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of Ministers

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27-30 April 1982

**SECOND SESSION OF THE JOINT CONFERENCE OF AFRICAN
PLANNERS, STATISTICIANS AND DEMOGRAPHERS**

REPORT OF THE CONFERENCE

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A. ATTENDANCE AND ORGANIZATION OF WORK

1. The second session of the Joint Conference of African Planners, Statisticians and Demographers was held at ECA headquarters, Addis Ababa, from 8 to 17 March 1982. The meeting was opened by the Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa.
2. The session was attended by representatives of the following States members of the Commission: Algeria, Benin, Burundi, the Congo, Djibouti, Egypt, Ethiopia, Gabon, the Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, the Ivory Coast, Kenya, Liberia, Mali, Mauritania, the Niger, Nigeria, Rwanda, Senegal, Swaziland, Togo, the United Republic of Cameroon, the United Republic of Tanzania, Zaire and Zimbabwe.
3. The following States members of the United Nations were represented by observers: Canada, the Federal Republic of Germany, France, Italy, Sweden, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, the United Kingdom and the United States of America.
4. There were representatives present from the Department of Technical Co-operation for Development (TCO), the Population Division, the United Nations Statistical Office, the Economic Commission for Western Asia (ECWA), the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) and the World Fertility Survey (WFS).
5. The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the United Nations Fund for Population Activities (UNFPA) were represented. The session was attended by representatives of the following specialized agencies: the International Labour Organization (ILO), the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), the World Health Organization (WHO) and the World Bank.
6. The following inter-governmental bodies were represented: African Development Bank (ADB), Common African and Mauritian Organization (OCAM), Commonwealth Secretariat, Customs and Economic Union of Central Africa (UDEAC), Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), European Economic Community (EEC), Institut du Sahel, Institute of Economic Development and Planning (IDEP), Organization of African Unity (OAU), and the Permanent Inter-State Committee on Drought Control in the Sahel (CILSS).
7. Observers were present from the Centre Européen de formation des statisticiens économistes de pays en voie de développement (CESD), Paris, the East African Statistical Training Centre (EASTC), Dar-es-Salaam, Institut Africain et Mauricien de statistique et d'économie appliquée (IAMSEA), Kigali, Institut de formation et de recherche démographiques (IFORD), Institute of Statistics and Applied Economics (ISAE), Kampala, Munich Centre, Munich, Regional Institute for Population Studies (RIPS) and the University of Ibadan, Ibadan.

8. The South-West African People's Organization (SWAPO) was also represented.

9. Mr. Daniel Bahebiyanke (Burundi) was elected Chairman of the Joint Conference, with Mr. Mitik Beyene (Ethiopia) and Mr. Boumati Mohammed (Algeria) as first and second Vice-Chairmen and Mr. S.O. Omobomi (Nigeria) as Rapporteur.

B. AGENDA

10. On 8 March the Joint Conference adopted the following agenda:

Plenary session

1. Opening address
2. Election of officers
3. Adoption of the agenda
4. Matters arising from the previous meeting
5. Technical assistance in planning, statistics and demography
6. Essentials of integrated development planning at national level: selected topics
 - (a) Population trends and policies, their relationships to some aspects of development and economic growth and their status in African development planning
 - (b) Use of population data in development planning
 - (c) Measurement and analysis of poverty in African countries
 - (d) The ECA statistical data base and its use for socio-economic analysis
 - (e) African Household Survey Capability Programme: Progress report and examination of analytical requirements
 - (f) Design and applicability of socio-economic indicators in the African context
 - (g) Sectoral projections
7. Common problems in institution-building in planning, statistics and demography

Planning committee

8. Election of officers
9. Implementation of the Lagos Plan of Action
10. Analysis and evaluation of the impact of tariff and non-tariff protection on industrialisation in Africa
11. Institute for Economic Development and Planning
12. Programme of work in development issues and policies

Statistics committee

13. Election of officers
14. Review of national data processing capabilities
15. Report on the Statistical Training Programme for Africa in the context of national statistical organization and staffing
16. Programme for the improvement of price statistics

17. 1983 World Programme of Industrial Statistics
18. National accounts and related data, particularly in least developed and newly independent countries
19. Report on other statistical activities and examination of future work programme

Demography committee

20. Election of officers
21. Requirements for population data and analysis in development planning
22. Training and research in the population field in Africa
23. Report on activities of the secretariat, 1980-1982
24. Programme of work in population activities

Statistics and demography (joint committee meeting)

25. Demography and related statistics: progress report on the 1980 censuses, demographic surveys and civil registration

Resumed plenary meeting

26. Review of committee deliberations and summary of main conclusions
27. Other business
28. Consideration of the draft provisional agenda for the third session of the Joint Conference
29. Report of the Joint Conference to the ECA Conference of Ministers.

C. ACCOUNT OF PROCEEDINGS

1. Plenary session

Opening address (item 1)

11. The session was opened by Mr. Adebayo Adedeji, ECA Executive Secretary, who welcomed participants and described arrangements for the Joint Conference which were intended to permit a more integrated dialogue between the three groups of officials concerned.

12. He then briefly outlined African efforts which had led to the adoption of the Lagos Plan of Action and international meetings concerned with the progress of developing countries. However, he noted that the global economic situation and other factors had so far prevented any significant move towards a new international economic order. More direct discussions between third-world countries were a necessary supplement to these efforts but had also produced only limited results.

13. He emphasised the need for Africans to have a good understanding of their own situation in order to be able to negotiate successfully. He said that the position was becoming clearer and, although the African region was diverse, its countries had many common characteristics and problems.

14. To give more background to the deliberations of the Joint Conference, he reviewed the economic situation in the immediate past and prospects for the future. In 1981, conditions in the region continued to reflect food shortages, drought, rising energy costs, deteriorating terms of trade, chronic balance-of-payments deficits and mounting external debts. There had certainly been no recent improvement in the living conditions of African people and there had probably been a setback in areas with poor harvests in 1981. Prospects for 1982 were little better.
15. He went on to examine the reasons why economic problems are worse in Africa than in other developing regions. There were firstly external factors arising from economic instability, recession and inflation in the West. Secondly there were domestic factors relating to the narrow range of African primary export products, lack of interaction between economic sectors, heavy dependence on agriculture, too much reliance on imported goods and technology for capital formation and very high population growth which would make it increasingly difficult to provide jobs for the growing labour force.
16. A third group of problems identified by the Executive Secretary related to economic policy. Those problems were of a complex nature and he confined his remarks to a few examples drawn from agriculture. Attention was drawn to a number of conflicting considerations affecting policies in respect of exchange rates, producer prices, incentive to farmers and traders and government intervention in those areas.
17. In the light of those considerations, Africa would in any case be facing a difficult situation at the present time but the position was worse than it should have been because available resources had not been used effectively. Africa was the poorest of the developing regions, as reflected in the high level of poverty, and available indicators showed that the situation was worsening. Remedial action rested mainly with individual countries, although regional and sub-regional economic co-operation could help.
18. He then turned to the implications of African economic and social conditions for the work of the Joint Conference. Planners, statisticians and demographers were the three groups of officials directly concerned with the problems mentioned above and it was essential for them to work in collaboration with each other.
19. The work of planning agencies was the basis for policy formulation and decision-making. Those agencies had to be strengthened through the incorporation of analytical capabilities and that had to be done in association with the statisticians and demographers. Attention was drawn to agenda items relevant to that requirement and to the proposal for a new project on concepts and methods of planning in the light of the Lagos Plan of Action.
20. With regard to the need for more and better statistics, he mentioned some of the successful development projects already undertaken in that field but said that full use was not being made of available resources. An important consideration in achieving appropriate priority for statistical activities was the development of stronger relationships between data producers and users.

21. He drew attention to the equally important role of demographers in African development. As the ultimate object of planning was to satisfy population needs, it was essential for population variables to be integrated in development planning as a basis for establishing appropriate policies.

22. In conclusion he reiterated the need for efforts at national level in addition to the regional and subregional work already being undertaken. In connexion with the latter he mentioned progress in establishing economic groupings and the importance of a network for the rapid distribution of information which was being developed through the Pan-African Documentation and Information System (PADIS). Finally he warned that the current interest in socio-economic indicators should not be seen as a substitute for the establishment of comprehensive and effective national statistical systems.

Matters arising from the previous meeting (item 4)

23. A representative of the secretariat read a statement concerning the issues arising from the last session of the Conference and from the other Conferences and meetings related to the problems under consideration. The most important issue was the study of a document on the implementation of the Lagos Plan of Action, an action specifically called for in Conference of Ministers resolution 405(XVI). That study would have to be undertaken in the framework of the orientations given by the Committee for Development Planning which had recommended that investments be increased in the rural sector and that co-operation between African countries should be strengthened through preferential trade agreements, joint enterprises and other instruments. Also, the United Nations Statistical Commission had at its last session held in January 1981 particularly stressed the implementation of the World Programme of Industrial Statistics, and the development of energy statistics. It also gave its support to the programme concerning Household Surveys, in which Africa had a pioneering role.

24. The Population Commission of the United Nations had held its last session from 26 January to 4 February, 1981, in New York. An international population conference was planned for 1984, measures had been taken to pursue the implementation of the World Population Plan of Action, and resolutions submitted to the Economic and Social Council to that effect. Member States had been invited to take full cognisance of the connexion between demographic variables and other development variables.

25. During a brief discussion, one participant raised a question about the study of the role of development banks which was to be presented to the session by the secretariat. The secretariat informed the Conference that, owing to manpower and other resource shortages, the study could not be completed. He added, however, that it was still on the work programme of the Socio-Economic Research and Planning Division and that it would be presented to the meeting of the Conference of Ministers in 1983.

Technical assistance in planning, statistics and demography (item 5)

26. Document E/CN.14/PSD.2/1 was introduced by a representative of both the United Nations Department of Technical Co-operation for Development (TCD) and United Nations Statistical Office. The representative of TCD stressed the importance of the paper in that, unlike the previous reports, it combined technical assistance information not only on statistics but also on planning and population.

27. Out of a budget of \$US134 million in project expenditures in 1980, allocations to the three fields had been 19 per cent for statistics, 19 per cent for development planning and 6 per cent for population. Africa (including North Africa) had the largest share of 46 per cent of the total of technical co-operation projects among the various regions. DTCD operated at three levels: country, interregional and global, and co-operated with regional commissions such as ECA. Project expenditures described in table 1 of the document for 1980 showed that a total of \$US19,362,000 had been spent on the three fields.

28. TCD, through its Development Advisory Services (DAS) helped Governments to improve their planning capability in the areas of economic and social development planning, long-term policies, planning and projections, development planning at the national, subnational and multinational levels, short-term economic forecasting and the training of personnel as well as technical co-operation among developing countries. Examples in the latter field included institutional advisory and technical services for the Organization for the Development of the Senegal River and the Gambia River Development Organization.

29. In the area of statistics, the United Nations Statistical Office provided substantive support for technical co-operation projects for which TCD was responsible. In Africa the programme consisted of country projects in population activity and civil registration, general statistics and data processing as well as interregional efforts. The interregional programmes currently comprised four projects: the shipping statistics project, the international price comparison project, the computer software development project and the national household survey capability programme.

30. He suggested that the improvement of statistical capabilities of African countries should be considered as a continuous process in view of the "brain drain" from statistical services to maintain the supply of statisticians for integrated development.

31. Furthermore, TCD, through the Population Programmes and Projects Branch, provided assistance in demographic training, demographic analysis and population policy and development planning. During the period 1980-1981, the emphasis was towards developing local institutional capabilities. But from January 1982 no more funds were available from the block allocation for fellowships. The fact that funds for fellowships for 1980-81 were virtually all used up showed that a demand for training in demography definitely existed in Africa.

32. Apart from training, assistance was being offered in the analysis of population censuses and surveys. Some 32 countries had benefited from such assistance. In all 19 advisers gave technical assistance in the evaluation and analysis of censuses and surveys. In that regard a publication entitled "Demographic evaluation and analysis of population census data: Aspects of technical co-operation", which had been prepared to help national analyses, had been distributed to many African countries.

33. Population policy and development planning were other areas of recent TCD assistance in Africa which he elaborated upon. The objective was to try to assess the interrelationships between demographic phenomena and socio-economic, cultural and anthropological factors. Details of countries which were provided assistance in those areas were contained in the document presented by TCD.

34. The representative of the Statistical Office spoke on two main topics, namely funding and substantive areas. On funding, quite often the Office was requested to provide comments on national country programmes which should be submitted to the UNDP Governing Council and generally required to monitor and manage other projects included in such country programmes. In many cases they contained no statistics projects. For most national country programmes the projects the Office suggested were not accepted because the UNDP indicative planning figure for the country had already been fully budgeted.

35. In view of that he suggested that statisticians should make every effort to know when the country programme was being prepared and co-operate with the planning ministries which usually had the responsibility for including country projects in IPFs so that statistical projects could be included. His Office realised that some countries might have difficulty in identifying statistical areas of improvement for inclusion in their country programmes. In such cases the Office and ECA would be willing to assist national statistical offices in identifying areas of improvement of statistical infrastructures, if requests were made as quickly as possible through their local UNDP offices. He asked the countries represented at the meeting to (a) high-light areas of statistics in which they needed improvement, e.g., national accounts, as that would help him in the future when called upon to make comments about projects, and (b) provide evaluations of statistical projects which had been executed in their countries.

36. It was noted by the TCD representative that the points raised in connexion with statistics were also applicable to projects in planning and population. He advised participants to bear them in mind when discussing the document on technical assistance.

37. In the discussion that followed, some participants pointed out that after the implementation of projects that had been agreed upon by the United Nations had started, financial problems caused the Organization unilaterally to make considerable reductions, placing States before a fait accompli and at times not allowing them to make the budgetary arrangements required to complete the projects. Participants also described the short-coming of the document as highlighting only positive elements of technical assistance and not the difficulties. For example, a comparison of project expenditures for two or more years, rather than the one year given in the paper, could have been more revealing. The document should also have attempted to explain the reason for the downward trend in funds for projects and the delays being experienced with respect to requests for aid.

38. The document was criticized for describing only the range of assistance available while being virtually silent on the present and future problems especially those relating to finance. That approach might give false hopes to Governments which had decided on their projects only to find out later that there was no money for their funding. Participants asked that the document be expanded to explain cuts in UNFPA assistance and to suggest strategies to be taken to counteract the downward trend in UNFPA funding for population activities.

39. Participants also suggested that planning experts should be trained in developing countries rather than in developed ones. A call was made for the disaggregation of technical assistance to show how much of aid went to pay experts' salaries and how much was spent on the actual projects. Attention was drawn to the fact that the

budget devoted to experts' salaries was disproportionately high compared with other items. Participants also complained about the suitability of some of the experts and the fact that they often reported for duty rather late, thereby delaying the implementation of the projects for which they were recruited. In that regard, it was suggested that in as much as possible, experts should be recruited locally.

40. One participant drew attention to past imbalance among the fields of planning, statistics and population in the allocation of technical assistance, with a bias in favour of population in the 1970s which had resulted in the supply of more demographers than statisticians in many African countries. He observed that problems of data processing which usually delayed past census results underscored the need for a broad developmental approach to technical assistance because the services of statisticians and data processing experts were very relevant to the work of demographers and vice versa.

41. Various agencies and country representatives gave brief accounts of their work in the area of technical assistance. The representative of France described the current status and prospects of Franco-African co-operation in the fields of planning, statistics and demography. Such co-operation took on various forms; considerable permanent technical assistance (91 planners, statisticians and demographers serving in 22 States) support for training activities (25 French teachers in African statistical schools), studies, research and publications on the methodology of surveys, planning, demography and national accounts. The French Government had decided to take the Lagos Plan of Action prepared by OAU as the basis for a new co-operation for development policy between France and Africa. Accordingly, Franco-African co-operation in planning, statistics and demography should henceforth take the form of multi-year programmes drawn up jointly with the States concerned.

42. Similarly, the representative of the United States gave an account of the various fields of assistance from his country. Technical assistance could be received in field missions of USAID in individual countries and also through the United Nations and the World Bank. He asserted that experts in the field of sample surveys, economic statistics, population census, etc., from the International Statistical Programme Centre (ISPC) of the United States Bureau of Census rendered assistance in census or survey planning and implementation in such areas as population, agriculture, education and nutrition. He told the meeting of the Bureau's development of computer software packages such as CENT, COCENTS, CENTS4 and CONCOR and intimated that ISPC was in the process of mounting a feasibility study on micro computers.

43. The representatives of FAO, WHO and ILO also gave an account of the various aspects of assistance which their organizations were offering to African countries in the areas of project planning and execution, consultancy services, training, organization of seminars/workshops, etc.

44. Reacting to the points raised, the TCD representative explained that it was not possible to cover in the paper all the areas relevant to the topic. For lack of space, the coverage of the background paper was limited to United Nations technical assistance activities in the areas of planning, statistics and demography. It was further explained that the United Nations Department of Technical Co-operation for Development

was primarily a technical, not a funding, organization. On the complaint by some participants that projects in their countries were omitted from the list contained in the paper, the representative of TCD explained that country projects were not covered unless they were executed by TCD. Even for the projects covered the time horizon was limited to only 1980 and 1981.

45. With regard to finance, cuts had been brought about because of a decline in the resources of UNFPA especially. He agreed, however, that where cuts were to be made the affected countries should be duly informed.

46. Expert selection was described as difficult since so few developing countries would like to release their best officials. In spite of that, however, it should be possible for countries seeking the services of experts to make the best possible selection since six or seven names were usually forwarded from which one was expected to be selected. Besides, where the countries themselves could identify the experts they needed, the agencies would try as much as possible to recruit them. Furthermore, where national experts were available, there should be no need for a request by the country for a foreign expert. Some participants expressed concern over the unnecessary bottlenecks between the local UNDP Resident Representative and the United Nations Headquarters in the recruitment of experts already identified who had expressed willingness to assume duties at short notice. Finally, it was suggested that where experts were found wanting in their performance, the countries should make reports to the agencies which recruited them.

Population trends and policies, their relationships to some aspect of development and economic growth and their status in African development planning (item 6 (a))

47. Introducing background paper ST/ECA/PSD.2/2, a representative of the secretariat explained that the rationale for the paper was the growing concern about the future of the African region as depicted in the disturbing medium projections of African population trends during the 1970/2000 period.

48. Although some African countries had not as yet declared any official policy on population, some of them did so indirectly in their development plans. For those that did so the plans revealed that too much attention was paid to the present size of population rather than to such other characteristics as high fertility and declining mortality, high proportion of children in the population and high growth rate of the total and urban population. Further, only certain aspects of the population like urbanization, labour force and the provision of education and health facilities were given attention in the plans.

49. On the basis of the observed situation in the African region, he suggested that development plans should take demographic changes in population size, age structure and distribution into account. He identified eight demographic parameters which should be integrated into the plans, namely the rate of growth of the population, projection of future total population size, estimate of current/future working-age population, estimate of current/future school-age population, and estimate of mortality and fertility.

50. Finally, in order to assist member States to integrate population variables into their development plans, he suggested that the ECA secretariat should undertake, on a regular basis, projections of the total population by age and sex for each of its member States, estimates of current/future levels of working and school-age population, rate of population growth, estimates of mortality and fertility as well as a detailed analysis of the implications of them for each country. The secretariat should also be involved on a routine basis in analysing the socio-economic correlates of population changes as better data become available and thus provide useful guides and inputs for the development plans of the countries in the region.

51. In the discussion that followed, participants raised several questions, including the following:

(a) What kinds of demographic data were needed for planning and how reliable they were;

(b) Why the paper did not attempt an assessment of the quality of demographic data from the 1970 round of censuses as well as subsequent sample surveys since projections could be undertaken only where fairly reliable data existed;

(c) Why the paper did not discuss as well the progress of the 1980 censuses, demographic surveys and civil registration;

(d) Why the section on correlates of economic and population growth emphasized a decrease in fertility;

(e) Why a decrease in population growth rate was a desirable planning target;

(f) How reliable the information contained in the paper was and why the paper was not concerned with how to get reliable demographic data for effective planning.

52. In responding to those questions, the secretariat observed that most of the issues raised by those questions were being handled in other papers (agenda items 6(b), 21 and 25). Besides, it was not possible to cover all the points raised in one single paper. In particular, the focus of the paper was the apparent inconsistency between the population policies in some of the States and observed population trends. The question, then, was what inputs could be incorporated into more viable population policies for those States. This latter point underlined the discussion on the correlates of economic and population growth. Finally, the secretariat explained that, using available data the paper attempted to suggest correlates of population growth components at the regional level merely as a guide to similar analysis at the national level, since it was not possible to discuss all the countries one by one in a paper of that nature.

53. Concluding the discussion, the Conference agreed that the paper should be further examined at the Committee stage.

Use of population data in development planning (item 6(b))

54. A representative of the secretariat introduced the paper on the use of population data in development planning, document SI/ECA/PSD.2/3. The secretariat noted that during the early post-independence period, the non-incorporation of population data in the plans of most African countries had been due to lack of relevant data as well as lack of trained personnel to handle such population variables in planning. However, at present many countries had data available from censuses or surveys or from both of those sources and that some African nationals had been trained in data collection and analysis. Although some population data were available, such data were not systematically used in the over-all development planning process. It was pointed out that among the reasons for that situation was the lack of appreciation by policy-makers, planners and the general population of the importance of population variables in development planning.
55. The paper then attended to some of the actions required to improve the integration of population variables in development planning. Such actions included improvement in the availability of population data, training of planners in how to integrate population variables in planning, constant dialogue among policy-makers, planners, statisticians and demographers, as well as the adoption of relevant population policies which would enhance socio-economic development. The paper further elaborated on the population and related data required for primary education, health and housing planning and how to use such data. The secretariat drew the attention of participants to the fact that the illustrations contained in the paper on the use of population data were meant to provide a general framework and that each country would have to make its own modification in the light of its circumstances.
56. In the discussions which followed, participants stressed that the secretariat had not had sufficient time for indepth research on that project. Certain points in the document were controversial, such as the reference to Malthusian theory and the hypothesis that neglect of demographic factors was responsible for the failure of most of the development plans drawn up in the region. Participants were sorry that demographic factors had been viewed from the constraint angle only and not as resources in relation to self-sufficiency in food, etc.
57. On the argument as to whether population should be seen as constraint or asset to development, a few participants wondered why population should not be regarded as a given fact and then countries introduce innovations which used dynamic planning to take care of the circumstances as they existed. In that regard, the question was asked as to why a teacher/pupil ratio of 1:40 should be retained if the situation called for a ratio of 1:80?
58. Participants also called for an elaboration on the definition of population policies as used in the paper. They rejected the view of the paper which tended to define population policies as synonymous with limitations on population growth. On the causes of population changes, it was felt that the paper should have given more emphasis to migration particularly in the Sahel countries. Finally, some participants disputed the accuracy of the data contained in the paper in relation to their countries. They described some of the data as either wrong or out-of-date. Similarly, the WHO representative told the Conference that more up-to-date data on health was available with his organization.

59. By way of elaboration, the FAO representative informed the Joint Conference of the work done by his organization on population in relation to agriculture. Documents were available at FAO headquarters.

60. Replying to some of the points raised, the representative of the secretariat told the Conference that, having regard to the length of the paper, it was not possible to cover all the important aspects of population. He assured participants that the omission of the other areas from the paper did not imply that such areas were not important. On the coverage of the data in some of the tables in the paper, he explained that what had been done was merely to provide a general framework and that it was expected that participants would use it as a guide for filling the gaps in respect of their respective countries after considering their needs and circumstances.

61. Several delegates expressed concern that the orientation in the paper was to view rapid population growth as a constraint to development. The secretariat explained that the paper had sought to relate population size, structure and growth to development planning in various sectors of the economy.

62. On the issues of definitions, the secretariat explained that the paper did not offer any definition of population policies. Neither did it equate population policies with the curtailment of population growth. The secretariat however drew attention to possible types of population policies on rural-urban migration, fertility, mortality, etc.

63. The Conference took note of the paper and requested the secretariat to improve its quality in the light of the comments made during the discussions.

Measurement and analysis of poverty in African countries (item 6(c))

64. Introducing document ST/ECA/PSD.2/4 the secretariat drew attention to problems in applying the poverty line concept and suggested that poverty could be examined more effectively in the context of the continuing data collection, processing and analysis being organised under the African Household Survey Capability Programme. Income and expenditure, labour force and demographic surveys were specially relevant in that connexion. It was further suggested that poverty should not normally be the subject of special surveys because its analysis required a broad range of data which could be obtained more readily from continuing survey programmes.

65. In general, the conclusions presented in the document were acceptable to the Joint Conference and most of the comments related to additional relevant considerations.

66. Attention was drawn to the considerable interest of the relationship between employment and poverty. In that connexion it is necessary to take into account the time dimensions for measuring income and labour-force participation. Income data normally related to a complete year, whereas that of labour force covered much shorter periods. As a result it was sometimes preferable to use expenditure data rather than income in order to ensure better comparability.

67. It was further pointed out that income from employment concerned individuals and, where incorporated in total household income, some information relevant to poverty analysis was lost. In connexion with the suggested list of variables in the annex of the paper it was noted that some could be regarded as both a cause and effect of poverty. In planning an analysis it was necessary to take that identification problem into account.

68. Another comment dealt with the problem of using poverty analysis in determining the population groups to which remedial policy measures should be applied. Although adequate indicators of poverty could be obtained, their use in evaluating the extent of poverty was necessarily arbitrary.

69. It was felt that it ought not always be wise to assume that all members of the same household had the same level of living. Variations could occur, particularly when there were changes in employment, but they were usually of a short-term nature. In connexion with community-level variables, it was noted that the utilisation of services, etc., was as important as their availability.

70. Regarding the definition of income to be used in poverty analysis it was suggested that, in addition to both cash income and the value of household production for its own use, net transfers should be included. There was some doubt about whether income should be the only classification in poverty analysis. Poverty had a variety of causes and the object of the analysis was to determine policies which would remedy them. Additional classifications might therefore need to be introduced. Requirements in that connexion had recently become clearer through work on social accounting matrices.

71. For the purpose of comparing the incidence of poverty between countries it was noted that purchasing power parities needed to be taken into account. In addition poverty had to be examined on a multidisciplinary basis and the work should include planners and other groups of people in addition to statisticians. In reply to a final question it was noted that the title of the document referred to the methodology for measuring and analysing poverty appropriate to the African region and did not imply any difference from other parts of the world in the criteria for evaluating poverty.

The ECA statistical data base and its use for socio-economic analysis (item 6(d))

72. A representative of the secretariat introduced document ST/ECA/PSD.2/5 which dealt with a statistical data base for ECA and its utilization for socio-economic analyses. The following were the main functions of the statistical data base being developed at ECA:

(a) To develop an integrated source of statistical data for observing the economic and social life of African countries and for assessing their economic situation at any given time;

(b) To make the data stored available to the various divisions of ECA in order to enable them to base their work on substantial and accurate information; and

(c) To publish the data in the form of films, publications and computer tapes for outside users.

73. He indicated that the data base would be organized at three levels. Under level I, each African country would have a certain amount of key statistical data giving a rapid economic and social picture of the country. Level II, which would be established on the basis of existing files at ECA, would cover the major areas of statistics. The main objective of that level was to provide exhaustive information on each member country. Level III would be mainly concerned with analyses, including time series, in such areas as national accounts. Data at that level would also be available for all the complex calculations required for economic modelling.
74. The data base would be a computerized system for processing macro-data in all fields of statistics. It should also include meta-data, i.e., data related to the files themselves. In the long run, it was planned to expand the system to embrace the whole PADIS network in order to give countries access to the computers which would be installed at subregional centres and connected to ECA's central computer.
75. The data base, by the nature of data stored in it, could be used for socio-economic analyses such as national accounts, input-output tables, economic indicators, socio-economic models and specialized analyses of the sectoral type. The statistical data base project was part of the PADIS (Pan-African Documentation and Information System) project which was intended to facilitate the flow of documentary, bibliographical and factual information among African countries. The base could not be established without taking into account several varied constraints affecting the statistical machinery of member countries. The relative impact of those constraints would undoubtedly influence the effectiveness and quality of the base.
76. During the discussions that followed, the importance of ECA's statistical data base as a tool which would enable member States to publish promptly statistical data related to their economic and social development was stressed. However, it was noted that two major problems namely, the partial or total lack of data and the reliability of such data, might affect the quality and effectiveness of the base. In that regard, ECA was requested to spare no effort to assist member countries to strengthen their statistical machineries.
77. Comments were made on the planned contents of the base, particularly on the effectiveness of aggregated data such as national accounts for sectoral planning. In that connexion the need to incorporate into the data base micro-data which could be of particular importance for certain specialized analysis was stressed. The importance of having data on manpower skills included in the base was also stressed.
78. The need for close co-operation between ECA and the United Nations specialized agencies with respect to the provision of data for the base was also mentioned. In response, it was reported that the United Nations agencies (IMF, the World Bank, FAO, WHO, etc.) were supplying ECA with statistical data pertaining to their specialized functions and that conscious efforts had been made to avoid any overlapping.
79. Finally, the problem of liaison between the member countries and the data base was raised. It was pointed out that, pending the expansion of the system, the processing of series and the issue of publications were the only way the countries could have access to the base.

African Household Survey Capability Programme: Progress report and examination of analytical requirements (item 6(e))

80. For the discussion of this item, the Joint Conference had before it three documents: Progress report on the African Household Survey Capability Programme (AHSCP) and an examination of its analytical requirements (ECA/ST/PSD.2/6), Report of the Working Group on Organization, Content and Methodology of Household Surveys (ECA/ST/PSD.2/7) and Report of the Seminar on Household Surveys (ECA/ST/PSD.2/8).

81. In his opening remarks, the Co-ordinator of the National Household Survey Capability Programme (NHSCP) indicated that the enthusiastic reception of AHSCP by the countries of Africa fully reflected their growing realisation of the need to establish a national household survey capability for producing interconnected statistics on a recurrent basis in support of development planning and programme implementation. A number of countries viewed their AHSCP projects as an instrument not only for initiating new survey activity but also for better co-ordinating, and rendering more effective, their ongoing activities. It was also stressed that AHSCP was eminently cost-effective for the participating countries, the international agencies and the donor community. The Programme provides an umbrella for donors to co-ordinate or to pool the resources they provided for survey activities in the countries. That feature was particularly timely in view of the prevailing difficult financial conditions in the world.

82. To-date 33 project proposals had been formulated including 14 in Africa, following requests by Governments. The response of the developing countries in terms of assigning their own resources to their survey programmes had been most impressive. Generally, countries had been willing to meet a predominant share of the cost of their survey programmes. While much of those were resources already available in the country for survey activities which Governments agreed to co-ordinate within the NHSCP framework, a considerable amount related to new resources which Governments agreed to cover on an increasing scale, with the ultimate objective of attaining self-reliance.

83. While one could not expect that the external resources for all of the approved project proposals would be found quickly, the response of donors, in particular bilateral donors, had been slower than expected. To-date full financing of the external requirements had been substantially secured for five countries, including two in Africa, mainly from multilateral sources. In another 11 countries, including eight in Africa, survey activities had either begun on partial funding, or prospects in the foreseeable future were judged to be promising. The immediate challenge ahead was to find ways and means of enlarging and quickening the flow of funds and resources for those country projects and others that were about to be finalised. To meet that challenge successfully the national planners of the countries concerned, as well as the statisticians had an important role to play to ensure that their country projects received the priority they deserved. It was also indicated that a meeting of donors and others was planned to take place in Geneva in June. While not a pledging meeting, it was considered that the meeting would have an important bearing on the future course of the programme.

84. Finally, the Co-ordinator indicated that NHSCP was a Programme of the entire United Nations system and the role of the specialised agencies and the regional commissions in its implementation was vital. In that connexion he stressed the importance of maintaining, and as necessary strengthening, the AHSCP advisory team located in the Statistics Division of ECA.

85. In the ensuing discussion the following issues were raised: programme implementation, external financial assistance, priorities, user-producer dialogue, cost of surveys, training, data processing, analysis of survey data and the continuation of the regional advisory service of AHSCP.

86. In connexion with programme implementation, the Joint Conference took note of the efforts being made by the United Nations Statistical Office, the specialised agencies and ECA to assist in the implementation of the programme. It was observed that the national programmes formulated so far allowed for flexibility in their operation. It was emphasised that NHSCP provided a framework which could be used for various levels of implementation—from the very modest to the rather ambitious.

87. Some concern was expressed by participants about the delay in mobilising resources for the implementation of the programmes already drawn up in the participating countries of the region. It was pointed out that over all the proportion of external assistance required was relatively modest in comparison with the total cost of the programme. However, that assistance was significant and in most cases critical for the success of national survey programmes. Participants stressed that the programmes were of crucial importance for national development planning and monitoring. If no financial assistance was available the programmes could not be fully implemented in the five years indicated in individual country programme proposals. Modifications of the programmes would have to be undertaken in such cases to match the limited resources available, with serious adverse repercussions on national planning and monitoring. Reference was also made to the need for donors to finance projects in a more co-ordinated fashion. Some participants felt that, in the absence of external assistance, the concept of collective self-reliance implicit in the Lagos Plan of Action should be applied. The Co-ordinator of NHSCP suggested that some of the problems in securing finance from donors could be due to lack of awareness on the part of the donors of the importance the countries attached to the survey programme and that as such awareness grew resource support would no doubt be forthcoming especially in view of the opportunities NHSCP provided for either pooling resources to assist African countries, or at least establishing a framework for co-ordinating the allocation of such resources.

88. With respect to priorities, many participants stressed that their Governments had demonstrated the high priority that they attached to the household survey capability programme by inviting missions to formulate project proposals and also by submitting these proposals to donor agencies on a priority basis within country programmes. The Co-ordinator of NHSCP indicated that, although over all the high degree of priority attached to NHSCP was most impressive, generalizations about each individual country in the Programme were not possible. It was stressed by a representative of one of the donor countries that the priority attached to the Programme by countries should be shown clearly when formulating their aid programmes.

89. The next question discussed related to user-producer dialogue. It was recalled that in the Report of the Working Group on the Organization, Content and Methodology of Household Surveys, it had been suggested that there was need for continuous collaboration between data producers and users throughout the survey operations. In that connexion the secretariat stressed that the programme was for users and planners especially and that the process of collaboration should be a continuous one, not only at the stage of programme formulation.

90. Various comments were made with respect to cost. It was stressed that the statement on cost was meaningful only in terms of the purposes and output of the survey. In relation to substantive programmes, for which data from the surveys were important not only for implementation but also for monitoring, the cost of surveys, was small. NHSCP was also cost-effective and was much preferable to the system of ad hoc surveys which did not produce integrated demographic, social and economic data and was at the same time more expensive to run.

91. Many participants felt that training of all levels of personnel for the implementation of NHSCP should be stressed. ECA was requested to prepare a progress report on training in survey management and methodology. In its reply, the secretariat indicated that AHSCP was conceived as being made up of three components: national projects, training and the regional component. The two Working Groups on Organization, Content and Methodology of Household Surveys convened in October 1979 and June-July 1981 together with the Seminar on Household Surveys held in September 1981 were elements in the training programme for AHSCP. The next phase would involve training workshops at which specific technical problems encountered or likely to be encountered in the implementation of the programme would be discussed. The secretariat also stressed that the question of training would be examined in greater detail by the Statistics Committee under agenda item 15 (Report on the Statistical Training Programme for Africa in the context of national statistical organization and staffing). In connexion with training, the representative of the ILO referred to conceptual difficulties in relation to the labour force and indicated that new recommendations on concepts, definitions and classifications of employment, unemployment and underemployment would be formulated at the International Conference on Labour Statistics scheduled to be held in October 1982. He also indicated that the ILO would prepare a manual on labour force surveys which would be useful in the context of training for the implementation of NHSCP.

92. The next question discussed was data processing. Hardware and software problems were outlined. The secretariat indicated that it had recommended the use of manual summaries in addition to the tables to be generated by electronic data processing. However, very few countries had followed that recommendation with the result that information for surveys was not usually available in time. Contacts had also been made with the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany for the provision of the services of a regional adviser in data processing for household surveys. Approval had been given in principle but negotiations were still under way to identify a suitable candidate. It was also stressed in that context that micro-computers were changing the situation by making data processing equipment available at very low cost and for use by non-programmers, which could have an impact on survey data processing.

93. With respect to survey data analysis, there was general agreement with the view expressed by the Seminar on Household Surveys that statistical offices should undertake analysis of survey data either by themselves or in collaboration with other agencies.

94. Finally the Joint Conference endorsed the continuation of the AHSCP regional advisory service and emphasised the role that ECA should play in backstopping national programmes.

Design and applicability of socio-economic indicators in the African context (item 6(f))

95. Discussions were based on the document entitled: "Design and applicability of socio-economic indicators in the African context" (ST/ECA/PSD.2/9). A member of the secretariat recalled that the subject of indicators was one on which considerable research and literature existed. The document submitted by the secretariat was intended to serve as a framework for the discussion of the problems involved in indicator design under African conditions and was not therefore an exhaustive study of the question. The issue was not new to the Conference, since a document on social indicators had been submitted to the first session and the current session had examined the paper entitled: "The measurement and analysis of poverty under African conditions" (ST/ECA/PSD.2/4) which dealt with similar issues. The present document however concerned itself with the whole range of socio-economic indicators and not only social indicators.

96. The representative of the secretariat stated that there was a lot of confusion about the definition of indicators which were in some applications treated as indirect measurements of socio-economic variables, while in other applications ordinary statistics were used. For that reason it seemed necessary to look for an operational definition of indicators which would help to resolve the confusion.

97. In the African context, the paper considered that there were some areas of consensus among African countries on the basic characteristics, objectives and factors of development as exemplified by the Lagos Plan of Action and that had facilitated the definition of the most important variables to be measured. Among those variables were the familiar ones describing levels of living and output, with emphasis on the measurement of skilled manpower, social changes associated with industrialization, etc. A key consideration was also the availability and the quality of statistical data. Their limitations were well known but nevertheless it was still possible to build useful indicators provided that necessary precautions were taken.

98. The secretariat had thus proposed in the paper a list of indicators covering the major categories of variables considered important for Africa. The list was not to be taken as official and definitive. It had been constructed as an illustration of what could be done, and to serve as a starting point for further research. It was necessary that research be undertaken at the country level to develop indicator systems suited to planning in their respective circumstances.

99. The representative of the United Nations Statistical Office also informed the Conference of the work being carried out by his Office on indicators. He referred to the document entitled: "Towards a system of demographic statistics" (ST/ESA/STAT/Ser.F/18) and emphasised the necessity for sound statistics in order to design good indicators. He also called for international co-operation and co-ordination in that endeavour so as to avoid duplication of efforts and to minimise the burden of understaffed national statistical agencies.

100. The representatives of FAO and WHO also informed the Conference of the work being carried out by their respective organizations in the field of indicators. In particular FAO was engaged in an exercise to develop socio-economic indicators suitable for monitoring agrarian reform and rural development in Africa. WHO had developed a system of indicators for health in the framework of its plan for bringing health facilities within the reach of the majority of Africans by the year 2000. The representative of CILSS informed the Conference that the Sahel countries had tried to use the PQLI (Physical Quality of Life Index) which however had proven to be unsuitable for their needs and that they were now working on the development of better indicators. He invited the ECA secretariat to take part in the project and provide the necessary assistance. Participants generally commended the secretariat for the high quality of the paper submitted. They also raised several questions. Some participants for instance argued that the lack of statistical data prevented the building of indicators in the required way and wondered whether the data situation in most African countries could support the range of indicators suggested in the paper. They also noted that indicators would vary according to the development concept of each country. Some other participants congratulated the secretariat for integrating social and economic variables and for linking the selection of indicators to the conceptual framework chosen for development, and especially for taking into account activities which had been neglected in the past like women's activities. They stressed however that the classification of variables had to be revised to take care of overlapping and wrong classification.

101. Some areas of omission were also identified. They included indicators on trade, utilization of human resources as opposed to training, degree of food shortage, the degree of participation of citizens in decision-making, disaggregation of GNP to reflect household income and consumption, etc. One participant asked to know the pan-African concept of development on which the indicators were based and observed that a specific link between such a concept and the selection of the indicators was lacking. Also he queried whether the paper implied that African countries were to imitate Western development strategies. The fact that the indicators were not disaggregated to reflect regional distribution in each country was criticised by participants who felt that over-aggregation could be misleading and distort the actual conditions in the rural areas. It was further proposed that the selection of indicators be handled by a working group which would report to the next session of the Conference and present it with specific recommendations on indicator systems for African countries. Finally, one participant doubted the accuracy of the data presented for his country in the paper. He promised to make available to the secretariat more accurate data.

102. The secretariat noted that the remarks of the international agencies underlined the need for more extensive collaboration. It assured CILSS of its readiness to co-operate with it in its indicator project within the limits of the ECA budget. On

the list of indicators, the secretariat assured the Conference that the proposal was provisional and was subject to revision in the light of the discussions. As for the concept of development underlying the system, the secretariat informed the Conference that the document did not attempt to evolve any pan-African perspective of development. What had been done was just to look for areas of consensus among African States in order to build a minimal system. It was clear that such a minimal system would have to be adapted by each country in the framework of its own approach to development and its own needs. On the question of classification, it was stressed that since the subject was multidisciplinary, indicators could not be classified into universally accepted headings. It would also be difficult to avoid overlapping in some cases. The recommendation to convene a working group to draw up a more comprehensive list of socio-economic indicators of relevance for the African continent was accepted.

Sectoral projections (item 6(g))

103. Item 6(g) was referred to the Planning Committee for consideration.

Common problems in institution-building in planning, statistics and demography (item 7)

104. In introducing background paper ST/ECA/PSD.2/11 on common problems in institution-building in planning, statistics and demography, the representative of the secretariat said that, although the document was a brief one, the issues it discussed were very important, adding that the need for multinational institutions had been recognized by ECA from the very outset and the African Development Bank and the African Institute for Economic Development and Planning (IDEP) had been among the first institutions sponsored by ECA. He explained that there were two kinds of multinational institutions, those created as such by African Governments and those which started as national institutions and subsequently become multinational.

105. While some institutions were successful, others were not and two reasons were advanced for that state of affairs: lack of political support in the form of membership and lack of financial support in the form of contributions.

106. The representative of the secretariat then reported on the expansion of back-stopping services provided by ECA and the proposals of the second meeting of the Conference of the Chief Executives of ECA-Sponsored Regional and Subregional Institutions. Those proposals, which were aimed at alleviating the problems of regional institutions, included the establishment of a buffer fund to which the institutions would make initial contributions and steps that would enable the institution to become better known and thus obtain more political and material support from African countries.

107. During the discussion, additional problems facing multinational institutions were raised, namely failure to identify viable sources of continuous funding at the time institutions were conceptualized, gradual loss of the active relevance of the institutions and loss of contact with active bureaucrats in the countries themselves. The undesirability of automatic membership of the relevant regional institutions was stressed as well as the inappropriateness of establishing a consolidated budget and the use of country IPFs to pay contributions to institutions. It was also pointed out that African countries needed to be fully briefed on the institutions and the benefits they could derive from them if they were to be persuaded to commit funds for such institutions. Further the possibility of using the facilities of institutions on payment of fees without becoming a member State was also referred to.

108. Participants welcomed the introduction of a consolidated biennial report in respect of the institutions and expressed the need for more publicity to ensure that they were given due consideration when national budgets were prepared. Some representatives wondered why no mention had been made of ISAE (Makerere) and EASTC (Dar-es-Salaam).

109. Participants then suggested that the secretariat should inter alia review all the multinational institutions, prepare a full list of institutions, indicate what each State stood to gain from each institution, consider the possibility of duplication in the activities of the institutes particularly with respect to the production of demographers or more broad-based statisticians, indicate which should be scrapped or consolidated, and examine the problems facing multinational institutions and how they were being solved.

110. In reply, the representative of the secretariat said that there was a very detailed paper prepared by the Chief Executives of ECA-Sponsored Institutions for submission to the Conference of Ministers and the Lagos Plan of Action had also examined the problem. IDEP, IFORD and RIPS were members of the Conference of Chief Executives of ECA-Sponsored Institutions, however, at the time of writing, the existing multinational institutions in the area of statistical training had ceased to be regional. All suggestions made during the session would be taken into account by the secretariat in its activities with respect to ECA-sponsored institutions.

111. Following the explanations of the secretariat it was resolved that an independent commission should be set up to look into the functions, organization and structure of existing multinational institutions with a view of rationalization, relating to actual and current issues. It was explained that EASTC (Dar-es-Salaam) and ISAE (Makerere) had become deregionalised with the break-up of the East African Community.

112. The position with respect to EASTC (Dar-es-Salaam) and ISAE (Makerere) is the legal one arising from control of their operations by only the host Governments since the break-up of the East African Community and the University of East Africa. However the host and user countries of the two institutions had continued to regard them as regional from the operational point of view. New arrangements were being made to make both centres regional in the legal sense, through joint sponsorship by a number of countries.

113. The Joint Conference recommended that the Statistical Training Programme for Africa (STPA) centres should participate in the Conference of Chief Executives of ECA-Sponsored regional and Subregional Institutions. To that end, the centres should be represented by the current chairman of their biennial meeting of directors.

2. Planning Committee

114. The Committee elected Mrs. Elizabeth Tankeu (United Republic of Cameroon) as Chairperson, Mr. Joseph Mugore (Zimbabwe) and Mr. Isselmon Ould Mohamed (Mauritania) as first and second vice-chairmen respectively. Mr. Michel Kamano (Guinea) was elected Rapporteur.

115. The Planning Committee considered the agenda items allocated to it by the plenary session of the Joint Conference (items 6 (g), 8, 9, 10, 11 and 12).

Sectoral projections - Some basic approaches (item 6(g))

116. A representative of the secretariat introduced document ST/ECA/PSD.2/10 entitled "Sectoral projections: Some basic approaches". He pointed out that the study had been prepared in response to the recommendations of the first session of the Joint Conference relating to the development of tools capable of assisting in the analysis of the structures of African economies and hence in the technical elaboration of development plans. He also indicated that the study was complementary to the macro economic projections presented to the first session of the Joint Conference.

117. He then defined the objectives of multi-sectoral analysis in the African context pointing out the importance of such analysis for African countries in their effort to make structural changes in their economies at the levels of production and demand. He then explained the proposed six methodologies and their application to the six countries emphasizing that the criteria of choosing the countries were not exclusive.

118. He first described the closed growth model in which sectoral value added was determined from a structure of sectoral investment allocation and from sectoral capital co-efficients. The model, which distinguished two categories of sectors (consumption goods and capital goods), had been applied to Ethiopia for an analysis of a scenario of self-sustained growth.

119. The second analytical tool related to a disaggregated macro-econometric model in which the principal socio-economic activities were detailed in econometric relationships so as to determine their impact on the economy as a whole. Such an approach could be used for analyzing and planning those economies where intersectoral relations were not recorded like in Benin, to which the model had been applied.

120. In the static input-output model, sectoral gross outputs were determined from sectoral final demand which, in turn, was obtained by use of econometric techniques. The application of that analytical tool to Algeria had shown that it could constitute a valuable approach to the sectoral elaboration of a development plan as well as for sectoral production and employment policies.

121. In second variant of the above model, the model had an interaction between final demand and production which were determined simultaneously rather than independently. That approach had been used by the secretariat to analyse the revised development plan of Kenya for 1979-1983.

122. The secretariat representative also presented the input-output dynamic model developed for Nigeria on the basis of certain assumptions of the fourth development plan. The interesting aspect of that analytical tool was that investment was no more exogeneous but determined at the same time as gross sectoral production and employment. The last model in contrast to the preceding ones, presented the advantage of taking into account the population variable for the determination of consumption and also took into account prices. That analytical tool had been applied to Morocco on an experimental basis.

123. The representative of the secretariat concluded by underscoring the necessity of developing statistical data especially for input-output tables. He also referred to the limitations of the different models, especially the static nature of the technical co-efficients of the input-output tables the absence of prices, balance of payments and monetary variables in most of the models.

124. In the course of the discussion, several participants congratulated the secretariat for the work it had accomplished and in particular for having undertaken the multisectoral studies which were necessary for the sectoral study of African economies with a view to their transformation. In that respect, they made specific recommendations which are outlined in the annex to the report of the planning committee.

125. Some participants, however, pointed to some inadequacies and limitations of the presented multisectoral models, especially the absence of demographic variables, the lack of change in technical co-efficients and the limited nature of input-output tables which did not take into account the relations - often markedly important - between the modern and informal sectors. The models should have incorporated optimality conditions especially by taking into account the constraints on the factors of production and on external and internal resource deficits.

126. The representative of UNCTAD pointed out that the sectoral analysis study constituted a pioneering work in the field of model building. He called on the secretariat to continue the important work by including in the models variables relating to prices, balance of payments and money. He finally expressed the interest of UNCTAD in collaborating with the ECA secretariat in that field.

127. The representative of the secretariat thanked the participants for their encouragement and relevant comments, especially for the recommendations made in respect of improving the work. He pointed out that, while some models could be used to determine employment requirements, it was important to develop more analytical tools incorporating other demographic variables. He added that the ongoing work in the secretariat on socio-economic indicators would contribute towards such improvement. The work would be continued in an effort to take into account technological change in the structure of production and employment.

Implementation of Lagos Plan of Action (item 9(a))

128. The Committee first of all considered the document entitled "The implementation of the Lagos Plan of Action" (ST/ECA/PSD.2/12 - E/CN.14/TPCW/11/18/Rev.1). In reply to a question, the secretariats of the OAU and ECA confirmed that they had collaborated in revising the document in accordance with paragraph 3 of ECA Conference of Ministers resolution 405(XVI).

129. In introducing the document, the representative of the secretariat informed the Committee that the document under discussion had been submitted at the request of the Conference of Ministers at its meeting held in Freetown in April 1981 contained in resolution 405(XVI) so that the document could be improved or amended before its submission to the Council of Ministers and Assembly of Heads of State of OAU.

130. He emphasized the importance of the Lagos Plan of Action as an instrument aiming at reorienting development in Africa. He underlined the fact that the objective of the paper was to give guide-lines on (a) what has to be done at the national level in the context of the principle of national self-reliance, and at the subregional and regional levels in the context of the principle of collective self-reliance; (b) the problem of financing the Plan; (c) the role of transnational corporations; and (d) the role of donors and international organizations including ECA and OAU. These guide-lines related to the adoption of measures for the purpose, mainly at the national level, of adequately informing the Government, the people, production and distribution agents and policy makers about the origin, the goals, objectives and characteristics of the Lagos Plan of Action. Such measures also called for defining the different planning phases (normative, strategic, operational or practical) and providing information on economic development and growth and on technology. Lastly, the measures should lead to the alignment of national policies, practices and strategies with the philosophy and direction of the Plan.

131. With regard to collective self-reliance, while the bulk of the proposals in the Lagos Plan of Action would have to be implemented at the national level, the successful and effective implementation of some projects might depend on the manner in which economic and technical co-operation activities were organized and implemented at the regional level. Collective self-reliance must, hence, be based on the needs that member States themselves identified.

132. The financing of the Lagos Plan of Action must be based on the mobilization of domestic financial savings and on a better investment of funds obtained as a result of adopting measures aimed at organizing external payments and at controlling transfers of private enterprises. With regard to the relationship between the Lagos Plan of Action and transnational corporations, medium- and long-term strategies should be adopted aimed at maximizing the advantages and minimizing the inconveniences of transnationals by the gradual substitution of internal factors of production for external ones. Finally, the major responsibility for the implementation of the Plan rested with member States although aid donors and international development institutions could assist.

133. The Assistant Secretary-General of OAU who participated in the debate noted that for the document to be complete, it was necessary to include some political elements in the introduction. He also emphasized that the Lagos Plan, since its adoption by the Heads of State, belonged to the States members of OAU and not to the secretariats of OAU and ECA. He further noted that the Plan should be given a legislative basis so that it became at the same time a national and regional document. With regard to the popularization of the Plan, he said that its content should be translated into simple language for the benefit of the broad masses who were the main actors in the development field.

134. The OAU Assistant Secretary-General then indicated that OAU attached great importance to collective self-reliance. In that context, in addition to the existing subregional structures or those in process of being formed (in West Africa, Central Africa and Eastern and Southern Africa) it was important to explore sectoral co-operation. In that regard, the OAU secretariat with the support of UNDP, ECA and other United Nations institutions was involved in the promotion of co-operation in sectors like energy, air transport, shipping, research and industry.

135. In conclusion, he expressed the fears of OAU and ECA with regard to the implementation of the Lagos Plan of Action since, often, very good resolutions were adopted during OAU and ECA meetings but those resolutions were not followed by action at the national level. Such situations opened the door for some international institutions to take up decisions adopted by Africans and to interpret them in their own way. By way of example, he cited the World Bank Report entitled: "Accelerated development in sub-Saharan Africa: An agenda for action". Although the Report purported to build on the Lagos Plan of Action and was aimed at assisting member States to generate the resources required to implement it, it was a report whose orientation was opposed to that of the Lagos Plan of Action and the Final Act of Lagos. He informed the meeting that a joint assessment of the report had already been made by the secretariats of OAU, ECA and ADB. The assessment had been submitted to the last meeting of the OAU Council of Ministers where a stand on the need not to allow the report to divert attention from the implementation of the Lagos Plan of Action and the Final Act of Lagos had been taken. The assessment had also been submitted to the meeting of the African Governors of the Bank and IMF in Dakar, Senegal on early March. It would be submitted to the forthcoming meeting of the ECA Conference of Ministers in Tripoli.

136. With regard to co-operation between OAU and ECA, in the implementation of the Plan, he outlined the actions taken by the two secretariats to harmonize their activities so as to make them complementary.

137. Participants thanked the ECA and OAU secretariats for their constructive work on the guide-lines for the implementation of the Lagos Plan of Action, recognizing that the document represented an important improvement over the preceding one. The Committee remarked that the introduction to the document lacked certain important elements and wanted to see in the historical perspective all the work done in order to arrive at the Plan (seminars, meetings, etc.) so as to show that the Plan was the result of long hard work. Some participants, moreover, referred to the need to institutionalize concrete modalities for the implementation of the Plan on the basis of a consensus on certain strategic elements. In that regard emphasis was put on the popularization of the Plan to universities and on the important role IDEP had to play in that

effort. The Committee mentioned that mass participation in the process of development as well as social-economic transformation should be introduced in the document. For the financing aspect, participants emphasized that there was a need to develop the national resources which would facilitate domestic capital formation and the reorientation of consumption patterns so as to encourage the growth of national savings. In that context, the integration of agriculture and industry was of capital importance for foreign exchange savings. It was also suggested to insist on co-ordination of aid donors activities in Africa.

138. With regard to regional and subregional co-operation, a question was asked as to whether one should assume that the Plan depended for its implementation 80 per cent on national efforts and 20 per cent on regional efforts or vice-versa. Another participant noted that the population factor would have to be considered as an important factor of production and not as a threat to the development of Africa. Some participants proposed that follow-up actions be introduced so that the implementation of the Plan was as efficient as possible. It was also proposed that the OAU and ECA should undertake a large popularization of the Plan in the member States. Some participants asked whether the World Bank report on accelerated development in sub-Saharan Africa would have to be studied by the Committee so as to have an African stand.

139. The secretariat took note of the various observations. Concerning the World Bank report on accelerated development in sub-Saharan Africa, the secretariat indicated that it was not to the Committee to decide on that report, for the report had been discussed by the African Group of Governors of the World Bank and IMF in Dakar and was to be submitted for discussion to the Conference of Ministers in Tripoli. In order to introduce a political and a legislative element in the implementation of the Lagos Plan, the OAU secretariat has submitted to the Committee two draft resolutions. They related to (a) giving the Plan a national character and (b) free movement of citizens with valid national passports. Participants however, noted that the resolutions were of a political and constitutional nature and, therefore, were not in the area of competence of the Planning Committee. It was therefore recommended that the resolutions should be submitted by OAU to its appropriate organs.

140. A representative of USSR said that his country was interested in the development of African countries and appreciated the efforts undertaken in that respect. He referred to the contribution of his country to the development of Africa and his country's willingness to contribute to the implementation of the Lagos Plan. Concerning the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade, the USSR representative emphasized the necessity to limit the arms race for the benefit of the development of poor nations.

Critical analysis of the country presentation of the least developed African countries in the light of the Lagos Plan of Action and the Final Act of Lagos (item 9(b))

141. The representative of the secretariat, introducing document ST/ECA/PSD.2/31, outlined the main purpose to which the document addressed itself namely how the crucial aspects of Monrovia Strategy and the objectives of the Lagos Plan of Action for socio-economic change were reflected in the national programmes prepared by 20 individual African least developed countries in the framework of the Substantial New Programme of Action for the 1980s. In that regard, he stressed that there was a general satisfaction that the major aspects of self-sustainment and individual and collective self-reliance, as stipulated in the Lagos Plan of Action, had been adequately covered in most of the country programmes. Despite the fact that the country programmes had been prepared in a perspective of mobilizing external assistance, all the African least developed countries in their country programmes placed a lot of emphasis on the importance of internal resource mobilization as a means of achieving a self-reliant economy. Reduction of dependence on the one hand on external factors such as capital and expertise and on the other hand on a few export crops, and encouragement of national savings for investment were explicitly set out as objectives and priorities in the framework of achieving a self-reliant process of development.

142. With regard to self-sustainment, practically all the country programmes emphasised the necessity for the structural transformation of production and consumption patterns, but only a few of them touched upon the basic requirements of self-sustainment such as the establishment of intra- and intersectoral linkages, transformation aiming at the establishment of basic industries for production of intermediate inputs and capital goods and the creation of a strong dynamic domestic market adequately oriented towards the consumption of essential domestic products. While the development of local technological capabilities was not given the prominence attached to it in the Lagos Plan of Action, it was mentioned that the other aspects of self-sustainment such as appropriate institution-building, and effective planning and plan implementation structures, were well reflected in most of the country programmes.

143. In the area of collective self-reliance, much still remained to be done. Although the majority of the African least developed countries were themselves part of subregional groupings, very little had been reflected in the country programmes on multinational activities. More stress had been put on the exchange of goods and services rather than on the modalities of producing the goods on a complementarity basis. In most of the country programmes, external resources were acquired to finance identical projects in key areas such as construction of hydro-electric infrastructure and basic industries which were usually easier to implement at the subregional level. Even the key problems of food self-sufficiency, food scarcity, irrigation, multinational river basin development, promising areas for industrial co-operation in metallurgical, chemicals and metal industries (apart from isolated cases in joint ventures in cement production) were not adequately touched upon in a subregional context. Only the transport sector was given due attention in subregional co-operation with the initiation of a number of railway and road linkages for example.

144. The sectoral transformation strategies and policies were generally in line with the objectives of the Lagos Plan of Action. In the area of agriculture, food self-sufficiency was given its due prominence as in the Lagos Plan of Action, with priority given to projects aiming at increasing food production through agricultural development plans and the provision of incentives. Some of the programmes had been aimed at achieving food surpluses for export. The means to achieve those varied between countries. Some countries placed considerable emphasis on expanding farm acreage, while others gave preference to intensification of production through improved land-use, management and research, etc. However, the immediate action for an immediate improvement in the food situation, the remedial actions to reduce food losses and the need to set up national strategic food reserves and national and subregional food security schemes, were not adequately treated in the food sufficiency programmes.

145. In the field of industry the critical role of industrial development had been emphasized in the country programmes which conformed with the Lagos Plan of Action. The pattern of industrialization for the 1980s had to a large extent been founded on the basic needs strategy with particular emphasis on the development of local-resource-based industries and the stimulation of indigenous industrialization particularly labour-intensive industries utilising less energy and more local skills and resources.

146. In the field of natural resources, the general trend seemed to indicate considerable emphasis on the conservation rather than the expanded exploitation and development of those resources by local means. Production plans focused only on precious metals (gold and diamonds, etc.) rather than on products designated as strategic by Lagos Plan of Action such as iron, manganese and phosphate, etc. With regard to energy, almost all the countries envisaged a policy of gradually substitution of imports of petroleum products. The most important substitutes referred to were coal, hydroelectric power and renewable sources of energy. The development of human resources had also been given due attention in the country programmes by the reorientation of the educational and professional training systems.

147. In line with the objectives of Lagos Plan of Action, priority in the transport sector had been given to feeder roads linking remote rural areas to national highways and railway network, the development of maritime and water inland transport, improvement of railway operation, and air transport. In most of the country programmes, special emphasis had been given to national projects with a regional impact especially the completion of the trans-African highway networks and to projects for opening up land-locked countries, thus complementing the efforts of the Transport and Communication Decade in Africa.

148. Participants congratulated the secretariat on the excellent quality of the work and observed that such types of work should be extended to cover all the national development plans formulated since the adoption of the Lagos Plan of Action in 1980.

149. The Assistant Secretary-General of OAU informed the Committee that his organization had been fully involved in the preparation for the United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries in Paris and that Mr. Daniel Arap Moi, President of Kenya and current Chairman of OAU as well, Mr. Aristides Maria Periera, President of Cape Verde, and Major General Habyarimana Juvenal, President of the Republic of Rwanda had had the occasion of addressing the Conference.

150. A number of issues were raised by one participant regarding water resources, land development, energy constraints, the linking of agriculture with other sectors particularly industry, employment and the existing sub-regional and regional co-operation arrangements. With respect to water resources, he indicated that both the deficit and the surplus of water should be seen as constraining factors in agriculture. He mentioned that agriculture was not sufficiently linked to industry and other sectors because of the weakness of analytical capabilities in planning machinery and not for lack of political will. With respect to industry, he noted that one of the main reason for under utilisation of capacity in manufacturing industries was the problem of energy supply. Concerning employment, he stressed the importance of promoting the private sector as a means of reducing the present high level of unemployment in the least developed countries and indicated that steps had been taken in his country in that respect.

151. Finally, he agreed with the ECA secretariat that the present sub-regional economic communities should be strengthened to cover more the production aspects. He explained that the present subregional and regional co-operation structures were not sufficiently efficient as they were more of a theoretical than/practical nature. He added that the country programmes were completely silent about subregional and regional co-operation arrangements while they were ranked as the highest priority areas in the Lagos Plan of Action. He therefore suggested that the present Conference should recommend the inclusion of bilateral and multilateral co-operation arrangements in the countries' development plans. More specifically he recommended that the next session of the Joint Conference of Planners, Statisticians and Demographers should have on its agenda an item on the evaluation of the effectiveness of the present co-operation arrangements.

152. Another participant indicated that the differences between the Lagos Plan and the country programmes of the African LDCs were inevitable because (a) the time horizon of the national programmes of the LDCs presentations was not the same as that of the Plan and (b) there could not be a total correspondence between the national plans and the Plan because the latter related to a general framework of African development while the national plans related to a situation unique to each country.

153. The Committee requested the secretariat to take note of all those observations and to take them into account in future analyses of national development plans in the light of the Lagos Plan of Action.

Analysis and evaluation of the impact of tariff and non-tariff
protection on industrialization in Africa (item 10(a))

154. For the discussion of agenda item 10(a), a member of the ECA secretariat introduced document ST/ECA/PSD.2/13. He told the Committee that the paper covered two main aspects, namely the examination of the nature and form of application of tariff protection policies and the concrete evaluation of the impact and effectiveness of tariff protection policies. The paper also contained two illustrative examples on tariff protection in Morocco and the United Republic of Tanzania.

155. With respect to the nature and form of tariff protection, the practice of levying tariffs on imports was important as a means of raising government revenue and as a way of protecting local infant industries that were competitively weak vis-a-vis foreign industrial units. However, in the early stages, the application of tariff policies was based on piecemeal approaches without comprehensive analysis of tariff package alternatives. With a more broad-based industrialization involving more linkages, it became necessary to evaluate tariff protection for all industries since protection to one industry could affect protection of other industries to which it gave production inputs. Thus, tariff protection was evaluated in terms of effective protection taking into account the entire value added of an industry rather than only prices. However, although the effective protection approach reflected more the interrelationships between industries, it was unsatisfactory mainly for three reasons.

156. Firstly, effective protection looked at only one side of tariff policy namely that of how much direct or indirect gain or loss was obtained by an industry if a certain set of nominal tariffs were applied. It did not incorporate, in its evaluation, aspects like that of government revenue. Secondly, effective protection evaluation did not have any capacity to take into account the effects of tariff policies on the demand structure, which was serious draw-back since domestic demand was of critical importance to the survival of expansion of an infant industry. Thirdly, the approach of effective protection could analyse effects of tariff on wages or prices which, in turn, affected the effectiveness of the adopted tariff structure.

157. He emphasized the fact that the effective protection evaluation criterion did not enable planners and policy-makers to determine concretely the effectiveness of given protection alternatives in the framework of the economy as a whole. In view of that, the study on tariffs proposed an approach which could be used to evaluate tariff policy alternatives more exhaustively and concretely. The proposed approach could easily be based on a social accounting matrix covering many sectors and even incorporating different income groups. The approach only needed the building of a simple social accounting matrix covering output of sectors (or aggregates of industrial units), investments, sectoral final consumption, exports and imports. That structure was supplemented by equations defining effects of tariff on consumption, on government income and expenditure and on trade balance.

158. In the two brief studies on the United Republic of Tanzania and Morocco, he pointed out some policy oriented elements of tariff protection. In the case of the United Republic of Tanzania, using different rates of reductions in imports of consumer imports, changes in the nominal and effective rates could be derived and the system could generate the impact on government revenues and on the trade balance. In the case of Morocco, the study showed that:

(a) The ranking of direct nominal tariff rates was well correlated with the effective rates thus implying that, in general, industries which had high nominal tariff protection rates, also had high effective rates;

(b) Increasing nominal tariff rates could have significant repercussions on consumption of certain commodity groups;

(c) Owing to the interaction of reductions in imports and high tariff rates, it was possible that total government income from import duties might decline although nominal tariff rates had been increased.

159. Finally, he emphasized the fact that tariff policies might not be adequate in themselves and that there was a need to complement tariff policies by non-tariff policies such as banning entry of certain goods, and reorienting consumption patterns towards the consumption of domestically produced goods. Also in view of the noble goal of the African common market by the year 2000, it was imperative to undertake a thorough examination of national and subregional tariff policies using approaches such as the one proposed in the study so as to reach concrete conclusions on the course of action for developing African countries in the field of tariff protection.

160. Participants congratulated the secretariat for the commendable quality of the paper which contained a very important study and which raised pertinent issues. It was emphasized that tariff policies were very important for Africa's industrialization process as well as for its goal of an African common market. Tariff policies were important at two levels - at the continental level and at the national level. At the national level, although there was need for protectionist policies to help small industries, care had to be taken to avoid perverse effects like the development of monopolistic situations which created artificial shortages and pushed up prices to very high levels. There was therefore need to see the protection policies in a global context within the economy as a whole.

161. At the continental level, many participants pointed out that in view of the many ongoing plans of co-operation in the context of the Lagos Plan of Action, there was need for analysing the implications of preferential measures for the various subregional co-operation structures and for the continent as a whole. In view of those important aspects of the analysis, the Committee recommended that the ECA secretariat should:

(a) In collaboration with OAU continue the study and expand the application of the methodology of analysis of impact of tariffs and preferences to: (i) the African co-operation arrangements within the perspective of the African common market; (ii) over-all national African economies including, in particular the aspects of industrialization, exchange rates and prices, fiscal policies and an over-all integrated national production process;

(b) Expand the multisectoral studies bearing in mind the following specific elements (i) the appropriate linking of the informal sector and the "modern" sector, (ii) the transformation of technological coefficients over time, (iii) the inclusion of demographic variables as instruments of development and (iv) introduction of prices and a monetary sector in the model;

(c) Convene a working group to examine the progress and results of those studies;

(d) Organise a seminar on socio-economic indicators, for planners, statisticians and demographers.

162. Further, it was pointed out that the study needed to take into account the problems of exchange rates and the connexion of those exchange rates to the protection policies. The secretariat explained that the approach proposed in the study incorporated exchange rates but did not include the aspects of how exchange rate fluctuations influenced the effectiveness of protection policies.

Short-term outlook (item 10(b))

163. With respect to agenda item 10(b) on the short-term outlook of African countries, the representative of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) introduced a document entitled "Preliminary economic outlook for developing African countries, 1982/1983 - a note by UNCTAD secretariat. The results of the forecast which had been made by UNCTAD were based on some models of individual African countries as well as on a model for a group of countries of 13 African least developed countries and other subregional models. At the present time UNCTAD was building a new generation of forecasting models to be ready by end of 1982. Those models would include each of the African developing countries. In general the forecasts were based mainly on the changes in the external environment in areas like the world commodity market situation, balance of payments, availability of official flows and debt-service burden.

164. He then briefly discussed the outlook of the major external variables for 1982-1983 as provided from the global LINK system and from the UNCTAD commodity models. World prices for primary commodities excluding petroleum were forecast to decline in 1982 while in 1983 there would be a recovery. Prices of petroleum products were also forecast to decline in 1982 despite the efforts by oil-exporting countries to reduce output of petroleum. However, the prices of minerals like copper were forecast to increase in 1982 and 1983. The price of manufactures, which had shown a decline in 1981 (mainly as a result of the appreciation of the United States dollar vis-a-vis the other main currencies), would increase by about 5 per cent in 1982. Overall, the volume of world exports was forecast to increase by about 3 per cent in 1982.

165. He outlined the outlook of the African countries in 1982 and 1983, pointing out that in all respects the forecast performance in 1983 would be better than that forecast for 1982. For Africa as a whole GDP growth was forecast to be around 4 per cent and 4.5 per cent in 1982 and 1983 respectively. In general only about two countries would be able to attain a growth rate of 6 to 8 per cent in 1983 while the majority of countries would be in the 4 per cent growth range while others would be around only 2 per cent. The African oil-exporting countries would register growth in the range of 4 to 6 per cent in 1983 while the least developed countries would have very low growth unless assistance materialized quickly.

166. In addition to the forecasts of GDP growth, he outlined the likely external trade situation in terms of exports, and import trends as well as those of the terms of trade and the external balance of payments. In many cases, the forecast unfavourable balance-of-payments situation was likely to result in poor performance even for those countries which had historically performed well. He hoped participants would comment on the forecasts both at the levels of Africa in general and at the particular level of their own countries.

167. Some participants congratulated UNCTAD for its commendable work on the economic outlook of African countries. They stressed the fact that domestic policies and strategies needed to be taken into account and hence some models needed to be updated to take into account changes such as debt cancellation or rescheduling, etc. It was also pointed out that forecasts would not be significant if unpredictable phenomena which could affect them would occurred. Further it had to be emphasised that growth was relative given that the same growth rates had different significance in different countries. Finally a question was raised whether the forecasts were in conformity with the gloomy picture forecast by OECD.

168. The representative of UNCTAD pointed out that the models were based on the world environment including, in particular, export, imports and balance-of-payments constraints. The UNCTAD secretariat would take into consideration all the recommendations and amendments suggested for some models. With respect to the OECD forecast, although that organisation had projected a gloomy picture, some of its results agreed with those of the LINK system on which the present forecasts had been based.

Institute for Economic Development and Planning (item 11)

169. The Director of IDEP introduced the document entitled "IDEP's strategy and pattern of growth in the 1980s. Proposal for a medium-term plan (1982-1986) (ST/ECA/PSD.2/14). As IDEP was not new to African Planners, he therefore concentrated on highlighting areas of expansion and on the salient features of the plan. After indicating that the plan was sponsored by ECA, UNDP and IDEP and was the outcome of joint collaboration and consultations among the three institutions, he pointed out that the plan period (1982-1986) coincided well with the Lagos Plan of Action and that, therefore, it was particularly oriented to serve the latter. This had been achieved in a number of ways such as (a) giving continuous courses on the Lagos Plan strategies and on the means of its implementation which would be started in November 1982. The courses would constitute a systematic

and sustained forum for discussing, analyzing and collating the issues and policy means of implementing the Lagos Plan; (b) giving three-months programmes oriented towards sectoral and area planning efforts for Africa; and (c) tailoring and gearing all other activities towards solving the problems of the implementation of the Lagos Plan.

170. However, to achieve the goals while also deepening, expanding and maximizing the impact of the Institute in general, major concrete actions were required. In that regard, he pointed out that African Planners could contribute in many areas.

171. Firstly, they can urge their respective Governments, in collaboration with UNDP, to contribute more funds from country IPFs for training at the Institute. Secondly, they could help in accelerating the payments of government contributions to the Institute. That aspect must also be expanded to include all newly independent African countries, and government contributions should be adjusted according to 1980 income figures. Thirdly, African countries should benefit from the Institute's advisory services. Lastly, the planners should consider the Institute as a catalyst for African planners, thinkers and researchers in its areas of competence. Thus they should participate in the Institute's activities directly both in training and research.

172. He stressed that it was only in such a way that the Institute would become the planning and policy-design think tank for Africa.

173. Many participants referred to the very good quality of the paper which was comprehensive and informative especially for those countries which had not known very much about the activities of IDEP before. However some participants referred to some errors of form and difference of emphasis which should be corrected in the final document. One participant referred to the need to emphasise in the document the fact that the Final Act of Lagos called for an African Common Market by the year 2000, which had to start from subregional groupings.

174. Regarding the underutilization of capacity of the Institute's facilities, it was pointed out that in many cases, the applicants or aspirants to IDEP's training were many but funding was the main cause of the problem. In addition, some participants observed there was some competition with institutions outside Africa for which funds were often allocated for training. It was therefore emphasised that it was necessary for countries and international organizations to focus more attention on IDEP in awarding training scholarships. It was further suggested that to solve the problem of underutilization of capacity, there should be (a) intensive publicity at country level to make countries appreciate IDEP's capabilities; and (b) flexibility in training programmes so that the training cycles should be more general and should be supplemented by short-term ad hoc activities by IDEP at national levels. A question was also raised as to why, given the present low capacity utilisation of the Institute, it was being proposed to have a large increase in the regular teaching staff.

175. Many participants also referred to the content of the courses outline for IDEP for the 1982-1986 period. In that connexion, some participants mentioned that there was need to establish a relationship between pure theoretical training and its application. IDEP's training should be different from that of Universities as it should aim at equipping trainees with effective skills of application at the grass roots. Also, participants noted that there were some omissions in the planned courses. In that respect reference was specifically made to the absence of (a) social planning and its relationship with economic growth; (b) planning at the grass roots; (c) regional planning; and (d) follow-up and evaluation of development programmes for the effective implementation of the Plan.

176. Some participants enquired about the validity and level of the qualifications obtained by IDEP graduates especially in terms of the equivalency of the IDEP diplomas to other internationally recognized degrees. A further question was raised regarding the level required to enter IDEP and whether emphasis was on recruiting only planners or whether there were possibilities of training in other broader fields.

177. In addition questions were raised regarding (a) why it was being proposed to undertake a joint IDEP/ADB survey of socio-economic conditions in Africa when ECA was already publishing an annual Survey; (b) how the proposed consultancy services would be made available to member States, under what terms of reference and at what costs. The representative of Senegal raised a question regarding the land that his Government had made available to the Institute. Action to make use of the land should be taken immediately and not in future as it appeared in the document of IDEP.

178. The Director of IDEP responded to the various comments raised by the participants. With respect to the academic and experience requirements for trainees, he pointed out that pre-course training and crash courses were offered to some of them. In respect of efforts for enhancing to economic co-operation, research would be oriented towards the assessment of ways and means of promoting co-operation activities at the subregional and regional levels. The Institute would invite and make use of African experts in the programming and the implementation of its various activities. With regard to including social development in the Institute's training programmes, there was generally a lack of appropriate African expertise in that field but the Institute in its programme would give due attention to that problem. He would work closely with the specialized African institutes. The institute would organize workshops to deal with social development issues. The area of promoting mass participation in development processes, that was a subject for Governments, but the Institute could emphasize the informal sector in its programmes.

179. With regard to the recognition and equivalence of the Institute's diplomas, at present the diplomas were recognized by all developing African countries. He intended to send Council members to universities to establish the diplomas' equivalence with other university degrees. He also proposed that the members of the Governing Council should be sent to countries to urge them to make their financial contributions. As regards the monitoring of the Lagos Plan, although that was the domain of ECA and OAU, the Institute could respond to African needs in development planning efforts. Finally a manual on the activities of the Institute would be prepared soon. The Institute would also try to organize seminars outside the institute.

180. The Committee proceeded to elect the following six new members of the Governing Council.

- Mr. Shalabi (Egypt) to replace Mr. Montasser (Egypt)
- Mr. Chikelu (Nigeria) re-elected
- Mr. Diop (Mauritania) (re-elected)
- Mr. Mersie (Ethiopia) to replace Mr. Lutaya (Uganda)
- Mr. Mugore (Zimbabwe) to replace Mr. Bhembe (Swaziland)
- Mr. Kilongo (Zaire) to replace Mr. Makaya (Gabon)

181. The Committee then discussed at length the modalities of designating members of the Governing Council of IDEP. It expressed the wish that the Statutes of the Institute be amended so as to allow countries, concerned to indicate replacements for their members of the Governing Council who could not continue with their term of office. (see section D below)

Review of ECA activities in the field of development issues and policies, 1980-1981 and proposed work programme for 1982-1983 (item 12)

182. A representative of the secretariat outlined the work done by the ECA secretariat in the period 1980-1981 in the field of development issues and policies and the programme of work for the period 1982-1983 as adopted at the sixteenth session of the Commission - seventh meetings of the Conference of Ministers. He drew attention to the principles and objectives such as those defined in the Revised framework of principles for the implementation of the new international economic order in Africa 1976-1981-1986 (E/CN.14/E/CO/90/Rev.3), in the Development Strategy for Africa for the Third Development Decade (Conference of Ministers resolution 332(XIV)) and in the Lagos Plan of Action and stated that those principles guided the activities of the secretariat.

183. With regard to the work undertaken in the period 1980-1981, the representative of the secretariat presented the activities in each of the five subprogrammes of the Socio-economic Research and Planning Division. The survey of socio-economic conditions in Africa, 1979-1980, with a special study on the problem of energy in Africa, had been presented to the seventh meeting of the Conference of Ministers in Freetown. The Survey of socio-economic conditions in Africa, 1980-1981 had also been completed and would be presented to the Conference of Ministers at the eighth meeting in Tripoli. The study included a special chapter on the evaluation of the United Nation Conference on the Least Developed Countries.

184. Subprogramme 9.242 on planning and projections, dealt with, on one part, the completion of the quantitative studies and projections concerning different groups of African countries and the establishment of multi-sectoral models capable of helping in the planning process. That work had been discussed under agenda item 6(g). The representative of the secretariat also mentioned the technical assistance given by the Economic Commission for Africa in the field of planning especially for the preparation of programmes of the African least developed countries.

185. For subprogramme 9.243, socio-economic research, two studies had been completed and submitted to the present session of the Joint Conference, namely the socio-economic indicators and tariff protection policies. Those two studies had been conceived as exploratory and could be improved on.

186. The essential element of subprogramme 9.244, least developed and land-locked African countries, had been the preparation of the United Nations Conference of the Least Developed Countries in accordance with resolution 397(XV) of the ECA Conference of Ministers. The representative of the secretariat informed participants about the activities of the secretariat during the various meetings especially the organization of the first meeting of the Conference of Ministers of African Least Developed Countries in Addis Ababa.

187. For subprogramme 9.245, fiscal, monetary and financial issues at the national level, the studies undertaken on national development banks in 10 African countries were being finalized by the secretariat. The available resources did not permit the completion of the work regarding the organization of the seminar that had been decided during the first session of the Joint Conference. The work, nevertheless was continuing and the envisaged seminar could take place in 1982.

188. Concerning the programme of work of the secretariat in the field of development issues and policies for 1982-1983, subprogramme 9.241, development trends requirements and possibilities would concentrate on the preparation of survey of the socio-economic conditions in Africa, 1981-1982 and 1982-1983. Subprogramme 9.242 would be devoted partly to research on the planning concepts and methods in the light of the Lagos Plan of Action (9.242.02) and partly to the elaboration of quantitative analytical tools at the national and regional levels with a view to having a regular publication on the regional economic outlook together with the annual survey of socio-economic conditions.

189. For subprogramme 9.243, two studies were envisaged relating respectively to the role of small and medium-scale indigenous businesses in the process of socio-economic transformation and development in Africa (project 9.243.02) and the analysis of co-ordination of development activities between the public and private sectors (9.243.03). For subprogramme 9.244 on the African least developed countries, the 1982-1983 period would be essentially devoted to studies of the socio-economic conditions in those countries (project 9.244.02) and to the technical assistance to the LDC for the organization of round-tables with donors. The Division was now in a position to tackle that work without overloading its present staff, because of the creation of three new posts.

190. The secretariat, in line with the recommendations made during the discussions at the present meeting of the Planning Committee, would continue and expand the work on the socio-economic indicators, the analysis of tariff protection and on the multisectoral studies. The Socio-Economic Research and Planning Division would also undertake ad hoc research for publication in a regular bulletin. Whenever possible such ad hoc studies as well as regular activities of the work programme would be undertaken in collaboration with African research institutions.

191. The representative of the secretariat then recalled the recommendation of the last meeting of the Conference of Ministers in Freetown concerning the need for member States to provide up-to-date information which would enable the annual study of socio-economic conditions in Africa to cover as many countries as possible. Having had only few replies to the request, it was necessary to find other means and he suggested the institutionalization of missions of ECA as was the case with other institutions.

192. Several participants thanked the secretariat for the work achieved and approved the work programme as presented since it took into account the recommendations made by the Committee during the current session. With regard to the annual Survey of economic and social conditions in Africa, it was recommended that provision be made to implement the recommendations of Freetown and that the national planning services should take all the necessary measures to allow ECA to have access to the information required for its study. It was also suggested that the national planning agencies should expand ECA contacts especially to universities and research institutions. However, it was underlined that the ECA secretariat had to contact the national planning agencies well in advance so as to enable them to organize the missions with maximum effectiveness.

193. It was also recommended that the secretariat, once it had developed the work on multisectoral studies in collaboration with national experts, and taking into account the technical nature of those studies, should organize a working group to examine the results. The report of the working group would then be submitted to the next session of the Joint Conference. Similarly it was recommended that the project on the planning methods and concepts in the framework of the Lagos Plan of Action should also include an identification and evaluation of national development plans.

194. Concerning the subprogramme relating to monetary and fiscal issues, a participant emphasized that an analysis of devaluation for structural adjustments deserved to be incorporated in the ECA activities because such a measure was often cited as a condition for the aid giving by some institutions. Another participant expressed satisfaction at ECA's assistance in the preparation of the Substantive New Programme of Action for his country and he hoped that type of assistance would continue. He also hoped that the ECA secretariat would assist his country in the organization of the donor round table.

195. The representative of the secretariat said that all comments would be taken into account in carrying out the work programme. The suggestion on devaluation could be taken up within the study on tariff protection jointly with the International Trade and Finance Division or in the context of the ad hoc studies that the Socio-Economic Research and Planning Division envisaged to undertake. Although the secretariat stood ready to assist the least developed countries in the preparation of their round-tables, very few countries had kept it informed about the preparations.

3. Statistics Committee

196. Mr. J. C. Kufandada (Zimbabwe) was elected Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Kemoko Gbemoy (Guinea) as Vice-Chairman and Mr. B. Mbowe (Gambia) as Rapporteur.

Review of data processing capabilities in Africa, 1980-1981 (item 14)

197. A representative of the secretariat introduced document ST/ECA/PSD.2/15 and said that, although the data tabulated were far from complete, the survey had provided a useful indication of the data processing situation in Africa. The survey had indicated that (a) most countries of the region were provided with adequate EDP facilities most of which were, used, inter alia, for processing statistical data; (b) there were plans for the installation of such facilities in countries where there were none; (c) there was a tendency to increase the capacity and capability of existing equipment; (d) the centralization of computing facilities had not been very successful particularly in processing statistical data; (e) that there had been some improvement in the software support, but there was a definite paucity of both software and applications programmes; (f) there was a strong demand for the training of personnel; and (g) data in the Directory of African Experts in Electronic Data Processing indicated that, while some countries were well endowed with a well trained and highly experienced experts, others had barely enough to meet national requirements.

198. During the discussions the Committee agreed that the survey provided a source of useful information; however, the coverage was poor and attempts should be made to make the survey as complete as possible. The survey should also provide more information on the use of EDP facilities by national statistical services and an attitudinal survey should be carried out on the views of statisticians in respect of data processing personnel and vice versa.

199. It was observed that the arrival of micro-computers which were powerful, easy to use and only cost a few hundred dollars held great promise for statistical computing. The United States Bureau of the Census then informed participants that a study was in progress to review the capability of micro-computers in analysing and editing statistical data as well as the possibility of upgrading existing software packages for use on them. The representative of the Commission of the European Communities informed the Committee that his organization had financed a study, prepared by experts from the Federal Republic of Germany, on the use of computers in general and mini- and micro-computers in particular in statistical training centres in developing countries. Missions would be sent to all centres in Africa. The aims of the study were twofold: to establish what equipment and what teaching methods should be used. The results would be out at the end of 1982 and communicated to the ECA secretariat.

200. It was agreed that training needs in electronic data processing constituted part of the over-all training requirements in statistics. It was also emphasised that statisticians must be trained in the use of electronic data processing equipment.

201. The problem of computer maintenance was also raised and the need to train national maintenance technicians was expressed. In that connexion the United States Bureau of the Census and the European Economic Community were requested to provide assistance.

202. One participant asked what were the relations between IBI (Intergovernmental Bureau for Informatics) and ECA. The secretariat explained that IBI was an inter-governmental organization with its headquarters in Rome and that its activities were mainly in the area of informatics. Not all countries members of ECA were members of IBI.

203. The secretariat added that a conference on data processing was scheduled to take place in Algiers in October or December 1982 in accordance with an OAU resolution. The conference would be attended by representatives of OAU, ECA (PADIS), UNESCO and IBI which was also preparing an Intergovernmental Conference on Strategies and Policies for Informatics (SPIN) to be held in Cuba in 1983.

Report on the Statistical Training Programme for Africa in the context of national statistical organization and staffing (item 15)

204. Under item 15, the secretariat introduced the following documents:

Progress report on the Statistical Training Programme for Africa (ST/ECA/PSD.2/16);
Report of the Working Group on Training of Statistical Personnel for Portuguese-speaking African Countries (ST/ECA/PSD.2/17);
Report of the Working Group on Statistical Organization and Manpower (ST/ECA/PSD.2/18);
Report of the Meeting of Directors of STPA Centres (ST/ECA/PSD.2/19);
Directory of African Statisticians (ST/ECA/PSD.2/20).

205. The secretariat stated that activities under the Statistical Training Programme for Africa had expanded rapidly over the last two years. The staff for the regional component of the programme financed by UNDP had been in their posts for a large part of the period under review. All the posts were now filled apart from that of the chief statistical training adviser, and the recruitment procedure for the new incumbent was under way. Moreover, the secretariat was studying ways and means of implementing the recommendation of the second Meeting of Directors of STPA Centres concerning the recruitment of an additional statistical training adviser.

206. The secretariat had performed its tasks concerning the preparation of standard syllabuses for middle-level statistical training and the dissemination of information on statistical training activities.

207. Moreover, a meeting had been held in October 1980 of representatives of Portuguese-speaking African countries on the subject of training statistical personnel. The report of that meeting had been submitted to the Conference of Ministers of ECA at its meeting in Freetown in April 1981 where a resolution had been adopted requesting the Executive Secretary to take the necessary steps to extend technical assistance to Portuguese-speaking African countries within the framework of STPA and requesting the United Nations Development Programme to give adequate financial support to the national and regional projects proposed by that group of countries. Arrangements had now been made to work out how to implement that resolution particularly with regard to the regionalization of the Lubango Centre in Angola which had been singled out for training middle-level statistical personnel from that group of countries.

208. The secretariat also reported on activities for co-ordinating technical and financial assistance within the framework of STPA. In particular, it referred to a mission to Europe, the United States of America and Canada in June/July 1981 to explore possibilities of assistance being extended to STPA in the form of study fellowships, fellowships for the training of trainers, secondment of teachers, the provision of equipment, etc.

209. Matters relating to the establishment of links between STPA Centres and universities and schools outside the region with a good reputation in statistics and the identification of centres which could act as associate STPA centres were also reviewed.

210. With regard to the request submitted to the Commission of the European Communities by the secretariat of the African, Caribbean and Pacific countries with a view to obtaining support for STPA under the regional component of the European Development Fund (EDF), the secretariat explained that the request was backed up by two resolutions, one by the Council of Ministers of ACP and the other by the Conference of Ministers of ECA. The Commission's formal response was still awaited.

211. The secretariat also reported on the use of the regional component of STPA in financing fellowships for the training of trainers and consultancy missions for the centres. The regional component had also been used to support training seminars organized by STPA centres.

212. Lastly, the secretariat summarised the main points in the reports of the Working Group on Statistical Organization and Manpower and the second Meeting of Directors of STPA Centres.

213. The Committee congratulated the secretariat on the important work done in the last two years to improve and develop STPA. Some participants felt that a critical assessment of the Programme was now needed in order to give it a new orientation after four years of operation.

214. The representative of the Commission of the European Communities informed the Conference that the response to the request submitted to his agency had been transmitted to the ACP secretariat in December 1981. He stressed that his agency played an active role in the training of African statisticians. Under the fourth EDF (1976-1981), 7.5 million units of account, or around 9 million United States dollars, had been allocated to statistical training, not counting the allocations for construction (3.2 million United States dollars) for statistics schools. That represented 5.7 per cent of the total training budget of the fourth EDF.

215. As far as the Commission of the European Communities was concerned, STPA represented considerable progress in that it constituted the first coherent framework for analysing all problems relating to statistical training.

216. The request submitted to the Commission by the ACP secretariat had two aspects: fellowships and other technical assistance.

217. With regard to fellowships, the Commission felt that the problem should be solved within the framework of the multi-year training programme which the Commission established with each ACP State at the request of and according to the priorities established by the countries concerned.

218. In the preparation of multi-year programmes for the fifth EDF (1981-1986), some of which had already been determined and approved by the Commission, it was advisable that the ACP States reserve an adequate share of those programmes for statistical training. On its part, the Commission drew the attention of the ACP States to that aspect of training.

219. On the other hand, the other technical assistance aspects (training of trainers, operating expenses and capital expenses) could be financed from the resources provided for the regional programme when the ACP request to the programme was finally accepted.

220. The Commission of the European Communities had decided to undertake and finance a study on all the problems relating to the training of African statisticians. The study had two main aims: to update STPA statistics and draw up a coherent over-all framework for the relevant actions. That meant that an attempt would be made to analyse a whole series of questions such as the role of computer science in teaching; the status, career and training of teachers; budgets; gearing training to the requirements; relations between statisticians and users, etc. The Commission of the European Communities was hoping for close co-operation from ECA in the definition and conduct of the study, which should be ready at the end of the year.

221. The Conference noted the information given by the representative of the Commission of the European Communities. It greatly hoped that the procedure for granting fellowships would be facilitated and the ACP request for financing the other technical assistance aspects out of the EDF regional programme would be approved as soon as possible.

222. For its part, the secretariat was ready to co-operate with the Commission of the European Communities and the ACP secretariat in the proposed study, which also constituted a response to the suggestion made by some participants concerning an evaluation of STPA. Some studies available within the secretariat could be used for reference purposes in that connexion.

223. Some participants reiterated their surprise that EASTC, at Dar-es-Salaam, and ISAE, at Makerere, were not mentioned in the document dealing with common problems in institution-building (item 7). Other participants pointed out that the interrelationships among planning, demography and statistics were obvious. Consequently, STPA centres should be considered on a par with the African Institute for Economic Development and Planning (IDEP), the Institut de formation et de recherche démographiques (IFORD), the Regional Institute for Population Studies (RIPS), etc., and that was why the Joint Conference had recommended the participation of the representative of the STPA centres in the Conference of Chief Executives of ECA-Sponsored Regional and Subregional Institutions.

224. The representative of the secretariat recalled that the STPA centres were regional, whether de facto or de jure because they were required to provide regional services. He then explained the criteria for participation in the Conference of Chief Executives.

For an institution to qualify for participation, ECA must have played an active role in its establishment. However, there were cases where ECA had not participated in the establishment of an institution but was closely associated with its activities. If ECA showed a great deal of interest in the work programmes of those institutions, they could be considered to be sponsored by ECA. Under those circumstances, the participation of STPA centres in the Conference of Chief Executives might be considered. The Conference was organized at the headquarters of the various institutions by rotation.

225. Several participants commented on the 1981 edition of the Directory of African Statisticians. Some participants felt that the information contained in the Directory concerning their countries was incomplete, perhaps because the pertinent questionnaires had been sent only to the national statistical offices. Other participants pointed out that some information was considerably out of date. Some participants noted typographical errors.

226. The Director of CESD informed the Conference that his centre was in the process of carrying out an extensive survey of former students. The results would be available in June 1982 and would help to improve the Directory. He took the occasion to announce that his centre would celebrate its twentieth anniversary during the month of October 1982.

227. In response, the secretariat explained that the questionnaires concerning the current edition of the Directory of African Statisticians had been sent to both national statistical offices and the region's statistical training centres. In some cases the secretariat had received contributions from only one of the two. However, the largest problem often concerned the lack of information on statisticians working in the private sector. The problem could largely be solved if, as some participants had indicated, national statisticians' associations existed in African countries. For the most part, the out-of-date information concerned those countries and institutions that had not submitted their contributions for the 1981 survey. The secretariat expressed the hope that all countries of the region and the institutions concerned would actively participate in the 1983 survey so that a computerized file might be set up. The existence of such a file would help to improve both the appearance and the content of the Director.

228. Consideration of the question of the draft constitution of the Association of African Statisticians, which was raised by several participants, was postponed to allow all participants to study the pertinent document in detail.

229. Several participants stressed that existing centres did not seem capable of meeting all the region's needs for middle-level statistical personnel and asked what could be done under the circumstances.

230. The secretariat replied that, according to the objectives of STPA, training at that level ultimately should normally be conducted on a national basis as the number of professional statisticians continued to increase. Such training should be made an integral part of the programmes of the national statistical offices. In the meantime, however, existing training resources should be maintained, and in fact developed, and countries should gradually set up permanent structures for in-service training.

231. The Conference was informed of the recent reorganization of the Statistical Office of the Ivory Coast, which was at present attached to the Ministry of Planning and Industry. A national committee for statistics and standardisation of accounting had been established. Moreover, it had been decided to rename the Ecole de statistique of Abidjan as the Ecole nationale supérieure de la statistique et de l'économie appliquée. Assistance would be required from STPA, particularly with respect to fellowships for the training of trainers and fellowships for studies at the centre.

232. With reference to paragraph 27 of document ST/ECA/PSD.2/16, the Director of CESD stated that the internship organised annually by his centre was not intended to train trainers in the processing of statistical data. Rather, it was a refresher course intended for statisticians and demographers who were permanently in contact with data processors. The course ran for six weeks, from September to November. While the course could accommodate 20 trainees, that capacity was never reached, largely for lack of scholarships. The Director of CESD thanked ECA for its contribution to the financing of scholarships for the trainee programme.

233. The observer from the United Kingdom briefly discussed the special courses offered in his country for the training of statisticians from developing countries. He emphasised in particular the course to be offered by the University of Southampton in preparation for post-graduate studies in statistics, econometrics and operations research. The course was designed to permit students whose training had been interrupted for a long period of time and those who felt the need, to up-date their skills in English, mathematics and statistics before beginning post-graduate studies.

234. He also stressed the problem encountered each year in filling the enrolment capacities of certain courses. He asked participants if the situation was due to the fact that the courses did not correspond to the needs of developing countries. He called on countries wishing to benefit from those courses to submit their requests as soon as possible.

235. Some participants remarked that, apart from the problem of scholarships, the language problem was another obstacle to participation in such courses and expressed the hope that efforts would be made to find a solution to that problem.

236. The observer from the United States of America briefly described the statistical training activities organized by his country for developing countries. Thus, the International Statistical Programmes Centre (ISPC) had a basic programme which lasted a year and had seven areas in which students could specialize namely: sampling and survey methods, agricultural surveys and censuses; population statistics and analysis; economic surveys and censuses; computer data systems; statistical technology and survey management and agricultural economics.

237. Catalogues on courses offered in the 1982/83 year would be mailed out within the next few weeks. Apart from those training programmes, ISPC organized special workshop programmes both in Washington and in developing countries on topics such as planning and implementing a household survey programme, population census methods and mapping. For instance, a workshop on planning and implementing a household survey programme would be held in Washington in June and July 1982. Similarly, a workshop on population censuses would be held in Sierra Leone during the summer of 1982.

238. In support of training and technical assistance, the United States Bureau of the Census prepared course materials and case studies on various aspects of planning and implementing censuses and surveys. The two most recent publications were POPSTAN: A case study for the 1980 censuses of populations and housing and Mapping for censuses and surveys. In addition, two previously published documents were being revised. The first one, New Providencia, was meant to support the 1983 World Programme of Industrial Statistics and the second one, New Atlantida, would support training in developing household survey capabilities.

239. The Bureau of Economic Analysis conducted training programmes, in English, in national economic accounting. Finally, the Bureau of Labour Statistics conducted seminars lasting six to eight weeks which were designed to strengthen capabilities in collecting and analyzing human resources data and related economic and social statistics.

240. The representative of the United Nations Statistical Office said that the Department of Technical Co-operation for Development had earmarked the sum of \$US375,000 for an interregional project to train young and inexperienced statisticians and computer programmers from one developing country in another developing country within the same region. Such training was part of technical co-operation among developing countries and was described as apprenticeship or on-the-job-training. Training would be carried out in specialized statistical areas as well as in the field of computer programming. The trainees would be attached to a United Nations expert in another country within the region who was doing work on that specialized area of statistics. Where there was no United Nations expert in the country but that country had experience in the area of statistics selected, the trainee would be attached to the central statistics office concerned. There were 72 man-months of training in 1982 and 108 man/months in 1983. Interested countries could write to the Director of the United Nations Statistical Office for further information.

241. The observer from the Commonwealth Secretariat (CFTC) stressed the follow-up which should be given to the meeting of the Working Group on Statistical Organization and Manpower. In his opinion, it would be useful to carry out studies on structural arrangements needed to co-ordinate the activities of the various government departments involved in statistics; overlapping in statistics; statistical development plans; and the legal status of central statistical organizations. After listening to the reasons for the establishment of each centre, the Conference recommended the admission of the following centres as members of STPA: the Collège de Statistique de l'Ecole Nationale d'économie appliquée de Dakar; the Institut de Formation et de Recherche Démographiques (IFORD), Yaoundé; and the Regional Institute for Population Studies (RIPS), Legon.

242. Similarly, the Conference recommended the admission of the following institutions as associate members of STPA in addition to the Munich Centre for advanced training of statisticians and economists from developing countries: the Institute of Development Studies (IDS), Sussex, United Kingdom; the Applied Statistics Research Unit, University of Kent, Canterbury, United Kingdom; the Institute of Social Studies (ISS), the Hague, the Netherlands; and International Statistics Programmes Center (ISPC), United States Bureau of the Census, Washington.

243. Finally the Conference adopted, after due consideration, the report of the Working Group on the training of statistical personnel for Portuguese-speaking African countries (Addis Ababa, October 1980), the report of the Working Group on Statistical Organization and Manpower (Addis Ababa, October 1981) and the report of the Meeting of Directors of Centres participating in the Statistical Training Programme for Africa, STPA (Addis Ababa, November 1981).

Revised African programme on price statistics (item 16)

244. In introducing the revised draft programme for the improvement of African price statistics (ST/ECA/PSD.1/1), the secretariat highlighted the main reasons for the order of priorities given in the document which depended largely on the importance and usefulness of the particular price data, the need for such price statistics in developing other statistics, the importance of such statistics for business and commercial planning purposes and the relative ease with which they could be collected. The resulting order of priorities was as follows:

Priority 1. Price indexes of final expenditure covering the low-income group in the capital could be used in place of the composite or national index;

Priorities 2 and 3. Export and import price indexes - data collection did not require extensive organizational effort or resources;

Priority 4. Wholesale prices and price indexes - data could be collected through specially designed questionnaires which could be mailed to the establishments;

Priority 5. Producer prices and indexes of domestically produced commodities - such commodities, more especially industrial commodities, were usually rather few in developing countries and thus data on them were relatively not difficult to collect;

Priority 6. Output and input price indexes by kind of activity had been accorded low priority because of the difficulty in tracing their flow, more specially the input price data;

Priority 7. Labour cost indexes had also been given low priority, not because they were not useful but so that other statistics mentioned earlier could be developed first;

Priorities 8 and 9. Extension of price indexes of final expenditure and exchange rates and purchasing parities required financial and manpower resources and thus were not easy to implement; hence they had been given low priorities.

245. The discussion which followed centred, inter alia, price specification. It was pointed out that in the case of export price indexes, the specification price should be in terms of f.o.b.; for import indexes - c.i.f. values; wholesale price indexes - purchasers' values; producer prices and indexes - approximate basic values and price indexes of final expenditure - purchasers' values.

246. In response to a query relating to the need for moving or changing the base once every five or 10 years, the secretariat explained that no international recommendation existed on that point. The suggestion had been put forward because most of the countries' base periods were 15, 20 or more years old and therefore the indexes based on those outdated periods had lost their usefulness and did not reflect the current trends effectively in a given country.

247. In the case where a country preferred one priority to another, the programme should be implemented flexibly in the light of the circumstances of each country. The priorities as they stood acted only as a guide in the development of price statistics and their order was not to be strictly adhered to.

248. The view was expressed that higher priority should be accorded to extending the scope and coverage of priority 1 to a few more cities, then towns and villages and to other income groups. It was pointed, however, that it was up to countries to decide according to their needs and the resources available.

249. Countries were asked to take advantage of the FAO regional seminars, workshops, etc., on topics dealing with agricultural prices.

250. The activities under the International Comparison Project (ICP) were also briefly discussed.

251. The Commission of the European Economic Community had accepted the request of the United Nations Statistical Office to co-ordinate the ICP project for the region during phase IV of the project (1979-1984). Fifteen countries (seven of which were French-speaking) had participated in the project and the results were expected towards the end of 1982. It was hoped that many African countries would participate in the project in 1983, and that ECA would continue to provide its moral and technical assistance to the expanded project.

252. Without prejudging the 1983 deliberations of the United Nations Statistical Commission, the Statistical Office of the European Communities was in favour of expanding the ICP project to embrace all African countries during phase V (1985-1989), and hoped to be able to provide during that phase the same co-operation as during phase IV.

1983 World Programme of Industrial Statistics (item 17)

253. The secretariat briefly described the 1983 World Programme of Industrial Statistics. It was clear that African priorities related mainly to the organization of the national industrial censuses scheduled for 1983, the gradual setting up of national integrated industrial statistics systems over the period 1983-1993, and the introduction, at the national level, of rational and effective data processing techniques, in order to ensure timely publication and to make a wider range of data available to users.

254. The secretariat also pointed out that, if the Programme was to be properly implemented in the region, there was a need not only for the material and financial resources of national statistical services to be increased, but also for training activities and direct outside technical assistance to be strengthened. The latter should include both the dispatch, from time to time, of missions from bilateral or

multilateral co-operation agencies, and the secondment of experts for an average period of two to three years. A number of technical training and assistance activities were already being undertaken, under the Programme, by the Munich Centre, UNIDO, the United Nations Statistical Office, ECA and the United States Bureau of the Census. The Programme activities could be financed from the countries' own resources, based on the UNDP national indicative planning figures, or through agreements signed with bilateral or multilateral co-operation agencies, such as the Fonds francais de cooperation, the Ministry of Overseas Development in the United Kingdom, the European Economic Community, etc.

255. The secretariat then presented the main conclusions and recommendations of the Regional Training Seminar on Industrial Censuses, held in Addis Ababa from 11 January to 13 February 1982, and organized jointly, for the English-speaking African countries, by the Munich Centre, the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), the United Nations Statistical Office and ECA. Those conclusions and recommendations stressed, in particular:

(a) The vital importance of the Programme guide-lines in speeding up the development of industrial statistics in the countries of the region;

(b) The need to integrate the various inquiries in the industrial sector and to fill the numerous gaps in the often inadequate data available on small and household industries, in the light of their important position in the African economies;

(c) The need to acquire skilled personnel in the field of sampling necessary for carrying out inquiries, since they had an essential role to play in the various national programmes for the development of industrial statistics, particularly as regards establishments not recorded in the establishment register, small and household industries;

(d) The need to pay greater attention to analyzing data on industry, in view of their vital importance for understanding the structural aspects of the industrial sector, and the establishment of national accounts, input-output tables, and indicators of industrial production; and

(e) The need to introduce rational and effective data processing techniques at the national level.

256. The Committee adopted the conclusions and recommendations of the Regional Training Seminar on Industrial Censuses, while stressing the complexity of enquiries into small and household industries. Certain participants took the view that the depressing state of African industrial statistics could be remedied in part by a more rational organization of national statistical systems and a more judicious use of available resources.

257. The Committee also stressed the urgency of establishing a regional technical assistance programme on industrial statistics, with the aid of the United Nations Statistical Office and the bilateral and multilateral co-operation agencies. It was indicated that the ECA consultation missions in certain countries in the region had

been most useful and had made it possible to complete the work on, inter alia, the preparation of establishment registers and on improving the methodology of annual enquiries. That form of technical assistance should be continued or even strengthened. Nevertheless, the most appropriate form of technical assistance for certain African countries was the provision of experts for a period of two to three years, provided that the donor agencies co-ordinated their activities properly and that the latter were carried out within the framework of national programmes of industrial enquiries.

258. Finally, the representative of the United States Bureau of the Census reported that "Providencia", a case study on the collection of industrial statistics carried out by that body in 1977, was now being revised so as to follow more closely the guide-lines of the 1983 World Programme of Industrial Statistics.

National accounts and related data particularly in least developed and newly independent countries (item 18)

259. For consideration of agenda item 18, the Committee had before it document ST/ECA/PSD.2/24. The secretariat gave a brief account of the progress made by the Statistics Division in implementing the programme of work in respect of national accounts as approved by the first session of the Conference and in implementing the UNDP-funded project on assistance to least developed and newly independent countries in national accounts (RAF/78/061). The project was not included in the UNDP programming cycle 1982 to 1986 but the secretariat hoped to be able to continue with the assistance under the proposed National Accounts Capability Programme (NACP), provided the required funds became available from alternative sources. Concerning progress in implementation of SNA, it was noted that a larger number of African countries were now compiling the more important SNA tables according to the present SNA than was the case ever before. The secretariat then briefly explained the salient points of the NACP and requested the Committee to deliberate on the desirability and the suitability of the package programme of assistance envisaged under NACP.

260. Several delegations emphasized the necessity to continue technical assistance in that field and considered the proposals contained in NACP appropriate. The Committee noted that in several instances, foreign experts ended up doing most of the work themselves, leaving little expertise behind when they leave. The proposals contained in NACP had an advantage in that respect and also would call for fewer financial resources. All participants were unanimous about the necessity of improving the quality and availability of basic economic statistics. One of them mentioned that NACP should be implemented more as an economic statistics capability programme. The Committee noted that in most countries the estimates relating to the informal sector were the weakest and that the household surveys proposed under AHSCP should provide sufficient basic data to improve those estimates in at least the bench-mark years.

261. One participant noted that some countries continued to seek expert assistance in the same field even after having received such assistance for several years. The Committee recognised the frequent turnover or rapid loss of trained technical personnel as the real cause of the problem and the consequent emphasis required on on-the-job and seminar training as contained in NACP.

262. The World Bank and ADB representatives emphasized the importance of having dependable and timely national accounts statistics for their work. The World Bank representative also briefly referred to the estimates compiled by his agency.

263. The observer from France recalled his country's experience in providing assistance through a programme for the establishment of national accounts services in African countries and informed the Committee that France was willing to provide such assistance to two African developing countries at a time.

264. One participant informed the Committee about the arrangements for the forthcoming conference on national accounts to be held in Yaounde in November 1982 under the joint auspices of International Association for Research in Income and Wealth and ECA, and sought the co-operation and participation of as many African countries as possible.

265. The Committee concluded the discussions on the topic by emphasizing the importance of national accounts statistics for purposes of planning and government policy formulation and the importance of having continued assistance in the field.

Report on other statistical activities and examination of
future work programme (item 19)

266. The secretariat presented the report on ECA statistical activities, 1980-1981, (ST/ECA/PSD.2/25), together with information on recent developments and a general assessment of the African statistical situation to serve as a background to the examination of the work programme.

267. It was first agreed that the programme should incorporate a new project on environment statistics. Interest in that area had been demonstrated at a recent workshop in Nairobi which had been assisted by the Commonwealth Fund for Technical Co-operation (CFTC). The secretariat was requested to ensure that African statistical services received copies of the report on the workshop.

268. One of the requirements of environment statistics was the preparation of data according to ecological zones. It was noted in that connexion that such zones were not easy to determine and the work called for extensive co-ordination within government, usually with one ministry, e.g., agriculture, playing the lead role. Another aspect was remote sensing which had aroused considerable enthusiasm and had proved particularly useful in matters such as the monitoring of nomadic population movements. However, it was pointed out that priority concerns in the field of environment statistics differed between Governments and no standard programme could be recommended.

269. A number of participants mentioned special interests in environment statistics which had already emerged in connexion with re-afforestation, climate and resettlement.

270. Regarding the work programme as a whole, it was asked why more specific mention was not made of subjects such as agricultural and employment statistics. In response it was stated that such subjects were the primary responsibility of United Nations specialized agencies rather than regional commissions but that ECA had now become more directly involved because much of the relevant data would be collected through the African Household Survey Capability Programme (AHSCP).

271. It was suggested that it was now time to give further consideration to the aims of the work programme. It should not be directed only to meeting the data requirements for administration, industry, policy formulation and planning, but should also address, more broadly, the need for information by the public as a whole. In addition it should give attention to new technical developments which could enhance the work of statistical services.

272. A further suggestion was that the programme should be reassessed in the light of basic data sources, e.g., administrative records. While it was agreed that such an assessment would be useful, it was felt that the existing subject classification in the programme was more convenient for operational purposes. Nevertheless, it was noted that work on the development of infrastructure for economic statistics could be more clearly specified.

273. In the case of industrial statistics the secretariat was requested to place more emphasis on commodity production which, it was felt, would not be difficult in Africa because the number of respondents was limited.

274. Subject to the availability of resources, it was requested that the working group on environment statistics should be held earlier than 1987. Also the Directory and Compendium of Environment Statistics prepared by Kenya with the assistance of the United Nations Statistical Office as part of its project on environment statistics should be circulated to national statistical services.

275. It was asked whether projects 9.547.00 and 9.548.00 dealing with demographic and social statistics and the Regional Advisory Service in Demographic Statistics (RASDS) could be merged because of similarity of subject matter. However, the arrangement would not be practicable because the two projects were financed from different sources and were handled by different but closely related organizational units.

276. Finally it was requested that there should be a working group on statistical co-ordination and management, if possible in 1984. The meeting would consider topics such as the capacity to make use of all the different types of data currently being generated: Consider the status of statistical agencies in the government hierarchy of the countries of the region and the merits of merging statistical and planning agencies in the smaller countries with a population of, say, less than 2 million; review the structure and arrangements for co-ordination of statistics in various countries of the region; consider the special terms, if any, pertaining to the statistical services in the countries of the region, together with the format of legislation pertaining to statistical agencies and development plans pertaining to statistics; identify instances of duplication of statistical work in the administration of various governments; propose standards on reliability and productivity in the statistical agencies; and study the extent, scope and prospects of harmonization of statistics. It was noted that CFTC might be able to contribute to the cost of Commonwealth participants attending the meeting.

277. Attention was drawn to the omission of a training workshop on census-taking for French-speaking countries in 1984 and it was agreed that it should be included in the work programme.

Other matters (item 27)

278. With regard to the possible revival of the Association of African Statisticians whose constitution was contained in ECA Statistical Newsletter No. 55 of June 1980, the Chairman explained that at previous sessions some participants had requested that such an item be included in the agenda.

279. The secretariat gave an account of the history of the founding of the Association of African Statisticians (AAS) and the reasons for its inability to develop into a viable institution. AAS had been formed in 1969 at the sixth session of the Conference of African Statisticians with the objectives of encouraging the development of statistical science, enhancing the contribution of statistics to human welfare and promoting co-operation among statisticians in Africa.

280. Support had been received at the sixth session of the Conference in 1969 from ECA, OAU and OCAM for the formation of AAS. At that Conference an Executive Board with nine members had been set up with members selected with due regard to equitable geographical representation.

281. Unfortunately AAS had never got off the ground. The reasons for the failure included the fact that, because of the emphasis on equitable geographic representation, members of the Board were spread out all over the continent, which made arrangements for frequent communication either by mail or a meeting more difficult. Secondly, membership of both the Board and AAS generally was limited to statisticians who attended the Conference. Recommendations about a future revived AAS, it was observed, should take into account those reasons for example, by making it possible for the Association to include statisticians not just from statistical offices but also other institutions in African countries - private enterprise, university and research institutions, banking, etc. Also a positive effort should be made to contact such persons from the various organizations in Africa and outside to canvass for membership before 1984.

282. In the discussion that followed, there was a consensus that (a) caution should be exercised in relaunching the Association, with close attention paid to the reasons for the past failure, and (b) it was not possible at the present session to revive AAS. Instead a small committee should be formed to begin making arrangements from now up to the next meeting of the Joint Conference in 1984. In the groundwork the following matters should be dealt with: (a) finance, e.g., how a permanent secretariat should be supported; (b) high turnover among statisticians, especially those holding high positions and its effect on membership; (c) role of national statistical associations in AAS; (d) payment of subscriptions and type of currency to be used.

283. The Committee decided that a small committee consisting of representatives of the ECA Statistics Division staff members and the Ethiopian Statistics Office should be selected. The committee should do the necessary groundwork for the launching of AAS in 1984 at the next session of Joint Conference. Mr. R. Andrianasolo and Mr. K.T. de Graft-Johnson of the ECA Statistics Division and Mr. Mitik Beyene of the Ethiopian Statistics Office were unanimously elected as members of the committee.

4. The Demography Committee

284. The Committee elected the following officers :

- | | |
|-----------------|------------|
| - Chairman | Rwanda |
| - Vice-Chairman | Ethiopia |
| - Rapporteur | The Gambia |

Requirements for population data and analysis in development planning (item 21)

285. A representative of the secretariat reviewed the points raised in the plenary session on document ST/ECA/PSD.2/3 and emphasized the need to focus discussions on demographic data requirements for development planning in the African region. They included population and agriculture, population and employment, population and food production and land tenure systems in the respective countries of the region.

286. In the discussion which followed the Committee regretted the fact that discussions had been left to demographers alone, since the contribution of planners and statisticians would have been useful to underscore the need for co-operation at the national level among the three groups of experts. The Committee suggested that demographic data requirements in primary education, health and housing planning should be reviewed further and relationships between population and agriculture discussed as suggested by the Plenary Session.

287. In addition to enumerating data requirements, the paper should have demonstrated the two-way relationship between population and development. In that regard, real data and not hypothetical data should have been used. The representative of the secretariat explained that there was no consensus of opinion on the relationship between population and development and emphasized the fact that the paper reviewed the use of demographic data in African development plans as well as the problems of integrating demographic factors in development planning. The paper also presented data that would be required for planning primary education, health and housing, and he illustrated the application of population data in each of the three sectors. He then noted that by varying assumptions in the illustrations, some indications of the relationship in terms of costs could be perceived.

288. The Committee then noted the need for a dialogue between data producers and users in various sectors and emphasized that data users should be involved from the very early stages in data collection. It further stressed the need to analyse those data as soon as possible.

289. A representative of the secretariat raised a question on the extent to which development plans of countries in the region incorporated population variables. For example, if Governments declared policies on free primary education, were demographers able to quantify the implications of such policies and bring them to the attention of planners and policy-makers. In his opinion, that would be one of the ways in which demographers could play a role in alerting policy-makers to the demographic implications of policies and programs contained in the plans.

290. In considering the place of population and agriculture in development planning, the Committee suggested that the land tenure system and transport and market networks should be taken into account. That would involve the collection of statistical data on agricultural activities, population characteristics and settlement patterns.

291. In reviewing the relationship between industrial development and population, the Committee highlighted problems of marketing primary products of African countries in developed countries. The representative of the secretariat pointed out that the Lagos Plan of Action emphasized the need for intraregional co-operation in industrial development and trade. In that connection emphasis was laid on the need to raise the purchasing power of the population.

292. In discussing what population policy would be compatible with development goals, the Committee noted the need to define development in the context of the value system of each country, its ideological and policy orientations. That would determine the various types of data to be collected. It was the consensus that population policy would vary from time to time in each country and would depend on the development objectives and availability of human and national resources.

293. The question on where to place demographers in the government structure was then raised. The secretariat reminded participants that during the 1974 World Population Conference, that issue had been discussed intensively. The World Population Plan of Action had made specific recommendations to member States to establish population units in planning ministries in order to help to integrate population in the over-all development process. It was, therefore, up to the countries themselves to implement the recommendations which had been adopted in 1974. The Committee then recommended that the services of demographers were needed in all government departments.

294. The Committee further observed that the population projections and other data presented in United Nations publications were not of direct relevance to some countries since they were national or global in nature. The secretariat explained that global projections would still be useful in a number of ways. Moreover, subnational projections could be derived from the national projections. However, nationals should prepare their own projections at the various levels which were of direct relevance to their planning needs.

295. Finally, the Committee emphasized the need to re-examine demographic data collection and analytical methods with a view to making them relevant to African realities. The

secretariat informed the Committee that it had started work in that area and was collaborating with WFS in the analysis of marriage data from the World Fertility Survey.

296. In introducing the document ST/ECA/PSD.2/2 referred to the Committee by the plenary session, a representative of the secretariat reminded the Committee that among the issues raised at the plenary were errors in the data used in the analysis, the raison d'être for using multivariate analysis and the lack of definition of population policy in the analysis.

297. Concerning errors in the data, the secretariat explained that any observed discrepancies between individual country and United Nations estimates/projections reflected differential assumptions. The secretariat then requested the Committee to indicate whether a revised version of the paper should incorporate an appraisal of the quality of demographic data in the region.

298. Regarding the use of multivariate analysis, the secretariat explained that since population projection assumptions were developed within the framework of the demographic transition theory, the utilisation of multivariate analysis for determining population dynamics factors in the process of population change in the region was indeed useful. However, the Committee felt that the method was better suited to good quality data. It recommended the use of techniques less vulnerable to poor quality data. In particular the Committee made reference to the fact that the use of per capita GNP in such analysis was not always useful.

299. On population policies the secretariat requested the Committee to indicate whether the revised paper should incorporate a discussion of types of population policies.

300. Finally, the secretariat requested the Committee to decide between a revision of the two papers (ST/ECA/PSD.2/2 and ST/ECA/PSD.2/3) along the lines suggested for submission to the third session of the Joint Conference or the preparation of the following three papers :

- (a) The evolution of population theories and policies in development planning;
- (b) African experiences in integrating population variables in development planning; and
- (c) An appraisal of the quality of demographic data in the African region.

301. The Committee favoured the revision of the two papers taking into account suggestions made.

Training and research in the population field in Africa (item 22)

302. A representative of the Secretariat introduced document ST/ECA/PSD.2/Add.1 and informed the Committee that during the period 1980-1981 ECA had assumed full responsibility for the management of the two regional training institutes, IFORD and RIPS, and the Demographic Unit of the Sahel Institute.

303. The Director of the Institut de formation et de recherche démographiques (IFORD), Yaounde, reported on the achievements and prospects for training and research activities and on the regionalization of the Institute. With regard to the training objectives of IFORD, the Director reported that the Institute trained demographers at the post-graduate level and encouraged the teaching of courses in population science in other training centres that did not offer demography as a major subject of study. The Institute also sought to create greater awareness of population factors in the process of economic and social development. The Director also provided statistics on recruitment and the geographical distribution of students so far admitted to the Institute.

304. In implementing its second training objective, IFORD initiated students into research, organised seminars on population questions, refresher courses for demographers working in the field and supported demographic teaching in statistical institutes and in national universities.

305. The Committee was informed that IFORD carried out research, organised scientific meetings and disseminated the results. Special mention was made of IFORD's study on infant and child mortality, which was carried out in collaboration with statistical departments of the countries included in the study. Mention was also made of other aspects of research work on the analysis of census data and the study of demographic concepts suitable to the African region. The Director informed the Committee that future research activities of IFORD would include the continuation of the infant and child mortality study which would be extended to rural communities.

306. The Institute intended to intensify its publishing activities and to organize scientific meetings whenever resources were available.

307. The Director briefed the Committee on progress made on the regionalization of the Institute. A regionalization mission had been carried out and a Meeting of plenipotentiaries of countries served by the Institute had been held. The Meeting had made recommendations on the enlarged Governing Council, financing arrangements and the implementation of the new statutes for consideration by the ECA Conference of Ministers.

308. Finally, the United Republic of Cameroon would cease applying the first agreement as of 30 June 1982. The Meeting of Plenipotentiaries had recognized the need to hold a Governing Council budgetary session during the Tripoli meeting of the Conference of Ministers. The ECA Executive Secretary in his letter of October 1981 had requested countries served by the Institute to advance \$US 10,000 to enable the Institute meet its commitments during the transition period after June 1982.

309. During the discussions, questions were raised about the equivalence of the IFORD diploma in countries served by the Institute. It was agreed that that was a matter for individual countries to resolve. The Committee requested that IFORD should provide refresher courses for its graduates currently working in their respective countries and was informed that the first of such courses had been offered in 1981 in collaboration with IUSSP and INED, Paris.

310. The Committee expressed keen interest on the infant and child mortality study and expressed the wish to see the methodology developed and the study extended to the rural population.

311. The Director of the Regional Institute of Population Studies (RIPS), Accra, reporting on ten years of work, noted that the Institute differed from all other United Nations sponsored population institutes in that it was the only one physically located within a university and offering the degrees and diplomas of the University of Ghana. That enabled it to share staff, library and other facilities of the University.

312. The Institute had been able to fulfil its mandate for training, providing advisory services, research and publishing. With regard to training, 251 students had undergone training at the Institute. Of the 197 who had completed the course of study, 24 had failed. The course included statistics, substantive demography, economics, sociology and practical experience of field work and research. The Institute planned to broaden the course content in future to include historical demography of Africa, actuarial science and international economics.

313. Sixty-eight students had completed the Master of Arts degree programme. The Institute currently had two Ph.D. students and another three would soon join the programme. Ten other former students of the Institute were currently working for a Ph.D. degree elsewhere, and that one had successfully completed his programme.

314. With regard to in-service training and ad hoc courses, the Institute had organized courses in Liberia, Zambia, Ghana and Nigeria. Four seminars had also been organized in the last five years. The Institute's efforts in that area were limited by the scarcity of resources.

315. Advisory services had been provided in conjunction with ECA to the Nigerian Government in respect of the new Federal capital city project; to the Governments of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, the Sudan, Liberia and Lesotho in census analysis; and to the Government of Ghana on education and other areas as well as to the World Health Organization, the World Fertility Survey, and the United Nations Population Division.

316. The Institute published two newsletters - the RIPS and PIDSA Newsletters and two journals (African Demography, and PIDSA Abstracts). Publication of PIDSA Abstracts had been made possible by a grant from the International Development Research Centre (IDRC) of Canada.

317. Reporting on the research activities of the Institute, the Director mentioned studies on simulation models using African data, alternative models of education systems for African countries, patterns and perceptions of menstrual bleeding and fertility regulating methods, international labour migration in some West African countries and vital rates in some East African cities.

318. For the future, the Institute planned specialized ad hoc courses for professionals and would produce textbooks and workbooks. It would continue to collaborate with local universities and research institutions in training and research. The Director expressed the hope that other countries served by the Institute would share the cost of running the Institute and participate actively in its management so that it could become fully regional.
319. In the discussions that followed some participants wondered whether RIPS would consider introducing external Master's degree courses. The Director explained that the Institute had no such plans. The University of Ghana was considering the proposal to convert the Graduate Diploma in Population Studies to a Master of Arts degree and for the latter to be renamed an M.Phil. The Director also explained that graduates of the Institute had had no problems in finding employment or in having their status recognized. In fact the Institute had received reports that former students were increasingly being given positions of greater responsibility in government and the international organizations.
320. The Institute, he concluded, wished to express its gratitude and appreciation for support from UNFPA, the Ghanaian Government and the University of Ghana.
321. The Co-ordinator of the Socio-economic and Demographic Unit (USED) of the Sahel Institute reported on the activities of his institution.
322. The Sahel Institute, which was the research and training organ of Permanent Inter-State Committee on Drought Control in the Sahel (CILSS), had established a demographic research programme for the Sahel (PRDS), financed by USAID, with a contribution from UNFPA.
323. The major objectives of PRDS included improvement of planning machineries, development of capacities for demographic data collection, analysis and research, increasing scientific and technical co-operation within a subregional development perspective and contributing to the definition of viable population policies.
324. The programme, which had been approved by the States members of CILSS, had five major components: analysis of demographic data, undertaking demographic and related surveys, collection of health statistics, supporting training in statistics and demography and encouraging subregional co-operation through seminars and workshops.
325. After the discussion of the activities of the regional institutes the secretariat presented the revised statutes of IFORD and RIPS. They had been referred back to the Conference of Ministers by the General Assembly together with comments from the United Nations Offices of Legal Affairs, Personnel and Finance Services. The comments had been duly incorporated in the statutes. The Committee took note of the amendments and submitted a draft resolution for adoption by the Conference of Ministers.

Report on population activities in 1980-1982 and programme of work for 1982-1983 (items 23 and 24)

326. In introducing document ST/ECA/PSD.2/27, the secretariat reported that its programme of work, as in the past, focused on creating greater awareness of the short- and long-term consequences of demographic trends; developing, testing and applying techniques of demographic research to study and evaluate population dynamics affecting socio-economic policies and programmes in African development in the context of the Lagos Plan of Action; and providing assistance to African Governments in the analysis of censuses and surveys and in the training of personnel for work in the field of population.

327. The secretariat informed the Committee that, although the Commission's responsibilities in the field of population had greatly increased with the decentralization of the management of the two regional institutes (IFORD, Yaounde and RIPS, Accra) and the Demographic Unit of the Sahel Institute, there had been a reduction in UNFPA assistance to the regional African programme. That reduction, which had not been balanced by an equally significant increase in United Nations regular budget resources, made it impossible for the secretariat to implement all projects on the work programme.

328. The secretariat gave a summary of research projects which were completed or were still in progress. The major activities undertaken included population estimates and projections for African countries undertaken regularly as part of the United Nations projections programme, studies on population growth in Africa, demographic trends and policies in Africa from 1970 to 2000 and international migration in Africa. They were sent for comments to member States and countries' comments were to be incorporated in a final study. The final report of the Lagos demographic survey undertaken in the context of the new capital city of Nigeria had been completed and submitted to the Government. The secretariat had also completed the first stage analysis of the results of the joint ECA/Government of Zambia survey on infant and childhood mortality and fertility in that country. These results were to be presented at a national feedback seminar scheduled to take place in Kabwe, Zambia, from 19 to 24 April 1982. As part of the United Nations programme of comparative analysis of the World Fertility Survey data, the secretariat had completed three studies on marital composition and fertility, age at first marital union and fertility, and effects of marital duration, ethnicity and education on mean parity from the Kenya and Lesotho data. Such comparative studies would be extended to include Senegal, the United Republic of Cameroon, the Ivory Coast and Tunisia as data became available. In that context the secretariat would collaborate with WFS to develop suitable methodologies for studies on nuptiality and fertility in African countries.

329. Work was in progress on the second round of population projections by the ECA secretariat. That project, which was of a repetitive nature, was being carried out in collaboration with the United Nations Headquarters. The exercise had enable the secretariat to establish a country file system which would facilitate updating the projections.

330. Macro and micro case studies on African countries had been discontinued for lack of resources. However, the secretariat had provided assistance to the Governments of Guinea and the United Republic of Tanzania in organizing and publishing the proceedings of national seminars on population and development. The secretariat had also assisted the Ivory Coast Government in preparing the project request for a national seminar on population and development for submission to UNFPA. National seminars planned for Rwanda had been shelved because the requisite funds from UNFPA had not been available.

331. The secretariat reported significant progress in the regularity of the publication of the African Population Newsletter. A third edition of the Directory of African Demographers had been published and work was in progress to computerize the Directory. That would make it easier to update it regularly.

332. The proceedings of the Expert Group Meeting on Fertility and Mortality Levels, Patterns and Trends in Africa and Their Policy Implications which had met in Monrovia November/December 1979 had been published in English and French under the title "Population Dynamics: Fertility and Mortality in Africa" (ST/ECA/Ser.A/1).

333. The secretariat continued to receive and disseminate among member States population information from different sources. The Committee was informed that, in an effort to improve the population documentation service of the secretariat as recommended by Conference of Ministers resolution 366 (XIV), a submission had been sent to UNFPA for assistance. At the request of UNFPA, the project is currently being reformulated. In order to improve that service an appeal was made to member States to send population-related articles of a general nature for publication in the Newsletter.

334. The secretariat had provided advisory services on demographic data analysis and related activities to the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Lesotho, Mali, the Ivory Coast, Somalia, Malawi, Guinea, the Comoros, Rwanda and Djibouti. It had also assisted the Niger Basin Authority in preparing a project request for a population study which was integrated in the development plan of the Authority.

335. At the request of UNFPA, staff of the secretariat had participated in needs assessment missions to Malawi, Ethiopia, Zimbabwe, Sierra Leone and the Central African Republic.

336. It was anticipated that advisory service activities would expand considerably with the increasing availability of census data from the 1970s and 1980s round of censuses and the availability of three regional advisers. Their work within the region continued to be restricted by limited travel funds.

337. Staff of the secretariat had attended many conferences, expert group meetings and seminars and presented papers on population related subjects. The most important of them were: Training Workshop on Population projections, Budapest, Hungary, March 1980; UNFPA Inter-agency Consultative Committee Meeting, New York, May 1980; World Fertility Survey Conference, London, July 1980; Meetings of the United Nations

Working Group on Comparative Analysis of World Fertility Survey Data, Geneva, 1980-1981; Inter-agency working Group on Demographic Estimates and Projections, November, 1980; the twenty-sixth session of the Population Commission, New York, January-February 1981, and the Consultative Meeting on the International Population Network, (POPIN), Geneva, June 1981.

338. The secretariat reported that the new statutes for the two regional institutes which had been approved at the sixth meeting of the Conference of Ministers (1980) and forwarded to the General Assembly through the Economic and Social Council were referred back to the Council of Ministers for amendments. The secretariat had made the proposed amendments and the revised versions were being forwarded to the Conference of African Ministers for onward transmission to the General Assembly through the Economic and Social Council.

339. The Committee was informed that the secretariat collaborated with United Nations organizations and other organizations in implementing projects. Collaboration with United Nations Headquarters had been extensive particularly in the areas of population projections and WFS comparative analysis. The secretariat had also collaborated with ILO in organizing national seminars and with WHO in planning a workshop in Population Health and Development Planning, scheduled for Tunis 1983.

400. The secretariat has also collaborated with WFS, the Maghreb Population Association, the Inter Parliamentary Union, etc.

401. The secretariat presented a programme of work for the period 1982-1983 with projections for 1984-1985 and emphasized that the programmes would be implemented if the necessary resources were forthcoming. Under the programme the secretariat planned considerable expansion in documentation, advisory services and research on population dynamics in countries of the region. In all, nine studies were envisaged in subprogramme 9.481.00 (relevant aspects of population policies and programmes within the framework of economic and social development); 15 in subprogramme 9.482.00 (population dynamics and economic and social development) and two in subprogramme 9.483.00 (regional training and research).

402. These projects would aim at creating greater awareness of short and long-term effects of observed population trends in the region, the development of research methodologies on population dynamics suitable for African conditions and assisting African Governments in training suitable staff for population-related work.

403. During discussions on the report on population activities in 1980-1981, the Committee was informed by the United Nations Department of Technical Co-operation for Development (DTCD) about its collaboration with ECA in providing advisory services to ECA member States in the analysis of census data. The Committee was also informed of DTCD's current efforts to acquire and adopt computer software for census analysis and of its programme of providing short-term training in this field to national experts.

404. The Committee emphasized the need for the secretariat to move away from the ideological bias of viewing rapid population growth as a negative factor in development. The Committee was also concerned about the quality of data used in some of the completed studies and expressed the wish to see more work on the quality of data.

405. A discussion on breastfeeding emphasized the need for Governments to study the problems related to artificial infant formulae in differing socio-economic situations before evolving programmes aimed at encouraging breastfeeding and discouraging artificial milk feeds for infants.

406. The Committee noted that no work had been done on interrelationships between population and agriculture and requested the secretariat to undertake studies in that area which were relevant to the rural population which constituted about four fifths of the total population of Africa.

407. The Committee examined the work programme of the secretariat for the period 1982-1983 with projections for 1984-1985 and emphasized the need to "Africanize" of the methodology of research work. In that regard, several participants requested that the secretariat should undertake studies in areas of interest to African development planning and experiment on methodologies suitable for African conditions.

408. In considering the work programme on training, participants requested the secretariat to undertake training workshops in demographic analysis which would help to develop national capabilities.

409. In approving the work programme, the Committee requested the inclusion of two projects in the work programme for 1982-1983. They were: (a) The evolution of population theories and policies in the African region, and (b) African experiences in integrating population variables in economic and social development planning. It also emphasized the need to streamline the subject matter of proposed studies in a priority order that took due cognisance of the interest of African countries and limited resources available in the secretariat.

410. Finally, the Committee expressed the wish to see more work on the development and analysis of vital registration data in African countries.

411. In presenting the document (ST/ECA/PSD.2/2/Add.1) on budgetary implications of the curtailment of UNFPA support to ECA Population Division infrastructure posts, the secretariat informed the Committee that the ECA work programme in population called for increased staff. Up to 1976, the responsibility of funding the Division had been largely borne by UNFPA. Since then, UNFPA's financial support of the Division had been decreasing. Recently, the Governing Council of UNFPA had decided that, with effect from 31 December 1983, UNFPA would stop funding the post of the Director of the Population Division. It would also phase out the funding of the other infrastructure posts during the 1984-1985 biennium.

412. In the resulting discussion, the Committee expressed great concern about the decision by UNFPA and accordingly submitted a draft resolution through the ECA Conference of Ministers urging the General Assembly to provide the infrastructure posts needed to enable the ECA secretariat to implement the population work programme in the African region.

413. Specifically, the Committee requested explanations for:

(a) The non-inclusion in the document under reference of an analysis of the implications of curtailment of funds by UNFPA for country projects since the case presented in the document appeared internal to the ECA secretariat;

(b) The action taken by UNFPA; and

(c) The status of United Nations experts in relation to country projects.

414. In its reply, the secretariat first made a distinction between country projects on the one hand and regional projects on the other and stressed that the document was addressed specifically to the effects of UNFPA's curtailment of funds on the regional projects. The secretariat further stressed that the focus on the regional projects was aimed at highlighting the possible consequences if no steps were taken to provide adequate staff for implementing the ECA secretariat's work programme in the field of population. Regarding the status of United Nations experts in country projects, the secretariat requested the country representatives in the Committee to raise the issue during the meeting of the Joint Committee on Statistics and Demography.

415. The UNFPA representative explained that the decision by UNFPA's Governing Council to discontinue funding infrastructure posts in the ECA Population Division was in line with the need to encourage the regional commissions to absorb infrastructure posts into their regular budget. Commenting specifically on the document presented by the secretariat, he observed that UNFPA was currently funding 71 per cent of the posts in the Population Division of the ECA secretariat as against 30 per cent of the 27 posts in ESCAP and 25 per cent of the 16 posts in ECWA. He stressed that ECLA had indeed absorbed all the posts in its Population Division. According to him the comparison noted in paragraph 11 of the document under reference appeared to overstate the problem. Finally, he drew the attention of the Committee to the fact that the UNFPA Executive Director was scheduled to hold a consultative meeting with the executive secretaries of the regional commissions later in 1982. The Executive Director also intended to point out to the next meeting of the UNFPA Governing Council scheduled for June 1982, the adverse effects of the decision by UNFPA to cut funding of population activities in the regions. He hoped that some agreement would be reached between UNFPA and regional commissions so that existing work programmes were not adversely affected.

5. Joint meeting of the Statistics and Demography Committees

Demography and related statistics: progress report on the 1980 censuses, demographic surveys and civil registration (item 25)

416. The background papers for the item were: (the report on censuses, demographic surveys and civil registration (ST/ECA/PSD.2/28), the report of the Working Group on Civil Registration Systems and Vital Statistics Collection in Africa (ST/ECA/PSD.2/29) and Statistical Information Bulletin for Africa, No. 14, which contained papers prepared for a proposed Working Group on Coverage and Content Error Evaluation in African Censuses and Surveys. The working group had been postponed indefinitely because of UNFPA's financial crisis and it was therefore considered appropriate to present the prepared papers in the Statistical Information Bulletin.

417. In introducing the three documents, the secretariat highlighted problems encountered in the implementation of national population plans in the region. The problems included lack of adequate financial resources, defects in general organization, delays in cartographic preparations and bottlenecks in data processing.

418. The secretariat also stressed that the position with respect to data evaluation, analysis and utilisation had improved somewhat, although there was need for more progress in that area.

419. The recommendations on civil registration systems and vital statistics collection outlined in paragraph 118 of document ST/ECA/PSD.2/29 were stressed and African countries were urged, in view of the current financial climate, to apply the spirit of self-reliance in trying to implement those parts of the suggested work programmes which affected them.

420. A representative of UNFPA outlined the policy of the Fund in the field of external assistance. He gave a short history of the Fund and explained that the decade ending in 1980 had been the golden years of his organization. More than \$US 100 million had been spent in African countries on more than 500 projects. Data collection, analysis and dissemination projects accounted for about 60 per cent of the funding assistance given. However, he stressed that the Fund operated on voluntary contributions only. Thus when in 1981 many of its donors started having severe financial problems, UNFPA had begun to experience a crisis. It was suddenly discovered that the Fund had commitments far in excess of its actual resources since a number of donors which had promised to increase their contributions could not do so owing to the recession, the appreciation of the dollar on the international money markets had had an adverse effect on the resources made available to the Fund by donors and finally the effects of inflation had reduced the magnitude of its assistance in real terms.

421. Thus the Fund had to undertake an agonising re-appraisal of its commitments. The actions taken included eliminating projects which had proved unsatisfactory in the past, rephrasing of budgets and delaying the start of new project. That position had been communicated to countries through the normal channels (i.e., the UNDP Resident Representative).

422. He also indicated that UNFPA's Governing Council had issued new guidelines in 1981. They covered the preparation of a new work plan to take account of a 10 per cent inflation rate, revising its priorities with family health, population education, data collection, population dynamics and elaboration and assessment of population policies being the new order of priorities, and finally the reduction of UNFPA's support to multinational activities so that they did not exceed 20 per cent of resources.

423. He concluded by indicating that in the years ahead the proportion of aid available to Africa from his organization would be increased.

424. Most of the discussion which followed focused on the UNFPA statement. The issues raised ranged from Africa's share of the aid programme to the reasons why UNFPA did not attempt to meet its existing commitments before accepting new ones. The UNFPA representative explained that all regions of the world had been equally affected by UNFPA's cutbacks.

425. The Joint Committee criticised UNFPA not only for its inability to meet its previous commitments but also for the failure of the Fund to inform member States of the situation in time for them to consider other options. Frank statements on the funding situation would have done a lot to dispel the credibility gap which now existed with respect to UNFPA's aid programme. In that connection one participant expressed his disappointment with UNFPA over its failure to fulfil the financial commitments it had made to his country's population census project and further condemned UNFPA's failure to communicate its inability to provide the promised assistance. Several others agreed with the main points, namely failure to meet commitments and failure to inform the countries of such difficulties.

426. It was stressed that timely information on UNFPA's problems about meeting its existing obligations would have prevented the present unfortunate position with respect to project implementation after national budgets had already been approved. In any case in any modifications of the country aid programme, the countries concerned should have been consulted to enable them to indicate their priorities.

427. In response to individual country comments, the UNFPA representative explained that the cuts had had to be undertaken rather suddenly and that accounted for countries being taken by surprise. Recent indications were that UNFPA could in 1982 increase its allocation to African countries over the minimum amounts already allotted. Some of the problems raised by the countries had already been settled.

428. The WFS representative outlined the progress of WFS in Africa and gave information on plans for in-depth and cross-national analysis in the region. He explained that 13 African countries had participated in the WFS, six funded by UNFPA, five by USAID and two by the United Kingdom. He described the general characteristics of the surveys in the 13 countries, including the type of modules which had been attached to the core questionnaire.

429. In addition, he described some of the workshops which had been convened for the evaluation of survey data. So far Kenya, Lesotho and Senegal had participated in such workshops. Further workshops were planned to take place in the near future.

430. The secretariat supplemented the information provided by the WFS representative and indicated that the ECA Population Division, as part of the programme agreed upon by the Working Group on Comparative Analysis of WFS, had started work on the data from Kenya and Lesotho in respect of the following five research topics:

- (a) Relation between fertility, literacy and educational levels of parents;
- (b) Rural-urban fertility differences;
- (c) Marital status, composition and fertility;
- (d) Age at first marital union and fertility; and
- (e) Standardisation of the impact of education, ethnicity and marital duration on mean parity.

The results of these studies would be published by the end of 1982 as background material for the Expert Group on Fertility and the Family prior to the 1984 World Population Conference.

431. With respect to in-depth and comparative analysis, African demographic research institutions were urged to take the lead role as far as data from African surveys were concerned and to work in groups rather than individually.

432. Further discussion covered the content of the census questionnaire, acceptance of census results and corrections to country information contained in document ST/ECA/PSD.2/28. The Joint Committee reaffirmed the recommendation of the Working Group on African Recommendations for the 1980 Round of Population and Housing Censuses convened in July 1978 relating to the inclusion of demographic, social and economic questions in the list of topics to be investigated in such operations.

433. The Joint Committee stressed that non-acceptance of census results was due mainly to the use of census results for non-statistical purposes. The United Nations recommendation on that question mentioned in paragraph 22 of document ST/ECA/PSD.2/28 was stressed again by the secretariat.

434. Participants also updated and corrected information contained in annexes II and IV of document ST/ECA/PSD.2/28.

435. The Joint Committee also approved the Report of the Working Group on Civil Registration Systems and Vital Statistics Collection in Africa.

436. The observer from the USSR gave a brief report on the last census of his country conducted in 1979 and indicated that a brief report of Soviet experience in that field was available in a publication in English only which had been circulated to participants.

437. Finally, the secretariat stressed the need for participants from countries represented on the UNDP and UNFPA Governing Councils (namely Gabon, Guinea, Liberia, Malawi, Mali, Nigeria, Rwanda, Uganda and Zambia) to use their influence through official channels to get their representatives to put the African case for assistance in data collection and analysis at the next meeting of the Councils. A resolution on the matter was to be introduced at the resumed plenary meeting of the Joint Conference.

6: Resumed Plenary Session

Review of committee deliberations and summary of main conclusions
(item 26)

438. The chairmen of the planning, statistics, demography and joint statistics and Demography committees presented verbal reports on the work of their committees and highlighted the main conclusions and recommendations. The Joint Conference, after comments and amendments, approved the reports of the committees for inclusion as part of the report of the second session of the Joint Conference of African Planners, Statisticians and Demographers.

439. After the draft report of the Demography Committee was presented, several participants requested further explanations on the amended statutes of the United Nations regional institutes for population studies (IFORD, Yaounde, and RIPS, Accra) and the draft resolution recommending that the General Assembly should approve the statutes at its thirty-seventh session.

440. The secretariat explained that the new version of the statutes, which had been submitted to the Demography Committee for information, had been amended in accordance with comments received from the United Nations Offices for Legal Affairs, Personnel Services and Financial Services. The amendments effected involved altering some articles related to the administrative and financial management of the institutes in accordance with United Nations rules and procedures. The amendments had been requested by the General Assembly which had also directed that the amended versions be submitted to the Conference of Ministers for transmission to the General Assembly.

441. The representative of the United Republic of Cameroon informed the Conference of conclusions and recommendations of the Meeting of Plenipotentiaries of the countries served by IFORD on the regionalisation of the Institute, which had taken place in July 1981 in Yaounde. He recalled that the Eastern and North Africa subregions, which were not sufficiently represented at the Yaounde Meeting, should take the necessary steps to nominate their representatives to the Governing Council of IFORD the first session of which, essentially devoted to budgetary questions, would be held during the ECA Conference of Ministers in April 1982 in Tripoli. He also recalled that the ECA Executive Secretary had been requested by the Meeting of Plenipotentiaries to follow up the question. It was hoped that the Executive Secretary would complete that mission successfully so that the Institute could function without problems after 30 June 1982, on which date the United Republic of Cameroon would cease to finance alone the operating costs of the Institute. He finally requested the secretariat to circulate the conclusions and recommendations of the Plenipotentiaries Meeting on IFORD to participate to enable them to brief the competent authorities further on the question of regionalisation.

Provisional agenda for the third session of the Joint Conference
(agenda item 28)

442. The Conference adopted the following provisional agenda for its next session:

Plenary meeting

1. Opening address
2. Election of officers
3. Adoption of the agenda
4. Matters arising from previous United Nations and ECA meetings
5. Technical assistance in planning, statistics and demography
6. The role of demographic variables in the formulation of development policies and plans
7. The African Household Survey Capability Programme: Progress report and selected issues
8. Report of the Working Group on Socio-Economic Indicators
9. Report on the development of ECA's statistical data base
10. Planning, organization and manpower
11. An overview of the training of specialists:
 - (a) Planners
 - (b) Statisticians
 - (c) Demographers
12. Selected methodological and statistical studies:
 - (a) Productivity, structure and development of manufacturing in Africa
 - (b) An analysis of the available national accounts statistical data of African countries
 - (c) Public debt of African countries
13. Development of environment statistics - selected issues and problems and suggested national work programmes
14. 1983 World Programme Industrial Statistics: Progress report

Planning committee

15. Election of officers
16. Review of the implementation of the Lagos Plan of Action including a critical analysis of current national development plans
17. Study of foreign exchange leakages in African countries
18. Study on the co-ordination of development activities between the public and private sectors in African countries
19. Review of progress in the implementation of outlook systems in the African region
20. Report on the extension of the study on tariff protection to subregional economic communities
21. Institute of Economic Development and Planning
22. Report on ECA planning activities 1982-1983 and examination of work programme (1984-1986, with projections to 1989)
23. Adoption of the report

Statistics committee

24. Election of officers
25. The Statistical Training Programme for Africa: selected issues and problems and future plan of action

26. General review of work in economic statistics including a progress report on the implementation of the revised SNA
27. Review of national data processing capabilities
28. Report on other statistical activities (1982-1983) and examination of future work programme (1984-1986, with projections up to 1989)
29. Association of African Statisticians
30. Adoption of the report

Demography committee

31. Election of officers
32. Population activities during the period 1982-1984 :
 - (a) Research and studies in the ECA secretariat
 - (b) Training and research in the ECA regional institutes
 - (c) Regional advisory services
 - (d) Information and clearing house
33. Programme of work in population (1984-1986, with projections up to 1989)
34. Adoption of report

Planning and Statistics (Joint committee meeting)

35. Study on the role of small-scale business enterprises in the development of African countries

Statistics and Demography (Joint committee meeting)

36. Demographic data collection and analysis in the African region:
 - (a) A report on activities
 - (b) An appraisal of the quality of data
37. Selected concepts, definitions and classifications relevant to the study of fertility, mortality and migration

Planning and Demography (Joint committee meeting)

38. The evolution of population theories and policies in development planning

Resumed plenary meeting

39. Other business
40. Consideration of the draft provisional agenda for the fourth session of the Joint Conference
41. Review of committee deliberations and summary of main conclusions
42. Report of the Joint Conference to the ECA Conference of Ministers

Report of the Conference to the ECA Conference of Ministers (item 29)

443. On March 17, 1982 the Conference unanimously adopted the present report to the ECA Conference of Ministers on the work of its second session together with the resolutions contained in section D below.

I. DRAFT RESOLUTION FOR SUBMISSION THROUGH THE CONFERENCE
OF MINISTERS TO THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

New statutes of the Regional Institute for Population Studies, Accra, and the
"Institut de formation et de recherche démographiques", Yaounde

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling resolution 367(XIV) of the Conference of Ministers of the Economic Commission for Africa of 27 March 1979 which requested the Executive Secretary of that Commission to initiate action to make the Regional Institute for Population Studies at Accra and the Institut de formation et de recherche démographiques at Yaounde fully regional in character,

Further recalling resolution 393 (XV) of the Conference of Ministers of the Economic Commission for Africa of 12 April 1980 which endorsed the new statutes of the two institutes and recommended that the statutes should be submitted through the Economic and Social Council for approval by the General Assembly,

Recalling resolution 426(XVI) of 10 April 1981 on the full regionalization of the regional training institutes for population studies in Africa which submitted the new statutes to the General Assembly through the Economic and Social Council,

Noting with satisfaction the action taken by the Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa and the Governments of the host countries of the two institutes to bring about their regionalization, notably through the organization of sensitization missions within the countries served by each of the two institutes on the regionalization and activities of the institutes,

Having approved the revised new statutes in the light of the institutes', status as subsidiary bodies of the Commission.

Conscious of the urgent need to bring about the regionalization of the two institute

1. Requests the Secretary-General to ensure that the new statutes as amended and annexed to the present resolution are resubmitted to the General Assembly at its thirty-seventh session;

2. Recommends that the General Assembly should approve the two statutes at its thirty-seventh session;

3. Requests the Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa, in collaboration with the Governments of the host countries of the institutes, to submit a progress report to the Conference of Ministers of the Economic Commission for Africa at its next meeting.

II. DRAFT RESOLUTIONS FOR ADOPTION BY THE ECA CONFERENCE OF MINISTERS

African Household Survey Capability Programme

The Conference of Ministers,

Taking note of the report of the second session of the Joint Conference of African Planners, Statisticians and Demographers 1/ and realising the importance of a national household survey capability in order to generate continuing data to plan socio-economic development and to assess the impact of such development on the quality of life of the population,

Recalling resolution ECO(XVIII)/Res.9 of 4 May 1978 which, inter alia, endorsed the regional component of the African Household Survey Capability Programme and urged the United Nations Development Programme, the World Bank, African Development Bank and other multilateral and bilateral donor agencies to mobilise resources in support of statistical training and household surveys in the African region,

Recalling also Economic and Social Council resolution 2055 (LXII) of 5 May 1977 which drew the attention of developing countries to the possibility of using additional United National Development Programme funds to support the establishment or upgrading of national household survey capabilities as an important component of developmental infrastructures and requested the Secretary-General and the United Nations Development Programme in co-operation with the World Bank and in consultation with other multilateral and bilateral donor agencies to consider the modalities for carrying out this development activity.

Recalling further Economic and Social Council resolution 1979/5 of 9 May 1979 which strongly urged the developing countries to take maximum advantage of the Programme and to prepare long-term plans for survey data collection in a variety of areas in the context of their national and statistical development plans,

Realising that the statistical information required for formulating, implementing and monitoring socio-economic plans in general, and, in particular, the Lagos Plan of Action 2/ will be generated largely as an output of national household survey programmes,

Bearing in mind the substantial assistance African countries have received from the staff of the regional component of the African Household Survey Capability Programme based at the headquarters of the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa in the fields of project formulation, technical backstopping and standards implementation,

1/ E/ECA/CM.8/22

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

1. Reconfirms the importance it attaches to the African Household Survey Capability Programme which aims at building national household survey capabilities in African countries to enable them to collect, process and analyse on a continuing basis integrated demographic, social and economic data on households and household members;

2. Draws the attention of States members of the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa to the need to make adequate financial provision for their national household survey programmes;

3. Urges the African representatives on the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme to stress at the next Council meeting the importance that African countries attach to the National Household Survey Capability Programme and the need for the United Nations Development Programme, in co-operation with the World Bank and in consultation with multilateral and bilateral agencies, to mobilize resources for the implementation of country projects under this programme;

4. Requests the Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa to seek the necessary resources from the United Nations Development Programme and other multilateral and bilateral donor agencies for the continuation of the regional component of the programme beyond 1982.

Demographic data collection and analysis

The Conference of Ministers,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 2211(XXI) of 17 December 1966 which called upon the United Nations and the specialized agencies concerned to assist, when requested, in further developing and strengthening national and regional facilities for training, research, information and advisory services in the field of population,

Recalling also the Economic and Social Council resolution on Development of Activities in the Field of Population 1279(XLIII) of 4 August 1967, which urged all organizations within the United Nations system to make every effort with a view to developing and rendering more effective their programmes in the field of population, including training, research, information and advisory services,

Recalling the Economic and Social Council resolution 1672 (LII) of 2 June 1972 on population and development in which all States members of the United Nations were urged, inter alia, to take such steps as might be necessary to improve demographic statistics, research and planning machinery needed for development of population policies and programmes,

Recalling the Economic and Social Council resolution 1763(LIV) of 18 May 1973 in which the Council expressed the desire that the United Nations Fund for Population Activities, in the elaboration of its plans and programmes, should take into account the resolutions adopted by the regional economic commissions and their specialized organs and also requested that assistance to developing countries in dealing with their population problems should be afforded in forms and by means requested by recipient countries and best suited to meet individual country needs,

Recalling further paragraphs 72 to 77 of the World Population Plan of Action^{3/} in which all countries which had not yet done so were urged to establish a long-term plan and appropriate services including a continuing household surveys capability for regular collection, analysis and dissemination of statistical data on demographic and interrelated socio-economic variables,

Further recalling the Lagos Plan of Action^{4/} for the accelerated development of Africa and noting the need for reliable socio-economic and demographic data for its implementation,

Noting that in 1977 the United Nations Administrative Committee on Co-ordination^{5/} defined eight major groups in its standard classification of population activities, two of which were basic data collection (censuses, surveys, registration systems, other systems) and population dynamics (analysis of demographic data, determinants of fertility, determinants of mortality, determinants of migration, determinants of other population trends, consequences of population trends, interaction of demographic and socio-economic variables, including modelling),

^{3/} E/CONF.60/19.

^{4/} Op. cit.

^{5/} See, for example, Rafael Salas, International Population Assistance: The First Decade, Pergamon Press 1979, p.2.

Nothing also that the reports of the various missions sponsored by the United Nations Fund for Population Activities to Africa in connexion with Population Needs Assessment reflect the high priority accorded to basic data collection and population dynamics by African Governments,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 32/197 of 20 December 1977 on restructuring of the economic and social sectors of the United Nations system which in section IV of its annex requested that the necessary authority should be delegated to regional commissions and adequate budgetary and financial provision should be made for their activities,

Recalling its resolutions 366(XIV) of 27 March 1979 and 400(XV) of 12 April 1980 on priority population programmes of the Commission in which it requested the Executive Secretary, inter alia, to assist member States in the African region to analyse data from censuses and surveys and also to intensify the Commission's activities in the field of population information, dissemination and documentation,

Taking note of the report of the second session of the Joint Conference of African Planners, Statisticians and Demographers^{6/} and, in particular, of the decreasing shares of assistance being made available by the United Nations Fund for Population Activities and other multilateral and bilateral donor agencies to States members of the Commission and to the Commission itself for demographic data collection, processing, evaluation, analysis and dissemination,

Realising that there is need for more detailed information on fertility, mortality and migration as well as on their socio-economic correlates as far as the African region is concerned,

Convinced that there should be continued efforts to improve the state of knowledge about the African population,

Notes with great concern recent decision of the United Nations Fund for Population Activities to scale down dramatically its contribution to country and regional population programmes in Africa,

1. Expresses concern about the continuous reduction of resources available to the Commission for implementing the regions's approved population programme;
2. Draws the attention of all States members of the Commission to the importance and relevance of demographic data for planning, policy formulation, research and administration and the need for priority to be accorded to the collection, analysis and dissemination of demographic data;
3. Draws the attention of the United Nations Fund for Population Activities to the priority which African nations accord to demographic data collection and analysis within their over-all population programmes;

4. Requests the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the Executive Director of the United Nations Fund for Population Activities to take note of the Ministers' concern about tcurrent reduction in resources for the regional population programme;
5. Appeals to the General Assembly to allocate the necessary infrastructure posts to the Economic Commission for Africa to enable it to meet its increased responsibilities in the field of population;
6. Urges the African representatives on the Governing Council of the United Nations Fund for Population Activities to bring to the attention of the Council the concern of African countries about the decrease in the proportion of funds made available for data collection and analysis;
7. Appeals to States Members of the United Nations to give generous support to the United Nations Fund for Population Activities to enable the Fund to increase its assistance to countries in the African region in the areas of basic data collection, analysis and research in population dynamics;
8. Requests the Executive Secretary of the Commission in co-operation with the Fund and in consultation with other multilateral and bilateral donor agencies to consider as soon as possible means by which the recent improvement in the state of demographic knowledge can be sustained and continued.

African Institute for Economic Development and Planning

The Conference of Ministers,

Recalling its resolutions 285(XII) of 28 February 1975 and 399(XV) of 12 April 1980 on the African Institute for Economic Development and Planning

Taking note of the achievements of the Institute in its third phase of operations and its drive to develop an appropriate approach to the problems of African planning and development strategies through its training, research and advisory services as indicated in the Institute's five-year 7/ plan (1982-1986),

Convinced that the Institute should continue to play an even more important role in the planned development of Africa in the years to come and particularly in the implementation of the Lagos Plan of Action,

Conscious that there is a need for the United Nations Development Programme and African Governments to continue to contribute to the financing of the Institute during its coming five-year cycle,

Recognising that:

(a) The growing needs of the Institute and the effects of inflation require additional financial resources, while the established African Governments' contributions remain unchanged since 1975;

(b) Some African countries have gained independence since 1975 and should be added to the list of contributors to the Institute's finance,

1. Proposes to apply the indexation formulae agreed upon by States members of the Commission to African countries GNP in 1980, which would lead to an increase in their total contribution to the Institute from its current level of \$1 million to \$1.6 million per annum;

2. Supports its resolution 399(XV) adopted at the sixth meeting appealing to the member States concerned to pay all their outstanding assessed contributions to the Institute;

3. Invites African Governments in position to do so to make voluntary contributions to the Institute whenever possible;

4. Urges the United Nations Development Programme to continue its financial support to the Institute during the coming phase at least at the minimal current level of \$US1.3 million annually;

5. Asks the Director of the Institute to intensify his fund-raising activities from all sources including extrabudgetary savings in the form of external technical assistance programmes;

6. Recommends that the statutes of IOEP and especially article 4 thereof relating to the election of the members of the Governing Council and the replacement of members of the Council before the expiration of their term of service should be amended to read:

"In the case where a member of the Governing Council cannot continue his term of service, the President of the Governing Council will request the member's Government to nominate a replacement."

The Conference of Ministers,

Recalling its resolutions 250(XI) of 22 February 1973, 285(XII) of 28 February 1975, 320(XXII) of 1 March 1977, 350(XIV) of 27 March 1979 and on the Institute for Economic Development and Planning,

Noting that:

(a) At the meeting of the resident representatives of the United Nations Development Programme of the African Region held at Mbabane, Swaziland, in January 1980, it was recommended that in order to facilitate training at the Institute, the Governments could work together with the resident representatives to integrate fellowships for study at the Institute in national programmes financed by the national indicative planning figures of the Programme,

(b) At its twenty-first meeting held in Addis Ababa from 21 to 23 March 1980, the Governing Council of the Institute, taking note of the recommendation of the meeting of the resident representatives of the African Region, requested the Joint Conference of African Planners, Statisticians and Demographers, to prepare a resolution for submission to the Conference of Ministers urging the States Members of the Commission to integrate within their national indicative planning figures the financing of fellowships for their nationals to study at the Institute,

Requests

(a) Member States to envisage awarding scholarships for study at the Institute financed out of their national indicative planning figures,

(b) Member States to utilize the Institute's training capacity by insisting on the fact that projects for manpower training requirements must if possible be undertaken at the Institute,

(c) Member States to make use of the Institute's advisory services as possible substitute for external consultants,

(d) The Director to elaborate a medium-term plan for the mobilisation of external resources for the financing of fellowships for training at the Institute which will be submitted for approval by the Government Council of the Institute.

ANNEX I

Statutes of the "Institut de formation et de recherche
demographiques"

ARTICLE I

Establishment and Objectives

1. The "Institut de formation et de recherche demographiques" (hereinafter referred to as the "Institute") established in Yaounde pursuant to the agreement signed on 9 November 1971 between the United Nations and the Government of the United Republic of Cameroon shall with the agreement of that Government be continued in existence under the terms of the present Statutes, which supersede those set out in the bilateral agreements.
2. The primary purposes of the Institute shall be the training of persons, particularly those from the countries listed in the appendix to these Statutes, specializing in population studies, and the conduct and publication of the results of research in population and related fields in relation to such countries.
3. To accomplish the purposes specified in the preceding paragraph, the Institute shall:
 - (a) Provide training courses on population and related fields;
 - (b) Organize and undertake research on all aspects of population and related fields both at its headquarters and in the countries served by the Institute;
 - (c) Organize in co-operation with appropriate national services and specialized agencies concerned in other African countries workshops, seminars and meetings on national, subregional and regional population problems;
 - (d) Provide at the request of the Governments of the countries set out in appendix to these Statutes such advisory services as may be within its competence and resources;
 - (e) Grant degrees, diplomas, certificates or other awards to persons in respect of courses of study provided by the Institute, and subject to the approval of the Governing Council, establish for this purpose such relationships with national universities, the United Nations University, UNITAR, or similar Institutions as may be appropriate; and,

(f) Provide documentation in the various fields of population with respect to Africa to research workers and to national, subregional and regional organizations.

ARTICLE II

Headquarters of the Institute

1. The headquarters of the Institute shall be in Yaounde in the United Republic of Cameroon.
2. The Government of the United Republic of Cameroon shall, in an agreement to be entered into between the Government and United Nations, provide such adequate premises, facilities and services and grant privileges and immunities as may be required for the effective operation of the Institute.

ARTICLE III

Status and organization of the Institute

1. The Institute shall be a subsidiary body of the Economic Commission for Africa;
2. The Institute shall have its own Governing Council;
3. In addition, there shall be an Advisory Board on Studies and Research, a Director and other staff of the Institute;
4. The Institute shall, except as may be otherwise provided by the General Assembly, be subject to the Financial Regulations and Rules and the Staff Regulations and Rules of the United Nations and to other applicable administrative issuances of the Secretary-General.

ARTICLE IV

The Governing Council

Composition, functions and meetings

1. The Governing Council shall be composed as follows:

(a) The Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa (hereinafter referred to as "the Executive Secretary"), who shall ex officio be Chairman of the Governing Council;

(b) A representative of the Government of the United Republic of Cameroon;

(c) A representative of each of twelve of the countries listed in the appendix to these Statutes selected, in accordance with paragraphs 3 and 4 of this article by the Conference of Ministers of the Economic Commission for Africa (hereinafter referred to as "the Conference");

(d) A representative of the United Nations Fund for Population Activities.

2. The Director of the Institute shall act as Secretary of the Governing Council and shall publish the acts of the Governing Council.

3. In selecting the twelve countries referred to in sub-paragraph (c) of paragraph 1 of this article, the Conference shall have regard to the necessity of maintaining a fair geographical distribution among the countries listed in the appendix to these Statutes.

4. The twelve countries referred to in sub-paragraph (c) of paragraph 1 of this article shall be selected for a period of four years and may be eligible for re-election, provided, however, that at the first selection six of the countries shall be selected for a period of only two years.

5. The country referred to in sub-paragraph (b) as well as the twelve countries referred to in sub-paragraph (c) of paragraph 1 of this article, shall each designate a representative who is competent and experienced in the activities of the Institute.

6. The Governing Council shall:

(a) Prescribe the general principles and policies governing the operations of the Institute;

(b) Give directives of a general nature as to the implementation of the principles and policies governing the operations of the Institute;

(c) Prescribe conditions for the admission of persons to undergo courses of study provided by the Institute and for the award of diplomas or certificates or other awards granted by the Institute;

(d) Prescribe regulations governing the conduct of persons undergoing courses of study at the Institute;

(e) Examine and approve the work programme of the Institute and the budgets corresponding thereto;

(f) Review and approve the annual progress report of the Director of the Institute on its activities;

(g) Review the financial report and accounts of the Institute for the preceding year and make recommendations on future financing;

(h) Present, through its Chairman, annual reports to the Conference on the work of the Institute;

(i) Specify the staffing of the Institute, in addition to the post of Director of the Institute.

7. The Governing Council may delegate to a national university or similar institution with which it has established a relationship under subparagraph (e) of paragraph 3 of Article I of these Statutes, to the Director of the Institute or to the Advisory Board on Studies and Research any of its functions under subparagraph (c) or (d) of paragraph 6 of this article.

8. The Governing Council shall meet in ordinary session once a year and may hold extraordinary sessions at the request of its chairman or of one third of its members.

9. Subject to the provisions of these Statutes, the Governing Council shall adopt its own rules or procedure.

ARTICLE V

The Chairman of the Governing Council

1. The Chairman of the Governing Council shall:

(a) Cause to be prepared the draft agenda of the meetings of the Governing Council;

(b) Convene and preside over the meetings of the Governing Council;

(c) With the approval of the Governing Council, solicit for the institute financial and other resources from the specialized agencies of the United Nations of intergovernmental organizations, non-governmental organizations and other sources in accordance with such directives as the Secretary General may from time to time give.

2. The Chairman of the Governing Council may delegate his functions under subparagraph (c) of paragraph 1 of this article to the Director of the Institute.

ARTICLE VI

Appointment of staff of the Institute

1. The Secretary-General shall appoint:

(a) The Director of the Institute upon the recommendation of the Governing Council;

(b) Other professional staff members of the Institute after consultations with the Executive Secretary and the Director.

2. The Executive Secretary shall keep the Governing Council informed of all appointments made under this article.

ARTICLE VII

The Director

1. The Director of the Institute shall be appointed, as provided for in these Statutes, for a period of two years subject to renewal for succeeding periods of two years each.

2. The Director of the Institute shall act as the legal representative of the Institute.

3. Subject to such directions of a general nature that the Governing Council may give, the Director of the Institute shall have responsibility for the planning, organization and direction of training, research, advisory services and other activities of the Institute. He shall in particular:

(a) Be responsible for the organization and administration of the Institute;

(b) Submit for the approval of the Governing Council the work programmes and corresponding budgets of the Institute;

(c) Be responsible for carrying out of the activities of the Institute in accordance with the approved work programmes and corresponding budgets;

(d) Submit for the approval of the Governing Council annual reports on the activities and financial situation and the accounts of the Institute, including the particulars of existing vacancies in the professional posts of the Institute for dissemination with the countries listed in the appendix to these Statutes;

(e) Transmit to the Executive Secretary the names of all applicants for appointment to professional posts in the Institute;

(f) Subject to such directives as the Executive Secretary may give, select and appoint persons to the General Service posts of the Institute;

(g) Conclude arrangements with national and international organizations necessary for the use by such organizations of the services and facilities provided by the Institute, it being understood that in the case of national organizations no arrangements shall be made without the approval of the Governments concerned;

(h) Establish and maintain such contacts with Governments, with other organs of the United Nations, with its specialized agencies and with other organizations as may be necessary or desirable for the achievement of the objectives of the Institute;

(i) Undertake other assignments or activities as may be determined by the Governing Council.

ARTICLE VIII

Advisory Board on Studies and Research

1. The Advisory Board on Studies and Research (hereinafter referred to as "the Board"), shall be composed of:

(a) Six persons, who are citizens of the countries listed in the appendix to these Statutes and who may be either university teachers or experts engaged in work in the field of population or related studies, and who are appointed by the Executive Secretary with due regard to the maintenance of a fair distribution of appointments among the countries listed in the appendix to these Statutes;

(b) Two senior lecturers of the Institute elected by its academic staff from time to time;

(c) A representative of the University or Institution with which the Institute will establish relationship for the award to degree, certificates and other awards provided for in the sub-paragraph (e) of paragraph 3 of article I of these Statutes;

(d) The Director of the Institute;

(e) A representative of the secretariat of the Economic Commission for Africa;

(f) The Director of the Population Division of the United Nations;

(g) A representative of one of the United Nations agencies actively engaged in giving assistance to the Institute as may be designated by the Executive Secretary;

(h) A representative of the International Union for the Scientific Study of Population;

(i) A representative of one of the governmental or non-governmental organizations working in the field of population in one or more of the countries listed in the appendix to these Statutes as may be designated by the Executive Secretary;

(j) A representative of the Ministry responsible for demographic questions of the Government of the United Republic of Cameroon;

(k) The President of the Association of former students of the Institute;

(l) A representative of the student body of the Institute elected for that purpose by the student body of the Institute.

2. The members of the Board appointed, or designated by the Executive Secretary or elected by the academic staff of the Institute shall be appointed, designated or elected as the case may be, to serve during two successive sessions of the Board and may be reappointed, redesignated or re-elected.

3. The member of the Board elected by the student body of the Institute shall be elected to serve during one session of the Board and may be re-elected.

4. The Board shall, at the beginning of each of its sessions, elect its Chairman from among those of its members specified in subparagraph (a) of paragraph 1 of this article.

5. The Director of the Institute shall provide secretarial services for the Board.

6. The Board shall have the following powers and duties:

(a) To propose for adoption by the Governing Council the activities to be undertaken by the Institute;

(b) To give advice to the Director of the Institute on the design of courses of study and research programmes of the Institute;

(c) To satisfy itself regarding the context and academic standard of any course of study in respect of a degree, diploma, certificate or other award of the Institute and examine any relationship entered into between the Institute with any university or similar institution in pursuance of the provisions of sub-paragraph (c) of paragraph 3 of article I of these Statutes and to report thereon at the Governing Council.

(d) To propose for adoption by the Governing Council conditions regarding the eligibility of persons for admission to courses of study for a degree, diploma, certificate or other award of the Institute and for obtaining any degree, diploma, certificate or other award of the Institute;

(e) To propose for adoption by the Governing Council the standard of proficiency to be attained in each examination for a degree, diploma, certificate or other award of the Institute;

(f) To propose for adoption by the Governing Council regulations governing the conduct of persons taking courses of study at the Institute;

(g) To initiate proposals relating to the conduct of the Institute generally, and to discuss any matter relating to the Institute and to report thereon to the Governing Council.

7. The Board may delegate to a national university or similar institution with which it has established a relationship under sub-paragraph (e) of paragraph 3 of article I of these Statutes or to the Director of the Institute any of its functions under sub-paragraphs (d), (e), or (f) of paragraph 6 of this article.

8. The Board shall be convened to meet at least once every two years, by its Chairman or by the Governing Council.

9. Subject to the provisions of this article, the Board shall determine its own rules or procedure including its quorum, the convening of ordinary or extraordinary sessions, and the conduct of business thereat and at other times.

ARTICLE IX

Assistance by the secretariat of the Economic Commission for Africa

The secretariat of the Economic Commission for Africa shall assist the Institute in every possible way in order to facilitate its work. In particular, the Commission shall, at the request of the Institute, make available to it qualified staff to give lectures, to assist in supervising research and to participate in its seminars.

ARTICLE X

Co-operation with organizations, etc.

The Institute shall establish such relationships with the Regional Institute for Population Studies in Accra, with other organs of the United Nations, with its specialized agencies, with other organizations and with Governments, universities or similar institutions and research organizations in the countries listed in the appendix to these Statutes, as may be necessary or desirable for the achievement of the objectives of the Institute.

ARTICLE XI

Financial resources and rules governing the financial management of the Institute

1. Finances for the Institute shall be derived from contributions made by the Governments of the countries listed in appendix to these Statutes as may be determined from time to time by the General Assembly and from contributions made by the United Nations Fund for Population Activities and such other sources as referred in Article V 1(c).
2. Further resources for the Institute in cash or in kind shall be derived from United Nations and its specialized agencies, other inter-governmental organizations, governments and non-governmental organizations and other sources. Soliciting, acceptance and management of offers of such resources shall, in every case, be in accordance with provisions of article V 1(c) of these Statutes. The Chairman of the Governing Council shall report on the matter to the Council at its next session.

ARTICLE XII

Amendments

These Statutes may be amended by the General Assembly on the recommendation of the Conference of African Planners, Statisticians and Demographers as accepted by the Conference of Ministers of the Economic Commission for Africa.

Appendix

Algeria, Benin, Burundi, Central African Republic, Chad, Comoros, Congo, Djibouti, Gabon, Guinea, Ivory Coast, Madagascar, Mali, Mauritius, Mauritania, Morocco, Niger, Rwanda, Senegal, Seychelles, Togo, Tunisia, United Republic of Cameroun, Upper Volta and Zaire.

ANNEX II

Statutes of the Regional Institute for Population Studies

ARTICLE I

Establishment and Objectives

1. The Regional Institute for Population Studies (hereinafter referred to as the "Institute") established in Accra pursuant to the agreement signed on 3 December 1971 between the United Nations and the Government of the Republic of Ghana, which was extended by the Agreement of 14 July 1977 between the same parties, shall with the agreement of that Government be continued in existence under the terms of the present Statutes, which supersede those set out in the bilateral agreements.
2. The primary purposes of the Institute shall be the training of persons, particularly those from the countries listed in the appendix to these Statutes, specializing in population studies, and the conduct and publication of the results of research in population and related fields in relation to such countries.
3. To accomplish the purposes specified in the preceding paragraph, the Institute shall:
 - (a) Provide training courses on population and related fields;
 - (b) Organize and undertake research on all aspects of population and related fields both at its headquarters and in the countries served by the Institute;
 - (c) Organize in co-operation with appropriate national services and specialized agencies concerned in other African countries workshops, seminars and meetings on national, subregional and regional population problems;
 - (d) Provide at the request of the Governments of the countries set out in appendix to these Statutes such advisory services as may be within its competence and resources;
 - (e) Grant degrees, diplomas, certificates or other awards to persons in respect of courses of study provided by the Institute, and subject to the approval of the Governing Council, establish for this purpose such relationships with national universities, the United Nations University, UNITAR, or similar Institutions as may be appropriate; and,
 - (f) Provide documentation in the various fields of population with respect to Africa to research workers and to national, subregional and regional organizations.

ARTICLE II

Headquarters of the Institute

1. The headquarters of the Institute shall be in Accra in the Republic of Ghana.
2. The Government of the Republic of Ghana shall, in an agreement to be entered into between the Government and United Nations, provide such adequate premises, facilities and services and grant privileges and immunities as may be required for the effective operation of the Institute.

ARTICLE III

Status and organization of the Institute

1. The Institute shall be a subsidiary body of the Economic Commission for Africa;
2. The Institute shall have its own Governing Council;
3. In addition, there shall be an Advisory Board on Studies and Research, a Director and other staff of the Institute;
4. The Institute shall, except as may be otherwise provided by the General Assembly, be subject to the Financial Regulations and Rules and the Staff Regulations and Rules of the United Nations and to other applicable administrative issuances of the Secretary-General.

ARTICLE IV

The Governing Council

Composition, functions and meetings

1. The Governing Council shall be composed as follows:
 - (a) The Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa (hereinafter referred to as "the Executive Secretary"), who shall ex officio be Chairman of the Governing Council;
 - (b) A representative of the Government of the Republic of Ghana;
 - (c) A representative of each of twelve of the countries listed in the appendix to these Statutes selected, in accordance with paragraphs 3 and 4 of this article by the Conference of Ministers of the Economic Commission for Africa (hereinafter referred to as "the Conference");

(d) A representative of the United Nations Fund for Population Activities.

2. The Director of the Institute shall act as Secretary of the Governing Council and shall publish the acts of the Governing Council.

3. In selecting the twelve countries referred to in sub-paragraph (c) of paragraph 1 of this article, the Conference shall have regard to the necessity of maintaining a fair geographical distribution among the countries listed in the appendix to these Statutes.

4. The twelve countries referred to in sub-paragraph (c) of paragraph 1 of this article shall be selected for a period of four years and may be eligible for re-election, provided, however, that at the first selection six of the countries shall be selected for a period of only two years.

5. The country referred to in sub-paragraph (b) as well as the twelve countries referred to in sub-paragraph (c) of paragraph 1 of this article, shall each designate a representative who is competent and experienced in the activities of the Institute.

6. The Governing Council shall:

(a) Prescribe the general principles and policies governing the operations of the Institute;

(b) Give directives of a general nature as to the implementation of the principles and policies governing the operations of the Institute;

(c) Prescribe conditions for the admission of persons to undergo courses of study provided by the Institute and for the award of diplomas or certificates or other awards granted by the Institutes;

(d) Prescribe regulations governing the conduct of persons undergoing courses of study at the Institute;

(e) Examine and approve the work programme of the Institute and the budgets corresponding thereto;

(f) Review and approve the annual progress report of the Director of the Institute on its activities;

(g) Review the financial report and accounts of the Institute for the preceding year and make recommendations on future financing;

(h) Present, through its Chairman, annual reports to the Conference on the work of the Institute;

(i) Specify the staffing of the Institute, in addition to the post of Director of the Institute.

7. The Governing Council may delegate to a national university or similar institution with which it has established a relationship under sub-paragraph (e) of paragraph 3 of Article I of these Statutes, to the Director of the Institute or to the Advisory Board on Studies and Research any of its functions under sub-paragraph (c) or (d) of paragraph 6 of this article.

8. The Governing Council shall meet in ordinary session once a year and may hold extraordinary sessions at the request of its chairman or of one third of its members.

9. Subject to the provisions of these Statutes, the Governing Council shall adopt its own rules or procedure.

ARTICLE V

The Chairman of the Governing Council

1. The Chairman of the Governing Council shall:

(a) Cause to be prepared the draft agenda of the meetings of the Governing Council;

(b) Convene and preside over the meetings of the Governing Council;

(c) With the approval of the Governing Council, solicit for the institute financial and other resources from the specialized agencies of the United Nations of intergovernmental organizations, non-governmental organizations and other sources in accordance with such directives as the Secretary General may from time to time give.

2. The Chairman of the Governing Council may delegate his functions under sub-paragraph (c) of paragraph 1 of this article to the Director of the Institute.

ARTICLE VI

Appointment of staff of the Institute

1. The Secretary-General shall appoint:

(a) The Director of the Institute upon the recommendation of the Governing Council;

(b) Other professional staff members of the Institute after consultations with the Executive Secretary and the Director.

2. The Executive Secretary shall keep the Governing Council informed of all appointments made under this article.

ARTICLE VII

The Director

1. The Director of the Institute shall be appointed, as provided for in these Statutes, for a period of two years subject to renewal for succeeding periods of two years each.

2. The Director of the Institute shall act as the legal representative of the Institute.

3. Subject to such directions of a general nature that the Governing Council may give, the Director of the Institute shall have responsibility for the planning, organization and direction of training, research, advisory services and other activities of the Institute. He shall in particular:

(a) Be responsible for the organization and administration of the Institute;

(b) Submit for the approval of the Governing Council the work programmes and corresponding budgets of the Institute;

(c) Be responsible for carrying out of the activities of the Institute in accordance with the approved work programmes and corresponding budgets;

(d) Submit for the approval of the Governing Council annual reports on the activities and financial situation and the accounts of the Institute, including the particulars of existing vacancies in the professional posts of the Institute for dissemination with the countries listed in the appendix to these Statutes;

(e) Transmit to the Executive Secretary the names of all applicants for appointment to professional posts in the Institute;

(f) Subject to such directives as the Executive Secretary may give, select and appoint persons to the General Service posts of the Institute;

(g) Conclude arrangements with national and international organizations necessary for the use by such organizations of the services and facilities provided by the Institute, it being understood that in the case of national organizations no arrangements shall be made without the approval of the Governments concerned;

(h) Establish and maintain such contacts with Governments, with other organs of the United Nations, with its specialized agencies and with other organizations as may be necessary or desirable for the achievement of the objectives of the Institute;

(i) Undertake other assignments or activities as may be determined by the Governing Council.

ARTICLE VIII

Advisory Board on Studies and Research

1. The Advisory Board on Studies and Research (hereinafter referred to as "the Board"), shall be composed of:

(a) Six persons, who are citizens of the countries listed in the appendix to these Statutes and who may be either university teachers or experts engaged in work in the field of population or related studies, and who are appointed by the Executive Secretary with due regard to the maintenance of a fair distribution of appointments among the countries listed in the appendix to these Statutes;

(b) Two senior lecturers of the Institute elected by its academic staff from time to time;

(c) A representative of the University or Institution with which the Institute will establish relationship for the award to degree, certificates and other awards provided for in the sub-paragraph (e) of paragraph 3 of article 1 of these Statutes;

(d) The Director of the Institute;

(e) A representative of the secretariat of the Economic Commission for Africa;

(f) The Director of the Population Division of the United Nations;

(g) A representative of one of the United Nations agencies actively engaged in giving assistance to the Institute as may be designated by the Executive Secretary;

(h) A representative of the International Union for the Scientific Study of Population;

(i) A representative of one of the governmental or non-governmental organizations working in the field of population in one or more of the countries listed in the appendix to these Statutes as may be designated by the Executive Secretary;

(j) A representative of the Ministry responsible for demographic questions of the Government of Ghana;

(k) The President of the Association of former students of the Institute;

(1) A representative of the student body of the Institute elected for that purpose by the student body of the Institute.

2. The members of the Board appointed, or designated by the Executive Secretary or elected by the academic staff of the Institute shall be appointed, designated or elected as the case may be, to serve during two successive sessions of the Board and may be reappointed, redesignated or re-elected.

3. The member of the Board elected by the student body of the Institute shall be elected to serve during one session of the Board and may be re-elected.

4. The Board shall, at the beginning of each of its sessions, elect its Chairman from among those of its members specified in sub-paragraph (a) of paragraph 1 of this article.

5. The Director of the Institute shall provide secretarial services for the Board.

6. The Board shall have the following powers and duties:

(a) To propose for adoption by the Governing Council the activities to be undertaken by the Institute;

(b) To give advice to the Director of the Institute on the design of courses of study and research programmes of the Institute;

(c) To satisfy itself regarding the context and academic standard of any course of study in respect of a degree, diploma, certificate or other award of the Institute and examine any relationship entered into between the Institute with any university or similar institution in pursuance of the provisions of sub-paragraph (c) of paragraph 3 of article I of these Statutes and to report thereon at the Governing Council;

(d) To propose for adoption by the Governing Council conditions regarding the eligibility of persons for admission to courses of study for a degree, diploma, certificate or other award of the Institute and for obtaining any degree, diploma, certificate or other award of the Institute;

(e) To propose for adoption by the Governing Council the standard of proficiency to be attained in each examination for a degree, diploma, certificate or other award of the Institute;

(f) To propose for adoption by the Governing Council regulations governing the conduct of persons taking courses of study at the Institute,

(g) To initiate proposals relating to the conduct of the Institute generally, and to discuss any matter relating to the Institute and to report thereon to the Governing Council.

7. The Board may delegate to a national university or similar institution with which it has established a relationship under sub-paragraph (e) of paragraph 3 of article I of these Statutes or to the Director of the Institute any of its functions under sub-paragraphs (d), (e) or (f) of paragraph 6 of this article.

8. The Board shall be convened to meet at least once every two years, by its Chairman or by the Governing Council.

9. Subject to the provisions of this article, the Board shall determine its own rules or procedure including its quorum, the convening of ordinary or extraordinary sessions, and the conduct of business thereat and at other times.

ARTICLE IX

Assistance by the secretariat of the Economic Commission for Africa

The secretariat of the Economic Commission for Africa shall assist the Institute in every possible way in order to facilitate its work. In particular, the Commission shall, at the request of the Institute, make available to it qualified staff to give lectures, to assist in supervising research and to participate in its seminars.

ARTICLE X

Co-operation with organizations, etc.

The Institute shall establish such relationships with the "Institut de formation et de recherche démographiques", with other organs of the United Nations, with its specialized agencies, with other organizations and with Governments, universities or similar institutions and research organizations in the countries listed in the appendix to these Statutes, as may be necessary or desirable for the achievement of the objectives of the Institute.

ARTICLE XI

Financial resources and rules governing the financial management of the Institute

1. Finances for the Institute shall be derived from contributions made by the Governments of the countries listed in appendix to these Statutes as may be determined from time to time by the General Assembly and from contributions made by the United Nations Fund for Population Activities and such other sources as referred in Article V 1(c).
2. Further resources for the Institute in cash or in kind shall be derived from United Nations and its specialized agencies, other inter-governmental organizations, governments and non-governmental organizations and other sources. Soliciting, acceptance and management of offers of such resources shall, in every case, be in accordance with provisions of article V 1(c) of these Statutes. The Chairman of the Governing Council shall report on the matter to the Council at its next session.

ARTICLE XII

Amendments

These Statutes may be amended by the General Assembly on the recommendation of the Conference of African Planners, Statisticians and Demographers as accepted by the Conference of Ministers of the Economic Commission for Africa.

Appendix

Botswana, Ethiopia, the Gambia, Ghana, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malawi, Mauritius, Nigeria, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Somalia, the Sudan, Swaziland, Uganda, the United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe.