concerted government efforts to ensure a wider distribution of better seeds, fertilizers and extension services, a few countries, notably Botswana, Cape Verde, Ethiopia, Guinea and the Niger, made significant gains. None the less, most countries required substantial amounts of food aid. A number of countries imported large quantities of food at peak international prices. This imposed severe strains on the balance of payments, which was further strained by increased ocean freight costs, particularly for the island and land-locked least developed countries.

9. The manufacturing sector in the least developed countries remained small and closely linked to agriculture. In 1980 the sector accounted for 8.1 per cent of these countries total GDP. Aggregate output in the sector declined in 1980 after having grown by about 5.5 per cent in 1979. Apart from the direct effect of poor performance in agriculture, manufacturing output was affected by shortages of fuel, spare parts, imported raw materials and skilled manpower. Frequent interruptions in water and power supply were also at play. Productivity of both labour and capital declined and industrial plants operated much below capacity in a number of countries. In the United Republic of Tanzania, the rate of capacity utilization was estimated at between 40 and 60 per cent during 1980-1981.

10. Mining is an important sector in the economies of Botswana, the Central African Republic, Guinea, Lesotho, the Niger and the United Republic of Tanzania. The relatively rapid rate of growth enjoyed by the Niger and Botswana has been largely due in the former to rapid growth in uranium exports and in the latter to diamonds. Growth in this sector continued to be limited in the other countries not only by the behaviour of international prices but also by structural limitations existing within the countries. These limitations include: the high cost of extraction, weak infrastructure, the shortage of skilled manpower for mineral prospecting and mining development, lack of capital and the general remoteness of potential mineral sites.

11. The expansion of the physical infrastructure in the least developed countries has been badly affected by the shortage of foreign exchange for fuel, vehicles and spare parts. There has been a serious deterioration in the transport sector, which led to the disruption of traffic in basic commodities in countries such as Ethiopia, the Sudan and the United Republic of Tanzania.

12. In many of the least developed countries total consumption exceeded total output for most of the period 1970-1980, implying that there was considerably dissaving and external borrowing to finance consumption. For the group as a whole, the marginal propensity to save and as the average savings ratio remained at extremely low levels. The former averaged only 0.04 during the 1970s and the latter dropped from 11.2 per cent in 1970 to 8.4 per cent in 1980.

13. The rate of investment in the least developed countries reached 15.9 per cent of GDP in 1980, as compared with 14.30 per cent in 1970. These rates compared unfavourably with the regional averages for developing African countries of 25.7 and 17.4 per cent in 1980 and 1970 respectively. The capacity to finance investment from domestic savings was 78.3 per cent in 1970. The ratio progressively declined to reach the low level of 52.5 per cent in 1980.

14. What is more worrisome, however, is the fact that the productivity of investment which has also been low, is declining. The incremental capital-output ratio (ICOR) for the group as a whole stood at about 5 throughout the 1970s. This average was about the same as that recorded for all non-oil-exporting developing countries. However, while in this latter group of countries the excessive use of capital-intensive techniques and the virtual disregard of the comparative advantage of cheap labour were the major factors contributing to the general decline in capital efficiency, the major factors at play in the least developed countries were the effects of greatly underdeveloped infrastructures, the poor level of organization and administration, faulty project planning, inappropriate technology and the lack of adequate linkages between sectors, resulting in gross under-utilization of capacities.

III. EXTERNAL TRADE AND BALANCE OF PAYMENTS

15. The volume of external trade of the African least developed countries contracted markedly during 1979 and 1980, with no relief apparent in 1981. In 1980 imports fell for the second year running while exports which had risen by 4.5 per cent in 1979, declined sharply by 6.3 per cent.

16. As already noted, import volume fell in most of the least developed countries. This drop was the result of deliberate cut-backs in imports made by countries whose purchasing power, which derived from their export earnings, dropped sharply while import costs rose. In per capita 1979 dollar terms, the purchasing power of exports declined in 1980 in all African least developed countries except Comoros, the Niger and Rwanda. The rate of decline was highest in Botswana, the Gambia, the Central African Republic, the Sudan and the United Republic of Tanzania. The rise in import costs was largely due to the rise in the prices of petroleum and imported food stuffs. In the past two years these items together absorbed well over 50 per cent of the total earnings of individual least developed countries.

17. Paradoxically, the volume of exports from the least developed countries fell in 1980 at a time when export prices were generally rising. The index of export unit values for the non-oil-exporting developing African countries rose by 21, 56 and 10 percentage points in 1979, 1980 and 1981 respectively. The African least developed countries were unable to take advantage of rising export prices because of widespread supply failures in the productive sectors, transport difficulties, other interrelated factors such as weak institutional support and the fact that in some countries rising consumption had begun to cut in the export surplus.

18. Despite the depressed level of import volumes, the net effect of the increased in import and export prices was such that in virtually all the least developed countries the trade deficit widened substantially in 1979 and 1980. The trade deficit for the group as a whole amounted to \$US 3.6 billion in 1980, a 43.3 per cent increase over the 1979 deficit. Most countries also had to contend with persistent gaps in the services account since they depended heavily on foreign services to move their trade. The current account deficits of most African least developed countries thus widened substantially. To manage the enlarged deficits, heavy losses of international reserves were incurred. Since the reserves of most of these countries were already inadequate or barely adequate, the international financial positions of many of these countries became negative. A number of countries also turned increasingly to short-term borrowing, including supplier credit and increased accumulation of payment arrears.

IV. AID AND DEBT

19. In 1980 total aid (ODA) to the African least developed countries rose by 4.6 per cent in nominal terms to reach \$US 3.4 billion (see table). This represented 34.4 per cent of the total aid flows to developing Africa which

grew by only 6 per cent in 1980. The increase in ODA to the least developed countries was due largely to increased flows from the DAC countries and multilateral agencies. Together, these two sources accounted for about 75 per cent of total ODA to the least developed countries. OPEC bilateral and multi-lateral ODA rose at a lower rate and accounted for 13 per cent of total ODA to least developed countries in 1980. Aid flows remained highly concentrated to the extent that in 1980, the Sudan, and the United Republic of Tanzania together received 29 per cent of the total aid disbursed. On a per capita basis, too, the distribution remained extremely uneven, ranging from \$5.6 million for Ethiopia to \$182.4 million for Cape Verde. Chad and Uganda like Ethiopia also received less than half the average whereas Botswana, Cape Verde, the Central African Republic, Comoros, the Gambia, Guinea-Bissau, Lesotho and Somalia received more than twice the average. The existence of special political and historical links, fixed minimum costs for certain types of projects and the availability of suitable projects have been adduced as factors contributing to these disparities.

Resource flows to the African least developed countries in 1980
(Millions of US dollars)

	Bilateral ODA from DAC countries	Other ODA	Total ODA	Non- ODA	Total resource flows	Per capita resource flows
Benin	35.6	41.1	76.7	299.7	376.4	106.6
Botswana	83.4	15.4	13.8	-52.1	45.7	57.9
Burundi	59.6	45.2	104.8	0.3	105.1	24.8
Cape Verde	38.9	20.2	59.1	0.0	59.1	182.4
Central African Republic	75.1	24.3	99.4	18.4	117.8	51.4
Chad	20.1	6.1	26.2	-0.7	25.5	5.7
Comoros	13.4	25.9	39.3	0.9	40.2	112.3
Ethiopia	91.3	36.2	177.5	-1.4	176.1	5.6
Gambia	16.4	28.5	44.9	27.5	72.4	120.1
Guinea	32.5	35.8	68.3	46.0	114.3	22.8
Guinea-Bissau	34.4	14.4	48.8	7.5	56.3	93.3
Lesotho	59.6	25.5	85.1	-0.1	85.0	63.4
Malawi	75.6	47.1	122.7	29.7	152.4	29.0
Mali	131.3	79.1	210.4	1.9	212.3	30.6
Niger	104.9	56.0	160.9	83.2	244.1	45.9
Rwanda	96.5	37.2	133.7	0.3	134.0	27.9
Somalia	139.4	199.1	338.5	106.5	445.0	96.0
Sudan	271.5	333.3	609.8	85.3	695.1	37.8
United Republic of Tanzania	523.0	102.4	625.4	180.3	805.7	44.9
Upper Volta	151.1	50.6	201.7	15.7	217.4	31.5
Uganda	42.2	49.0	91.2	19.6	110.8	8.4
Total African least developed countries	2 095.8	1 282.2	3 423.2	363.5	4 291.7	31.0
Total develop- ing African countries	6 814.3	3 131.5	9 945.8	3 984.3	13 930.1	

Source: OECD, Development Co-operation 1981 Review.

20. The total outstanding disbursed external debt for the African least developed countries rose by 2 per cent to reach \$3.71 billion in 1980 as the countries continued to find it necessary to take out substantial commercial and short-term loans to cover the ever-widening resource gaps. Most of the total debt outstanding in 1980 (60 per cent) was concentrated in four countries; namely Ethiopia, Guinea, the Sudan and the United Republic of Tanzania. In 1980 the African least developed countries paid out \$754.5 million to cover debt-service liabilities. This represented 17.9 per cent of their combined export earnings. The highest ratios were recorded for the Sudan (52.4 per cent), Guinea (39.9 per cent), Chad (25.7 per cent) and Benin (25.2 per cent).

V. MONEY, FISCAL AND PRICES DEVELOPMENT

21. During 1979 and early 1980 the African least developed countries sustained substantial shortfalls in government budgetary receipts as a result of the prevailing depressed level of their international trade, which is the primary source of government revenue. To manage the revenue gap, most Governments resorted to substantial money creation through bank borrowing. The resultant rise in the stock of money in the face of pervasive domestic supply shortages and the impact of rising world prices contributed to a flare-up of inflation. In the latter part of 1980 and early 1981, most Governments applied tighter fiscal and monetary policies to curb inflation and reduce import demand and external deficits on current account.

22. The average rate of growth of money supply (broadly defined) for the 16 least developed countries having available data was about 23 per cent in 1979. The rate decelerated to about 17 per cent in 1980.

23. Two countries, Burundi and Ethiopia, registered rates of growth of money supply of 8 and 7 per cent respectively in 1980. In both countries, contraction of the money supply was due to substantial declines in foreign assets at a time when tight credit policies were in force. Apart from these two cases, the rise in money supply in the African least developed countries as a whole was primarily due to excessive expansion in domestic credit, particularly public sector credit. Total domestic credit contributed 24 percentage points to the total percentage rise in the volume of money, considerably outweighing the contractionary impact of the decline in foreign assets and other items. Twenty-one percentage points were due to the rise in public sector borrowing alone. Developments in net foreign assets had only a 2 per cent contractional effect on money supply, whereas changes in other items exerted a 5 per cent contractional effect.

24. The rise in government expenditure boosted the demand for goods and services at a time of low growth in domestic output and limited imports. Consumer prices in the least developed countries as a whole consequently rose by 19.2 per cent in 1979 and by 20.7 per cent in 1980. Prices also rose as a result of other factors such as the increases in taxes on goods, which were generally effected to mitigate fiscal imbalances; imported inflationary pressures which were transmitted through the effects of fixed, usually over-valued, exchange rates; and the rise in the cost of oil, raw materials and intermediate goods, which increased production costs in general.

25. The rise in domestic credit was triggered by the expanding gap between government revenue and expenditure in virtually all the least developed countries. The average rate of increase of revenue for the group was about 15 per cent in 1980, against an average rate of increase in expenditure of 20 per cent. In 1980, revenues covered only 55 per cent of expenditures leaving a resource gap of 34 per cent.

26. These fiscal imbalances persisted in the different countries for a variety of reasons. In general, the most common factors on the expenditure side were substantial increases in wages and salaries, mounting subsidies in the face of increasing prices, obligations arising from the transfer of completed development projects from the capital to the recurrent budget, inflation and the rise in the debt-service burden. On the income side, the relative unresponsiveness of the tax system to income and price changes (in most least developed countries the tax-GDP ratio remained below 10 per cent), the narrow and shallow tax base, the heavy reliance on tax revenue from foreign trade (at a time of sluggish export growth and restrained imports) and the generally low returns from parastatals dampened the rate of increase in revenues.

27. A number of countries were either taking or planning to take corrective measures to restore monetary and budgetary equilibrium. Many countries have increasingly turned to domestic taxes as a source of revenue in the face of declining tax efforts in the area of international trade. The most important instruments in this respect have been increases in excise and sales taxes as well as taxes on personal income and profits. In most countries, however, greater emphasis has been placed on efforts to increase the effectiveness of government expenditures. Thus raising capacity utilization and reducing the deficits of public enterprises and services have become major objectives in a number of countries. Likewise in a number of countries, public enterprises have been required to develop financial plans and are subject to strict accountability; there have also been substantial cuts in non-essential official travel, transport and entertainment. Measures are also being taken by some countries to increase the return flow of factor incomes, namely wages and workers' remittances.

VI. POLICY ISSUES AND PROSPECTS

28. It would appear from the above review that the overriding policy priority for the African least developed countries in the immediate term is to redress both domestic and international disequilibria. The attainment of this objective will require the application of an integrated set of measures aimed at controlling demand and augmenting supplies.

29. This integrated approach is essential, particularly since the present policies of the African least developed countries are merely a reflection of more long-term problems of development and structural adjustment. Solutions for the short-term must constitute the first steps towards the establishment of a more solid basis for balanced growth of domestic production in the long term. Thus, while it is difficult to generalize, the thrust of policies in the least developed countries in the immediate term should be geared towards bringing the growth of monetary aggregates more in line with growth in output.

At current rates of growth this will require considerable restraint on credit creation and government borrowing. Accordingly, fiscal policy will have to be executed judiciously with a view to rationalizing expenditure and mobilizing additional revenue. The financial performance of public enterprises will also need to be improved. On the supply side, production and investment policies must emphasize the fuller utilization of existing capacity and the completion of directly productive investment projects, particularly those geared to the expansion of the export sector. The crucial role of the agricultural sector in the adjustment process, particularly as a source of expanded exports and foodstuffs, needs to be enhanced, with particular emphasis placed on improving production and productivity through appropriate pricing policies, the provision of better incentives and adequate input supplies and the application of research findings to local conditions. At the same time, complementary measures will need to be taken to alleviate bottle-necks in the supporting sectors, particularly transport.

30. During the period under review a number of countries, notably the Sudan, Uganda, the United Republic of Tanzania, the Upper Volta and Malawi had initiated or were implementing adjustment programmes along the guidelines listed above with the help of IMF and the World Bank. However, it is evident that to put the required policies and measures immediately and successfully into effect will require significantly greater external resources than what may be forthcoming from IMF and the World Bank. Against this background, the urgent need to implement the international support measures in respect of the immediate action component of the Substantial New Programme of Action for the 1980s for the Least Developed Countries adopted by the United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries in September 1981 becomes readily apparent. It will be recalled that for the immediate term, the programme calls for the immediate provision of substantial resources to the least developed countries to enable them meet their most urgent needs.

ANNEX

Major economic indicators of the least developed African countries
(In percentages) (At 1970 constant prices)

Country	Period	GDP Growth rate	Agriculture		Manufacturing		Capital output ratio	Marginal		Import growth rates	Export growth rates	Invest- ment as a proportion of GDP	Import elasticity with respect to GDP
			Share in GDP	Share in GDP	Share in GDP	Share in GDP		Domestic savings in GDP	propen- sity to save				
Benin	1970-75	3.10	45.96	0.10	8.35	5.10	6.14	9.54	-0.03	5.7	1.9	17.00	1.84
	1975-80	0.90	39.37	5.90	9.15	-6.80	19.75	7.60	-2.85	0.3	2.9	21.09	0.33
	1970-80	2.00	-	2.90	-	-1.10	8.76	-	-0.22	2.7	2.4	14.46	1.35
	1978	4.08	49.75	14.98	7.02	-4.09	3.99	3.16	2.37	6.05	21.01	16.29	1.48
	1979	5.86	49.68	5.71	6.44	-2.85	2.58	5.55	0.57	-5.82	1.42	15.09	-0.99
Botswana	1980	2.09	50.25	3.25	6.32	0.10	6.92	4.42	-1.20	-4.87	-8.16	14.46	-2.33
	1970-75	8.30	42.08	2.20	7.84	15.30	4.85	4.95	0.63	11.7	24.30	38.46	1.41
	1975-80	12.70	31.57	3.00	10.76	11.70	3.06	25.75	0.28	12.8	15.80	42.08	1.01
	1970-80	10.4	-	2.60	-	13.50	3.72	-	0.38	12.2	20.00	35.56	1.17
	1978	5.91	27.21	-1.73	11.33	-9.55	4.47	22.49	0.16	16.55	0.71	30.90	2.40
Burundi	1979	26.34	21.29	-1.17	13.90	54.93	1.22	30.34	0.59	36.16	52.47	32.24	1.37
	1980	12.76	20.22	7.12	10.31	-16.36	2.79	26.67	0.01	9.60	-2.55	35.56	0.75
	1970-75	1.10	68.24	1.00	6.77	4.30	5.19	3.56	0.19	8.0	3.7	4.48	7.27
	1975-80	4.80	67.86	3.40	7.91	4.60	2.00	2.86	0.03	7.5	-2.3	6.93	1.56
	1970-80	2.90	-	2.10	-	4.40	2.74	-	0.02	7.8	0.6	12.29	2.69
Burundi	1978	8.52	63.68	7.92	7.72	3.39	1.44	6.25	0.64	14.29	29.12	12.24	1.68
	1979	1.90	63.50	1.60	7.75	2.25	6.49	2.94	-1.04	4.46	2.56	12.33	2.35
	1980	3.07	63.21	2.60	7.81	3.80	4.00	3.03	0.05	3.21	3.65	12.29	1.05

1/ For the periods 1970-1975 and 1975-1980 years referred to are 1970 and 1975 respectively.

Major economic indicators of the least developed African countries (cont'd)
(In percentages) (At 1970 constant prices)

Country	Period	GDP Growth rate	Agriculture		Manufacturing		Capital output ratio	Domestic savings in GDP 1/	Marginal propen- sity to save	Import growth rates	Export growth rates	Invest- ment as a pro- portion of GDP 1/	Import elasti- city with respect to GDP
			Share in GDP 1/	rate	Share in GDP 1/	rate							
Cape Verde	1970-75	-1.90	20.25	-0.10	5.24	1.50	-9.98	-38.70	1.43	-6.9	-6.6	18.38	3.63
	1975-80	3.10	22.12	3.60	6.21	1.90	6.23	-25.21	-0.11	-12.9	-8.8	19.53	-4.16
	1970-80	0.50	-	1.70	-	1.70	38.00	-	-6.68	-4.9	-7.7	19.09	-9.80
	1978	2.50	22.84	3.93	5.89	2.52	6.12	24.86	-3.20	-9.13	-0.79	15.29	-3.65
	1979	4.74	22.36	2.51	5.76	2.45	3.58	22.32	-0.37	2.34	3.17	16.97	0.49
	1980	5.21	22.69	6.76	5.87	7.12	3.66	20.16	-0.11	5.93	3.85	19.09	1.14
Central. Af. Rep.	1970-75	0.40	34.66	2.40	13.09	-0.30	40.19	11.34	-5.19	-1.0	-6.2	18.12	-2.50
	1975-80	1.70	38.30	2.10	12.63	3.80	8.56	3.33	0.15	0.9	-0.1	14.03	0.53
	1970-80	1.10	-	2.20	-	1.70	14.32	-	-0.86	-0.1	-3.2	15.09	-0.09
	1978	0.55	36.55	-0.52	13.93	3.84	29.64	7.43	-2.78	-2.98	-0.54	16.30	-5.42
	1979	-0.35	37.30	1.70	14.08	0.68	-44.17	6.50	0.64	2.09	4.03	15.46	-5.97
	1980	-1.85	38.95	2.50	13.95	-2.74	-8.15	4.03	0.88	6.94	-1.94	15.08	-3.75
Chad	1970-75	2.50	53.15	-0.5	5.49	5.80	4.74	3.59	0.04	3.1	1.10	10.63	1.24
	1975-80	-1.30	45.78	-0.6	6.47	-5.60	-7.76	3.61	0.04	-3.5	1.10	13.08	2.69
	1970-80	0.60	-	-0.5	-	-0.10	17.11	-	0.03	-0.2	1.10	7.09	-0.33
	1978	-2.88	44.07	-3.91	5.81	-7.24	-7.90	5.19	0.31	-7.74	-3.86	22.76	2.69
	1979	-3.64	46.14	0.88	5.57	-7.70	-2.29	5.35	0.02	-11.71	-6.01	8.35	3.22
	1980	-5.87	47.28	-3.55	5.20	-12.00	-1.21	3.57	0.28	-7.88	-9.81	7.09	1.34

1/ For the periods 1970-1975 and 1975-1980 years referred to are 1970 and 1975 respectively.

Major economic indicators of the least developed African countries (cont'd)
(In percentages) (At 1970 constant prices)

Country	Period	GDP Growth rate	Agriculture		Manufacturing		Capital output ratio	Domestic savings in GDP 1/	Marginal propen- sity to save	Import growth rates	Export growth rates	Invest- ment as a pro- portion of GDP 1/	Import elasti- city with respect to GDP
			Share in GDP 1/	rate GDP 1/	Share in GDP 1/	rate GDP 1/							
Comoros	1970-75	1.80	44.57	2.20	6.70	3.40	15.14	13.54	-1.04	5.3	-4.6	26.71	2.94
	1975-80	-0.00	45.41	2.00	7.23	-8.30	-35.44	3.05	-7.24	3.8	1.1	27.78	-3.80
	1970-80	0.90	-	2.10	-	-2.70	36.14	-	-0.19	4.6	-1.8	43.09	5.11
	1978	1.18	51.26	-7.34	5.08	-1.09	20.83	10.19	-0.97	3.04	-30.05	24.58	2.58
	1979	10.39	50.21	8.34	4.72	2.51	2.74	13.98	0.49	25.08	34.27	28.47	2.41
Ethiopia	1970-75	2.20	54.66	0.90	9.55	1.00	-24.82	9.98	0.21	4.3	2.0	11.81	1.95
	1975-80	3.30	51.10	2.20	8.99	4.90	3.28	10.76	0.21	-3.3	0.7	9.41	-1.00
	1970-80	2.80	-	1.54	-	3.00	3.99	-	0.21	-0.4	1.3	12.26	-0.14
	1978	5.19	49.21	2.39	9.85	13.93	1.18	3.07	-0.14	4.88	10.62	6.10	0.94
	1979	5.66	48.80	4.78	10.06	7.89	1.83	9.88	1.52	0.00	35.73	10.38	0.00
Gambia	1970-75	4.60	30.71	7.60	5.11	7.60	3.57	2.33	0.63	9.7	15.3	14.15	2.11
	1975-80	-4.60	35.38	-7.50	5.88	-15.30	-6.35	14.39	1.80	7.7	-8.3	18.73	-1.67
	1970-80	2.00	-	-0.30	-	-4.50	12.09	-	0.33	8.7	2.8	39.67	4.35
	1978	25.36	32.80	46.60	3.70	-20.24	1.55	6.79	0.13	6.95	-28.61	39.38	0.27
	1979	-18.18	25.10	-37.40	2.71	-39.95	-2.12	8.48	-0.01	17.40	80.57	38.49	-0.96
	1980	-2.19	24.57	-4.26	2.63	-5.18	-18.11	-7.41	0.38	-1.40	-34.47	39.67	0.64

1/ For the periods 1970-1975 and 1975 and 1980 years referred to are 1970 and 1975 respectively.

Major economic indicators of the least developed African countries (cont'd)
(In percentages) (At 1970 constant prices)

Country	Period	GDP Growth rate	Agriculture		Manufacturing		Capital output ratio	Domestic savings in GDP 1/ save	Marginal propen- sity to save	Import growth rates	Export growth rates	Invest- ment as a pro- portion of GDP 1/ to GDP	Import elasticity with city
			Share in GDP 1/ GDP	Share in Growth rate	Share in GDP 1/ GDP	Share in Growth rate							
Guinea	1970-75	2.90	66.73	2.00	2.89	2.30	5.40	6.70	0.65	3.2	16.4	14.82	1.10
	1975-80	1.70	63.72	-1.10	2.82	3.10	8.81	14.04	0.23	0.4	6.9	16.50	0.24
	1970-80	2.30	-	0.40	-	2.80	6.49	-	0.40	3.6	11.5	13.44	1.57
	1978	3.20	57.52	-2.21	3.16	13.00	3.94	11.52	-0.09	22.37	1.72	12.62	6.99
	1979	-0.49	54.68	-5.38	3.12	-1.59	-27.92	14.63	329.59	-8.04	6.47	13.68	16.41
	1980	6.43	55.46	7.94	3.01	2.69	2.09	15.43	0.29	1.21	8.40	13.44	0.19
Guinea- Bissau	1970-75	2.20	62.54	1.40	1.06	0.10	4.30	24.63	0.57	0.3	5.9	13.55	0.14
	1975-80	-0.90	59.94	-1.20	0.95	2.50	-8.13	27.94	1.78	2.1	8.5	5.35	-2.33
	1970-80	0.70	-	0.10	-	1.30	13.42	-	0.37	1.2	7.2	9.28	1.71
	1978	4.44	60.42	9.40	1.12	9.98	1.94	22.77	-0.80	0.69	23.26	8.60	0.16
	1979	1.93	60.30	1.72	1.13	3.30	4.64	23.44	0.53	6.21	8.34	8.96	3.22
	1980	-4.64	58.87	-6.90	1.13	-5.06	-2.00	25.73	-0.29	0.76	-8.82	9.28	-0.16
Lesotho	1970-75	6.80	40.85	-2.20	2.70	23.50	2.45	-26.70	-2.60	29.7	8.1	9.85	4.37
	1975-80	8.00	26.25	0.40	5.60	5.70	2.82	-88.51	-0.29	1.1	18.2	23.42	0.14
	1970-80	7.40	-	-2.00	-	14.20	2.48	-	-0.78	14.5	13.0	21.73	1.96
	1978	15.30	21.90	11.12	4.02	4.22	1.79	-59.64	-0.32	0.78	31.67	27.36	0.05
	1979	-6.55	21.29	-9.17	4.90	13.83	-3.29	-57.88	0.85	1.74	122.78	21.53	-0.27
	1980	-0.53	18.19	-15.00	5.02	2.00	-41.00	-52.14	3.39	-15.84	-18.86	21.73	29.89

1/ For the periods 1970-1975 and 1975-1980 years referred to are 1970 and 1975 respectively.

Major economic indicators of the least developed African countries (cont'd)
(In percentages) (At 1970 constant prices)

Country	Period	GDP Growth rate	Agriculture		Manufacturing		Capital output ratio	Domestic savings in GDP %	Marginal propen- sity to save	Import growth rates	Export growth rates	Invest- ment as a pro- portion of GDP %	Import elasticity with respect to GDP
			Share in GDP %	Growth rate	Share in GDP %	Growth rate							
Malawi	1970-75	9.30	47.37	6.10	15.36	10.90	2.52	13.33	0.07	5.5	6.7	26.06	0.59
	1975-80	5.10	40.83	3.40	16.56	4.50	4.20	10.99	0.45	-0.9	3.8	20.79	-0.18
	1970-80	7.20	-	4.70	-	7.70	3.19	-	0.24	2.3	5.3	22.04	0.32
	1978	5.44	40.01	3.80	15.67	5.88	4.40	17.20	0.75	12.43	-14.95	23.95	2.28
	1979	4.33	39.29	2.44	15.81	5.28	5.14	17.45	0.23	-0.08	10.02	22.26	-0.02
	1980	1.53	37.58	-2.90	16.11	3.47	14.41	18.71	1.01	0.17	8.25	22.04	0.11
Mali	1970-75	2.70	48.16	0.50	10.54	2.50	6.03	13.75	-0.87	10.6	5.0	17.63	3.93
	1975-80	2.00	43.17	1.30	10.46	2.60	6.99	2.45	0.25	-1.7	0.1	14.95	-0.85
	1970-80	2.30	-	0.90	-	2.60	6.61	-	-0.36	4.3	2.5	13.01	1.87
	1978	5.98	41.35	5.50	11.38	12.34	2.48	5.61	0.34	1.56	5.96	14.81	0.26
	1979	3.62	41.62	4.31	11.37	3.59	4.23	5.41	0.003	4.62	1.36	15.33	1.28
	1980	-2.00	41.92	-1.29	10.83	-6.71	-6.51	4.39	0.55	-6.06	-1.84	13.01	3.03
Niger	1970-75	1.00	60.42	-4.90	6.04	1.50	10.28	2.31	2.13	4.0	6.8	9.46	4.00
	1975-80	8.10	49.41	9.90	6.82	4.40	1.49	5.08	0.12	5.3	4.8	11.09	0.65
	1970-80	3.50	-	2.30	-	2.90	3.20	-	0.17	4.7	5.8	13.06	1.34
	1978	8.26	55.38	5.40	5.59	9.09	1.36	5.23	0.13	8.90	10.89	11.24	1.08
	1979	4.66	53.88	1.81	5.78	8.14	2.73	7.20	0.48	3.13	5.70	12.71	0.67
	1980	4.51	53.81	4.38	5.73	3.56	2.90	7.56	0.12	6.22	6.60	13.06	1.38

1/ For the periods 1970-1975 and 1975-1980 years referred to are 1970 and 1975 respectively.

Major economic indicators of the least developed African countries (cont'd)
(In percentages) (At 1970 constant prices)

Country	Period	GDP Growth rate	Agriculture		Manufacturing		Capital output ratio	Domestic savings in GDP 1/	Marginal propen- sity to save	Import growth rates	Export growth rates	Invest- ment as a pro- portion of GDP 1/	Import elasti- city with respect to GDP 1/
			Share in GDP 1/	Growth rate	Share in GDP 1/	Growth rate							
Rwanda	1970-75	9.10	68.64	3.60	3.47	38.40	1.00	3.37	0.18	7.5	9.3	7.09	0.82
	1975-80	4.80	52.99	4.40	11.41	6.30	2.48	8.56	0.34	5.1	11.3	11.14	1.06
	1970-80	6.90	-	4.00	-	21.30	1.49	-	0.25	6.3	10.3	12.70	0.91
	1978	4.20	53.56	4.93	11.90	8.99	2.84	12.20	0.28	25.53	14.94	11.93	6.08
	1979	3.69	52.43	1.50	12.34	7.48	3.40	13.49	0.40	1.39	6.03	12.53	0.38
Somalia	1980	3.03	51.96	2.10	12.21	1.99	4.19	14.01	0.27	-0.56	1.95	12.70	-0.18
	1970-75	4.50	37.66	0.80	8.49	9.50	4.06	7.91	0.07	3.7	7.9	15.38	0.82
	1975-80	2.40	31.46	2.20	8.19	2.50	9.27	7.66	0.19	-1.0	-4.3	21.12	-0.42
	1970-80	3.40	-	1.50	-	6.0	5.87	-	0.11	6.6	4.0	23.38	1.94
	1978	2.70	31.00	0.93	7.99	0.00	9.46	7.26	-0.33	30.65	42.98	25.55	11.35
Sudan	1979	2.15	30.91	1.85	7.96	1.80	14.58	-1.68	-1.21	23.57	-27.36	31.34	10.96
	1980	1.03	31.15	1.82	8.25	4.71	22.70	8.98	-11.20	-37.45	1.59	23.38	-36.36
	1970-75	2.90	44.53	3.20	10.18	-2.2	9.32	9.72	0.45	8.3	9.7	11.83	2.86
	1975-80	3.80	45.25	-0.90	7.92	1.6	9.09	13.81	-0.28	2.3	-13.3	15.20	0.61
	1970-80	3.40	-	1.10	-	-0.3	4.55	-	-0.02	5.3	-2.5	19.35	1.56
	1978	3.98	42.11	9.67	6.26	-1.82	5.43	5.98	-0.01	6.90	-3.10	21.60	1.73
	1979	2.90	36.64	-10.47	6.99	14.82	6.69	6.20	0.13	-10.75	-8.00	19.39	-3.71
	1980	3.38	35.77	0.92	7.09	4.84	5.72	6.39	0.12	-6.83	-16.52	19.35	-2.02

1/ For the periods 1970-1975 and 1975-1980 years referred to are 1970 and 1975 respectively.

Major economic indicators of the least developed African countries (cont'd)
(In percentages) (At 1970 constant prices)

Country	Period	GDP Growth rate	Agriculture		Manufacturing		Capital output ratio	Domestic savings in GDP L/ save	Marginal propen- sity to	Import growth rates	Export growth rates	Invest- ment as a pro- portion of GDP L/ to GDP	Import elasti- city with respect to GDP
			Share in GDP L/ rate	Growth rate	Share in GDP L/ rate	Growth rate							
Uganda	1970-75	0.10	55.49	0.70	7.45	-3.00	105.75	16.41	-5.13	-5.9	-9.3	13.33	-59.00
	1975-80	0.10	56.82	0.80	6.37	-5.50	81.10	7.38	2.49	4.1	-3.7	7.82	41.00
	1970-80	0.10	-	0.80	-	-4.20	98.50	-	48.81	-1.1	-6.5	8.40	-11.00
	1978	0.90	58.08	1.82	5.03	-10.53	8.20	3.54	-1.45	-3.10	-14.31	7.38	-3.44
	1979	-1.50	57.76	-2.04	4.88	-4.52	-5.09	11.45	-3.85	-36.33	19.45	7.63	24.22
United Rep. of Tanzania	1980	-0.12	59.03	2.08	4.80	-1.66	-70.00	2.48	4.52	74.73	-17.51	8.40	-622.75
	1970-75	4.50	41.16	2.40	10.08	4.70	4.85	29.78	0.77	6.4	-1.0	22.53	1.42
	1975-80	5.80	37.27	7.00	10.20	0.10	3.30	8.36	0.18	-7.6	-7.4	21.10	-1.31
	1970-80	5.20	-	5.20	-	2.40	3.90	-	0.42	-0.8	-4.3	17.21	-0.15
	1978	7.15	40.07	8.90	9.92	4.93	2.57	7.31	-1.39	22.06	-11.95	18.39	3.09
Upper Volta	1979	5.00	40.07	5.00	9.26	-2.03	3.74	8.96	0.42	-14.33	-19.04	18.69	-2.87
	1980	4.00	39.30	2.01	7.75	-12.99	4.30	10.69	0.54	-22.29	-15.64	17.21	-5.57
	1970-75	1.00	47.45	-1.70	10.88	7.10	17.19	-1.46	-0.08	11.3	5.8	11.13	11.30
	1975-80	1.30	41.46	-1.10	14.58	1.30	17.50	0.52	0.09	-1.0	2.8	23.24	-0.77
	1970-80	1.20	-	-1.40	-	4.20	15.73	-	-0.01	5.0	1.4	22.27	4.17
1978	3.15		37.48	-5.03	13.76	4.84	7.53	-0.27	-0.07	4.63	-5.24	23.71	1.47
	1979	4.89	36.91	3.30	14.62	10.70	4.61	1.13	0.18	-4.30	0.22	22.52	-0.88
	1980	2.07	36.74	1.61	14.57	2.39	10.76	1.04	-0.03	1.45	2.01	22.27	0.70

L/ For the periods 1970-1975 and 1975-1980 years referred to are 1970 and 1975 respectively.

Major economic indicators of the least developed African countries (cont'd)
(In percentages) (At 1970 constant prices)

Country	Period	GDP Growth rate	Agriculture		Manufacturing		Capital output ratio	Domestic savings in GDP 1/	Marginal propen- sity to save	Import growth rates	Export growth rates	Invest- ment as a pro- portion of GDP 1/to GDP	Import elasti- city with respect to GDP 1/
			Share in GDP 1/	rate	Share in GDP 1/	rate							
LDC's Total	1970-75	2.80	50.63	1.40	8.64	2.80	5.21	11.20	-0.01	5.30	3.60	14.30	1.89
	1975-80	3.50	42.29	2.10	8.62	2.10	4.41	9.60	0.07	0.70	-2.00	14.90	0.20
	1970-80	3.10	-	1.70	-	2.40	4.85	-	0.04	3.00	0.60	15.93	0.97
	1978	4.59	46.13	4.55	8.19	4.20	3.38	5.59	0.47	8.96	-1.36	15.52	1.95
	1979	3.08	44.46	-0.66	8.40	5.54	5.19	8.23	0.22	-5.30	4.50	16.00	-1.72
	1980	3.20	44.18	2.55	8.06	-0.86	4.98	8.36	0.13	-3.87	-6.28	15.93	-1.21
Developing Africa total	1970-75	4.90	33.42	1.3	9.50	6.1	4.36	19.90	0.11	9.00	0.50	17.40	1.84
	1975-80	5.60	28.15	1.2	10.07	5.0	4.55	17.90	0.29	3.00	3.80	25.30	0.54
	1970-80	5.20	-	1.3	-	5.5	4.38	-	0.21	5.90	2.10	25.70	1.13
	1978	5.88	24.33	2.87	9.73	6.79	4.47	16.5	0.13	2.46	1.76	26.31	0.42
	1979	6.01	23.30	-1.50	9.87	7.48	4.19	17.42	0.33	1.90	11.21	25.19	0.32
	1980	4.53	22.77	2.17	10.01	3.53	5.67	18.30	0.37	-4.48	-5.83	25.70	-0.99

1/ For the periods 1970-1975 and 1975-1980 years referred to are 1970 and 1975 respectively.