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ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR AFRICA

REPORT OF THE FOURTH MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Addis Ababa, 9 - 13 November 1970

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ORGANIZATION OF THE MEETING

Opening and duration of the meeting

1. Under the chairmanship of H.E. Youssouf Sylla, the fourth meeting of the Executive Committee, which had previously been scheduled for 14 to 17 October 1970, was held at the Commission's headquarters at Addis Ababa from 9 to 13 November 1970. After establishing that a quorum was present, the Chairman declared the meeting open.

Attendance

2. Seven representatives of the four sub-regions, two representatives of the African members of the Economic and Social Council and two representatives of the African members serving on the Governing Council of UNDP attended the meeting.

3. Observers from UNDP, the ILO, FAO, UNESCO, OAU and the African Groundnut Council were also present.

Agenda

4. On the basis of the provisional agenda (E/CN.14/ECO/23) prepared by the secretariat, the Committee kept the following items on its agenda:

- (1) Opening of the meeting
- (2) Adoption of the agenda
- (3) Report on matters arising out of previous meetings of the Committee
- (4) Report by the secretariat on economic co-operation in the Central, East and North African sub-regions
- (5) Reports by representatives of observer organizations:
 - (a) UNDP
 - (b) ILO
 - (c) FAO
 - (d) UNESCO
 - (e) OAU
 - (f) African Groundnut Council

- (6) Africa's strategy for development in the 1970s
- (7) Regional structures
- (8) Other business
- (9) Adoption of the report

DISCUSSION OF AGENDA ITEMS

Report on matters arising out of previous meetings of the Committee

5. Before making his report to the Committee, the Chairman stressed the fact that, immediately following the celebration of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the United Nations, it was appropriate to pause, weigh the past and gauge the future. The fourth meeting of the Committee could not be a routine meeting like previous ones; it should be a time for reflexion during which the Committee would examine the Commission's future problems, its role and relations with other organizations.

6. Under the terms of reference he had received from the Committee at its third meeting, the Chairman had approached the Governments of member States to ensure that, within their respective bodies, African members of the Economic and Social Council and of the UNDP Governing Council defended the positions taken by the Committee regarding the recommendations of the Study on the Capacity of the United Nations Development System and the bearing of expenses arising out of the attendance at its meetings by members.

7. At the forty-ninth session of the Economic and Social Council, the representatives of Chad, the People's Republic of Congo, Ghana, Kenya, Sudan and Tunisia had submitted to the Council a draft resolution stating that, under the terms of General Assembly resolution 1798(XVII) on the system of travel and subsistence allowances paid by the United Nations, the Committee members attending its ordinary meetings should be paid those expenses.

8. In the discussion on this draft resolution, some delegations had voiced their objections and said that as Government representatives the members of the Committee could not attend meetings in their personal capacity and that the provisions of General Assembly resolution 1798(XVII) therefore did not

apply to them. At the twenty-fifth session of the General Assembly, which the Chairman had attended as a member of his country's delegation, the approaches made again had encountered the same reservations as in the Economic and Social Council. Bearing in mind those repeated objections, the Committee decided to report on the action it had taken at the next meeting of the Conference of Ministers and seek fresh instructions.

9. At its tenth session, the UNDP Governing Council had continued its consideration of the Study on the Capacity of the United Nations Development System and established the consensus reached by its members regarding some of the recommendations of the Study. It had also called upon the Economic and Social Council to undertake a study of the regional and sub-regional structures of the United Nations system.

10. In a resolution adopted at its forty-ninth session, the Economic and Social Council had requested the Secretary-General of the United Nations to draw up a questionnaire on the various aspects of the regional structures and to send it to the Governments of member States. At the forthcoming sessions of the regional economic commissions, the executive secretaries would submit reports based on the replies to the questionnaire for consideration by their respective commissions.

11. It was noted that the decisions of the Executive Committee had been carefully considered at the June meeting of the UNDP Governing Council and had been reflected in the ECOSOC resolution which requested the Secretary General to seek the views of member States on regional structures.

12. The Executive Secretary drew the attention of the Committee to the new community in West Africa which most of the French-speaking countries of that sub-region proposed to establish. He said that a mission headed by the leader of the first multinational inter-disciplinary development advisory team which would serve Equatorial Guinea, Chad and the UDEAC countries, was visiting the Central African countries concerned. West Africa could receive the same advisory services on request.

13. The Executive Secretary also mentioned that the previous secretariat surveys on trans-African routes were beginning to give results. A study of the trans-Saharan road, under the auspices of UNDP, had been completed; an outline of a road network in West Africa had been established by the Entente group with the help of UNDP, ADB and bilateral donors, and a suggestion had been made by a Japanese economic mission which visited Africa in 1969 for the construction of an East-West transcontinental route linking Mombasa (Kenya) and Kano (Nigeria). The next stage in these developments was to establish committees to programme the implementation of projects involved. It was expected that the next Conference of Ministers would establish these committees.

14. In reply to the questions asked by the members of the Committee, the Executive Secretary said that after several years of fruitless waiting for agreement by the Governments of member States regarding the siting of cartographic training centres, the secretariat had not hesitated to support the initiative of the CCAM countries to set up a centre at Yaoundé (Cameroon) and that of the Federal Government of Nigeria to establish a national centre open to the nationals of other countries in the region.

15. The Executive Secretary also told the Committee that the secretariat had co-operated with OAU in preparing background documents for the establishment of an African road association. Following the decisions of the member States of the region, the African Civil Aviation Commission and the Association of African Airlines had been established. Once these institutions were set up, the role of the secretariat would be to follow the development of their activities.

16. As regards the United Nations telecommunications networks connected with the secretariat, the Executive Secretary reminded the Committee that arrangements had been made for telegrams sent to countries which objected to the use of the United Nations network in Jerusalem to be routed through the United Nations network in Beirut. Some Committee members, however, wished to know the results of the study of the alternative routing of telegrams through the different United Nations telecommunications networks linked with the region. The secretariat undertook to refer the request to the United Nations Telecommunications authority.

17. In the context of the relations between the Commission and OAU, the Administrative Secretary-General of OAU said he wished to assert the special interest OAU had in the Commission and the need for ever closer co-operation between the two organizations. He drew the attention of the Committee to the resolutions of the seventh session of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government relating to fields in which co-operation between ECA and OAU was needed. He congratulated the Committee on its efforts and especially on the positions taken regarding the Study on the Capacity of the United Nations Development System.

18. The Administrative Secretary-General also announced a meeting of the OAU Economic and Social Council which was to be held in Addis Ababa and said he would urge the Governments of member States to arrange for the Committee members to attend as members of their country's delegation. He also laid stress on the fact that to safeguard the interests of the region there must be concerted action by member States, a judicious use of the resources of the region and very close co-operation between the Commission and OAU.

19. The Administrative Secretary-General reminded the meeting that the fundamental problem in the field of operational activities was to find ways and means to ensure that the secretariat of the Commission played a more important role.

20. After the remarks of the OAU Administrative Secretary-General, it was stressed that in certain sectors the participation of regional organizations such as OAU and ECA was indispensable. Special mention was made of AFCAC and AFRA in whose activities the ECA and OAU secretariats did not participate. It was recommended that an effort should be made to secure membership on those bodies for OAU and ECA, which should play a part in the activities of those regional organization.

21. As a follow-up to the statement which the secretariat had made at the third meeting regarding the preparatory arrangements which were being made with the Tunisian Government for the Commission's tenth session, the Chairman told the Committee that despite the decisions adopted by the Commission and approved by the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly,

the Secretary-General of the United Nations might have to change the venue of the Commission's tenth session. After noting the approaches made to United Nations Headquarters by the African delegations attending the twenty-fifth session of the General Assembly, the Committee decided to send a telegram to the Secretary-General of the United Nations (See Annex III).

Report by the secretariat on economic co-operation in the sub-regions

(a) Economic co-operation mission in Central Africa

22. The Deputy Executive Secretary, who had led the secretariat mission of economic co-operation to Central Africa, presented the mission report (E/CN.14/487). He drew the Committee's attention to the mandate the mission had been given to ascertain the reactions of Governments in member States of the sub-region on three main points:

- (a) The establishment of close co-operation between the ECA secretariat and the secretariats of multinational groupings;
- (b) The establishment of a multinational inter-disciplinary development advisory team;
- (c) The possible division of the existing sub-region into two sub-regions.

23. In view of their schedule of engagements, the Governments of Gabon, the People's Republic of the Congo and Chad had requested the secretariat to postpone its mission to their countries. As this was not possible, the mission had been unable to visit all the countries in the sub-region.

Nevertheless, during stop-overs at Douala (Cameroon) and Brazzaville (People's Republic of the Congo), it had been able to hold talks with members of the Governments of Gabon and the People's Republic of the Congo.

24. With regard to co-operation between the ECA secretariat and the secretariats of multinational groupings in the sub-regions, the representatives of Governments whom the members of the mission had met had been unanimous in their request for the establishment and strengthening of the closest co-operation between ECA and sub-regional groupings.

25. The Deputy Executive Secretary went on to point out that, although the representatives of the countries served by the first development advisory team had no reservations to make on the matter, the other countries in the sub-region which were not covered by the first team had urged that the staff of the sub-regional office be strengthened so as to provide them with similar services.

26. The opinions expressed by the authorities who met to consider the possible division of the existing sub-region into two sub-regions had differed somewhat. The UDEAC countries, which had been expecting the services of the multinational inter-disciplinary team, had not emphasized the need for a second sub-regional office whereas other Governments, such as the Government of the Democratic Republic of Congo, had drawn attention to the need to reinforce the present staff of the sub-regional office.

(b) Economic co-operation in East and North Africa

27. No missions for economic co-operation, similar to those which visited Central and West Africa, had yet left the secretariat for the East and North African sub-regions.

28. One-man missions, however, visited some of the countries in the East and North African sub-regions and the reports of these missions, together with government responses, formed the basis for the description of the institutional arrangements for economic co-operation which the secretariat explained to the Committee.

29. The proposal was to constitute Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia, the United Republic of Tanzania, Uganda and Zambia as the East African sub-region, and Botswana, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Mauritius and Swaziland as a Southern African sub-region. Although the reactions from all the countries involved were not yet known, it appeared from the report of the mission which visited some of the countries, and a dispatch from the Government of Botswana, that the Governments of Botswana and Madagascar were in favour of the creation of a Southern African sub-region. The Government of Madagascar was in touch with the Governments of Malawi and Lesotho on the creation of a Southern African sub-region and the Government of Botswana had taken the initiative

of obtaining the support of the countries concerned for the creation of a Southern African sub-region. Swaziland had expressed qualified support for the creation of a Southern African sub-region because of her desire to maintain her existing trade links with Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania, Zambia and other African countries. Mauritius would prefer the retention of the status quo as most of her economic ties, such as air transport links and tourism were with Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania and Zambia, countries which were all to be included in the proposed East African sub-region. On the other hand, of those countries to be included in a Southern African sub-region, Mauritius had trade links with only one of them, i.e., Madagascar.

30. In the existing sub-region itself, there were four main intergovernmental economic groupings:

31. The East African Community made up of Kenya, Uganda and the United Republic of Tanzania, maintained a common market as an integral part of the Community and, on behalf of its partner States, administered a number of common services which were normally within the plenary competence of individual States, such as harbours, airways, the management of income tax and the negotiation of air traffic rights. Applications for membership to the Community had been received from Ethiopia, Somalia, Swaziland and Zambia, and were under consideration.

32. The Southern African Customs Union embraced the three land-locked countries of the sub-region - Botswana, Lesotho and Swaziland, and the Republic of South Africa. The present arrangements, derived from negotiations completed in 1969, replaced the sharing of customs and excise revenue among the contracting parties on fixed percentages, with the new formula relating the share of each contracting party to the total pool of customs, and excise and sales tax revenue to the level of the total imports of the contracting parties.

33. It was unlikely that any of the land-locked countries of the sub-region which were members of the Customs Union would leave it in the foreseeable future. No applications for membership had been received from other countries in the sub-region. As a result of previous trade links between Rhodesia and Malawi and the Republic of South Africa, and between Botswana and Rhodesia, the Customs Union had indirect economic ties with Malawi and Rhodesia.

34. The Economic Community for Eastern Africa which was inspired by ECA and was meant to embrace all the countries of the sub-region, had not been fully established. Although its interim Terms of Association had been ratified by a number of countries from the sub-region, its interim institutions had been inactive.

35. Conference of Eastern and Central African States: That hybrid and flexible organization consisted of some of the countries of the East African sub-region, some from the Central African sub-region, and one from the North African sub-region. It implemented its work through sectoral committees and, although a great deal had not yet been achieved in the way of concrete economic projects, the secretariat would continue to render it such assistance as was necessary.

36. Apart from the above-mentioned groupings for economic co-operation, there were in East Africa, a number of multinational ad hoc projects such as the Tanzania-Zambia railway link being constructed under the auspices of the Tanzania-Zambia Railway Authority, joint road projects between Ethiopia and Kenya, and a scheme for a telecommunications network linking Botswana, Zambia and the Republic of South Africa. Multinational economic co-operation in the field of economic resources was also under consideration between Madagascar, Mauritius, the Dependencies of Réunion and the Comor Islands.

37. Enquiries made by the North African sub-regional office and the reactions from governments indicated that Algeria, Libya, Morocco, Sudan and the United Arab Republic shared the same views that the existing composition of the sub-region should not be modified, save that if Mauritania so wished, it might take part in the activities of the sub-region, either as an observer or as a full member. On the other hand, Tunisia expressed the wish that the sub-region should comprise the following block of countries - Algeria, Morocco, and Tunisia - and that block could be joined by Libya and Mauritania if they so wished.

38. The Permanent Consultative Committee of the Maghreb embraced Algeria, Libya, Morocco and Tunisia. Although its object was the establishment of economic co-operation and trade within its member States, its approach to

the problem had been on a sectoral basis. For that purpose, it had established various committees and specialized agencies which had made recommendations on, and established and implemented, appropriate joint projects. Recently, the member States of the Committee decided that the Committee should achieve its objectives on all fronts within a general framework for economic co-operation. However, a final agreement which would implement that change had not yet been reached. Meanwhile, there had come into existence among individual Maghreb States a number of bilateral and multilateral arrangements for economic co-operation which were regarded as a step towards the strengthening of economic co-operation within the Maghreb area. Some of those bilateral and multilateral arrangements related to the international transportation of goods (Algerian-Tunisian Transport Commission), joint companies to operate in the field of petroleum industries (Algeria-Libya) and the integrated production of fertilizers and sulphuric acid (Tunisia-Libya).

39. Between the United Arab Republic and the Sudan, economic co-operation in the form of bilateral trade agreements and co-operation in human resources had existed for many years. Co-operation had been expressed in terms of joint projects in special areas such as agriculture, the use of the Nile water and the construction of roads linking both countries. Libya had recently concluded arrangements for economic co-operation with the Sudan and the United Arab Republic under which sectoral committees had been set up to examine, among other things, ways of harmonizing their economic development and transportation problems. The announcement a few days ago that those three countries had formed a political union might mean that economic co-operation amongst them would be strengthened in all fields.

40. Following those reports on the missions to Central Africa, East Africa and North Africa, the Executive Secretary observed that problems of sub-regional co-operation should be approached with great realism. Within the existing sub-regions, the bonds of co-operation were established not between all the members of a sub-region but in accordance with the special relations already existing between certain countries. As had been pointed out with regard to the new West African community, which would enjoy the services of a development advisory team if it so requested, the resources of the secretariat

were available to member States to help them individually or collectively in preparing and carrying out their economic co-operation projects. Co-operation agreements relating to specific projects would enable ADB and other financial institutions to take more action to promote development programmes in the region. The question was not one of imposing a certain division on the continent, but of strengthening economic co-operation between member States.

41. After pointing out the errors and omissions which the documents of the meeting contained concerning the sub-regional groupings to which some countries belong, the members of the Committee expressed approval of the secretariat's realistic concept of the problems of sub-regional co-operation. It was agreed that the secretariat should give assistance to multinational groupings not necessarily identical with sub-regions and also to multinational programmes such as co-operation in transport development, power sharing and drainage basin development.

42. As a result of the discussion and in view of the conclusions drawn from earlier discussions on the subject, the Committee was of the opinion that the existing four sub-regions should be maintained and that the secretariat should render more aid to sub-regional groupings of States in order to strengthen economic co-operation and integration in the region.

Reports of representatives of organizations having observer status

(a) United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

43. The UNDP representative stressed the importance of relations between ECA and UNDP, which would become closer in future following the reorganization of the system so far in force. After considering the study on the capacity of the United Nations development system, the Governing Council had adopted a method of approach in regard to countries and areas which would require an assessment of the development potential of Africa and of the needs of African countries in order that that potential should be realized. Co-operation between UNDP and ECA was essential in that respect.

44. The importance UNDP attached to Africa was evident from the larger share of resources it devoted to the region: about 34 per cent of the total. Its assistance during 1969 and 1970 totalled \$136 million. Preference was continuing to be given to the agricultural sector, which received 31 per cent of the aid supplied, but rigorous programming had been undertaken to prevent the industrial sector from being neglected. Regional projects dealt chiefly with the development of river basins at multinational level and also with the establishment of an integrated telecommunication network.

45. However, UNDP regarded the training of counterpart staff as the essential part of its programme. It therefore paid special attention to projects in that field. The ultimate objective was the training of key staff who should in turn be able to provide training and thus strengthen the resources of individual countries.

46. The UNDP representative drew attention to a recent change in the policy of his Organization which would in future reduce the local operating costs of recipient countries whose financial position was particularly difficult.

47. The programme to be submitted at the meeting of the Governing Council in January 1971 provided for 62 projects for Africa and represented more than \$52 million, or 41 per cent of the total. The programme would probably be one of the last of the "traditional" UNDP programmes before the new system

of country programming was adopted. The new system obviously called for a revision of the process of international co-operation, including a reasonable balance between national, regional and world priorities, and joint planning on the part of Governments and UNDP.

48. The Executive Secretary welcomed the fact that under the 1971 programme Africa would receive 41 per cent of total UNDP aid. A question which arose, however, was whether that percentage could be maintained in the future under the new system. Governments should therefore not receive such assistance passively but should make a positive effort towards development. Training was undoubtedly an essential field because without competent and qualified cadres and staff countries would have to go on depending on foreign aid indefinitely. In that context, the Executive Secretary mentioned the case of the Democratic Republic of Congo, where a steel-works which it had taken five years to construct had become operational with Congolese personnel trained during that period. Training under fellowship awards was not enough, and any agreement on a project should make provision for the training of the staff required for the operation.

49. The Committee wished to draw the attention of the UNDP representative to the objections it had made, at the third meeting of the Committee concerning the recommendations of the Capacity Study of the United Nations Development System. In Africa, and at all levels, the role of co-ordinator of development activities should fall upon ECA. UNDP, in its privileged position in the field of financing, had to associate ECA in more of its projects so that the countries of the region could benefit from the secretariat's competence, studies and experience. While the Capacity Study laid emphasis primarily on national programmes as the basic element of development, ECA strongly supported the idea that it was through multi-national and regional development projects that economic co-operation and integration could be achieved in Africa. In addition, the Committee expressed concern that UNDP senior and professional staff included only an insignificant number of Africans.

50. The Committee thanked UNDP for reducing the burden of local expenditure incumbent on recipient countries as it was extremely heavy for some of them. It expressed the hope that that concession would be made systematic.

51. In reply to questions asked by members of the Committee, the UNDP representative said that there had as yet been no decision on all the proposals contained in the Capacity Study. The Consensus approved by the Governing Council indicated the essential points of the programme.

52. The role of resident representatives was being strengthened by decentralization. A resident representative would henceforth be a team leader and the principal agent for a dialogue with Governments. However, it was the latter which had the initiative and the power of decision, and the Consensus in many respects showed the paramount role which Governments were to play in that context.

53. Country programming, which was defined in paragraph 2 of the Consensus, was hardly likely to run counter to national plan implementation. Paragraph 5 of the Consensus clearly stated that the Government of the country concerned had "the exclusive responsibility for formulating its national development plan or priorities and objectives". Similarly, it was stated in paragraph 7 that the country programme was "based on national development plans, or priorities".

54. The new system provided for better co-ordination of project evaluation, which would be carried out at the request of the Governments and with their participation. The programme would be reviewed every year, and projects would be reviewed at the same time.

55. The question of liaison between UNDP and the regional economic commissions was one which would be covered by the survey which the Economic and Social Council had asked the Secretary-General to make on regional structures. Paragraph 5 of the Consensus, however, stated, that individual countries, at their request, should receive assistance from the economic commissions in the general field of planning, and from specialized agencies in planning by sector.

56. Paragraphs 21, 22 and 23 of the Consensus contained special provisions relating to multinational programmes, which would be in the form of sub-regional, regional, interregional or world projects. It was expected that the number of regional and multinational projects would increase. The general principles which held good for country projects would apply in that case, and the request would need to come from at least two Governments.

57. The UNDP representative asked for particulars regarding the definition of the operational role it was proposed to assign ECA. In the matter of implementing projects, it should be borne in mind that UNDP did not undertake that task itself but entrusted the execution to the United Nations Office of Technical Co-operation which could, if it wished, have the projects implemented by ECA.

58. As the question of African representation on the UNDP staff had been raised, it was explained that an effort was being made to improve such representation and some progress had already been made. From fifteen in 1959, the number of Africans had risen to 250 in 1969, and 1,000 Africans had participated in UNDP projects. Moreover, there was good reason to hope that the provisions for the training of counterparts would step up the figure.

59. The UNDP representative assured the Committee that any constructive remarks and criticism made at the meeting would be ~~conveyed~~ to the Administrator.

(b) International Labour Organisation (ILO)

60. The representative of the ILO outlined the programme for African countries which had been drawn up by his Organisation within the context of the Second Development Decade and which laid particular stress on the development of human resources as the basic prerequisite for autonomous economic and social development. In the field of industry, the ILO endeavoured, in co-operation with UNIDO, to help with the training of managerial staff of whom there were manifestly few for small and medium-sized industries. In rural areas too, the ILO concentrated on co-operatives in order to make the peasantry aware of the managerial problems of such co-operatives and to make them assume responsibility for management themselves. As regards large-scale industries, it was especially important to ensure that the existing staff gained experience.

61. Although the ILO was also concerned about the problem of manpower and employment, it was not its function to create productive employment. Its purpose was to train national staff who would then seek ways and means of developing opportunities for employment. There was no lack of such staff in Africa, but often they were not used to good advantage, which in a great many cases led to social problems. It was important that each Government should establish employment services. Such services did exist in a number of countries, but owing to the lack of planning experts they were not rationally organized. In co-operation with other specialized agencies, the ILO was endeavouring to organize the training of staff which its services would require in order to meet the need for skilled manpower and to exploit existing possibilities.

62. In the realm of technology, it was of primary importance to reduce mistrust of new methods. The ILO had set up institutes for innovation and productivity as pilot projects and these were likely to change that mental attitude.

63. The Executive Secretary pointed out that the activities of international organizations with regard to manpower training were to be regarded merely as a contribution since the responsibility was essentially that of the Governments. In that context he referred to the example of Algeria, which had made a remarkable effort to develop its human resources by using very modern methods.

64. A member of the Committee made a brief statement on the educational programme which was scheduled under Algeria's four-year plan for 1970-1973 and based on the principles of universal primary school attendance and the democratization of education. The aim of the literacy drive was to reach one million persons: mosques, public enterprises, radio and television all joined in. Occupational training, which was considered essential, was based on the development of technical education at secondary level. Institutes of technology were to ensure the training of the senior staff required in the different sectors of the economy. The enterprises were associated with unconventional programmes of education implemented without any established infrastructure. In agriculture, literacy and field training were to be provided for skilled workers. Moreover, there was an attempt to make expatriate Algerian workers aware of the problems of national development in order to persuade them to come home. Agreements existed with the host countries regarding the training of such workers. National service which was compulsory for young men at the age of nineteen provided technical training in workshops in addition to military training. Even in spite of this intensive programme, it was forecast that Algeria would still need foreign cadres in 1973.

(c) United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)

65. FAO's activities were essentially determined by the new five-point strategy defined by its Director-General and by a United Nations concerted programme for agricultural development in Africa as proposed by ECA and FAO at the FAO Regional Conference held at Kampala in 1962. Various research and training programmes had been launched in the fields of animal production, fishery, agriculture and nature conservation, under the five priority points of the strategy: (a) the introduction of high-yield varieties, (b) a campaign against losses and waste, (c) the elimination of protein deficiency, (d) the mobilization of human resources, and (e) foreign currency savings and earnings. Projects had been carried out or were in progress in different countries, if necessary in co-operation with other specialized agencies or with donor bodies and countries. The FAO representative mentioned the West Africa Rice Development Association, which had been set up through the concerted efforts

of FAO, ECA, UNDP, the Ford and Rockefeller Foundations and a number of donor countries. In co-operation with the FAO Commodities Division, activities were also under way to help countries in the region with export promotion through specialized study groups (oil-seeds, cocoa, citrus fruits, tea, hard fibres, etc.).

66. The United Nations concerted programme related mainly to the development of intra-regional trade, the problem of commodity marketing and the spread of information. The FAO Regional Conference held at Algiers had expressed satisfaction with the activities carried out in the first stage. Those activities were being carried out with the co-operation of financial institutions such as the African Development Bank and IERD, as well as of political or economic bodies such as OAU, OCAM, the Maghreb Standing Consultative Committee, the East African Community, etc.

67. Future activities were to be based on the nature of the principal problems identified under the Indicative World Plan, namely (a) food, (b) the need to increase foreign currency earnings, and (c) employment. Stress was therefore laid on the following points: meeting skilled manpower requirements, the development of trade and domestic markets, research, planning and programming at national level and between countries with a view to the harmonization of agricultural policies, the formulation of food Production Policies the development of animal production, nutrition, fisheries, and the industrialization of forestry production.

68. The Chairman welcomed the close co-operation existing between FAO and ECA in agricultural development of the region. He referred to the memorandum which the Committee had sent the Director-General of FAO in 1969 on the subject of the Indicative World Plan, and said that joint action by FAO and ECA in the region was one of the most rational methods of dealing with Africa's agricultural development problems. The Chairman added that he very much hoped to see the other specialized agencies operating in the region draw up similar programmes of action which showed so keen an awareness of African problems.

(d) United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)

69. The representative of UNESCO said that co-operation between his Organization and ECA had been concentrated on the following fields (a) education planning within the context of developing planning, (b) rural development, (c) youth activities, (d) the application of science and technology to development, (e) natural resources, (f) public administration and (g) statistics. UNESCO, like many other specialized agencies to which ECA had appealed for assistance, had set up liaison units, and the programmes were formulated through joint consultations. Two inter-secretariat meetings had been held, the second of which had resulted in the drafting of a memorandum defining the spheres of activities. UNESCO for its part attached great importance to such co-operation realizing that educational and scientific planning should form an integral part of economic and social planning and all training programmes should be linked with the employment policy.

70. In reply the Executive Secretary stressed the need for revision of the Addis Ababa Plan. The development of primary education had contributed to the problem of unemployment among young people because the educational structures and the content of syllabuses were not suited to the realities of African life and the needs of economic development in the region. Consideration should certainly be given to a United Nations programme for education similar to the one for agriculture.

(e) Organization of African Unity (OAU)

71. The representative of the Administrative Secretary-General of OAU said that relations between his organization and ECA continued to be satisfactory. He told the Committee that the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of OAU was convinced of the need to make ECA more operational, and African initiatives, as expressed in the resolutions and programmes of ECA and OAU, should serve as guidelines for the activities of the UN development system.

72. The Committee wished to know what part the OAU secretariat was playing in activities connected with the very important field of air transport and civil aviation. It was pointed out that the OAU secretariat, like ECA, was not actively involved in the work of the Association of African Airlines and the

African Civil Aviation Commission. The two secretariats attended their meetings as observers and could do no more than take note of their activities. If governments wanted ECA and OAU to play a more active role in that field they should make their wishes on the subject clearly known through their representatives who served on these bodies.

(f) African Groundnut Council

73. The representative of the African Groundnut Council recalled that, in CM/Resolution 225/B XV, the OAU Council of Ministers had approved the principle that the activities of the Groundnut Council should be expanded to include other oil-seeds, and had agreed to the convening of a meeting in January 1971 to consider the question. That was an important decision which fell within the general context of the commodities which determined the export earnings of African countries.

74. The African exports of oil-seeds represented high percentages of the world totals. The technical reasons for extending the activities of the Council were connected with the interchangeability of oil-seed products and with the competition from the products of developed countries, particularly soya-beans and sunflower. FAO and UNCTAD had held discussions at international level, and progress had been achieved at the technical level, but the same could not be said for the political aspect, for which no real solution was in sight. At the African level the aim of the Groundnut Council was to co-ordinate the policies of Member States and, through the establishment of a scientific and technical department, to follow developments in the field of research. In Geneva there was a sales promotion office.

75. The Council had brought the problem of extending its activities to existing organs such as OAU and ECA and had been assured of effective co-operation.

76. The ECA secretariat recalled the origin of the recommendations made at the fifth Joint ECA/OAU Meeting on trade and development concerning the establishment of an African board of oil-seed producers. The details concerning implementation of the recommendation had not yet been decided upon, but under the Commission's work programme a meeting of producer countries was planned for mid-1971 which would work out ways and means of setting up such a board.

Africa's strategy for development in the 1970s

77. The Executive Secretary, introducing the document, pointed out that it was only a preliminary draft for the comments of the Committee and would be revised to take account of any observations. The document was intended to lay down broad principles and did not therefore go into details about policies to be implemented.

78. Several Committee members suggested that the strategy should be focussed on a central theme such as transport or rural transformation. The Executive Secretary observed that a common theme could not be found for forty-two countries whose priorities inevitably differed. The document left options open and it was the responsibility of individual countries to determine their development policies in the light of their resources and objectives.

79. The African strategy had been conceived within the context of the global strategy adopted by the General Assembly for the Second Development Decade. Although some aspects of that strategy might appear to have been overlooked in the document, they were to be found in the programme of work and priorities of the Commission for 1971-1976.

80. The role of the Commission in the implementation of the strategy would emerge from the answers member States gave in reply to the questionnaire on regional structures submitted to them by the Secretary-General. Indeed, the questionnaire provided an opportunity for African Governments to express their determination to see ECA assigned the role of co-ordinator of economic and social activities at the regional level. ECA also had a role to play in country programming. In that connexion, it had at its disposal, through IDEP and the inter-disciplinary teams, a planning advisory service which was available to countries, as well as the documentation and intimate knowledge accumulated over twelve years.

81. The proposed strategy contained specific objectives in what were regarded as priority areas of activity:

- (i) In the field of planning, the African countries were to specify and if possible quantify, if necessary with the assistance of organs of the United Nations system and international agencies, national

and regional development aims; moreover, African countries should decide to concentrate on the preparation of rational plans and to mobilize the necessary resources for their fulfilment.

- (ii) With regard to trade, two basic objectives should be aimed at:
 - (a) stimulating a structural change in African economies by encouraging the transition from traditional production to a dynamic association between agriculture and the manufacturing industries;
 - (b) acquiring foreign currency to finance development. In that connexion, it was necessary to stimulate measures at the international level aimed at facilitating the diversification of trade in primary products and at expanding trade in manufactured and semi-finished goods between African countries.
- (iii) If the target of the annual gross rate of 6 per cent advocated for the first half of the Second Development Decade was to be attained in Africa, the volume of aid would have to double between now and 1975. Domestic resources would have to be mobilized, the rate of growth of the African economies increased, and the necessary basis for independent economic policies and the defence of sovereignty assured.
- (iv) With regard to the countryside, the strategy would be to assess all the mainstays of the socio-economic system with a view to changing it. In that regard, it would be important to establish close physical, economic and social links between the rural and urban centres and to attract the monetary sector in the national economy.
- (v) The growth of foreign currency earnings depended on development of agriculture and the activities carried out in that field were to be included within the United Nations programme, for the region the advantages of which were obvious.

(vi) With regard to the development of human resources, measures had been proposed for the development of education and training, the utilization of manpower and the transfer of know-how, which was to be viewed on a long-term basis.

82. Some members of the Committee, who had specific comments to make, were invited to submit them in writing to the secretariat, which would take them into account in revising the document in accordance with the suggestions made during the discussion.

83. The revised text would be submitted to the OAU Council of Ministers and, if necessary, again revised before being submitted to the ECA Conference of Ministers for approval.

Regional structures

84. The Committee considered the questionnaire, concerning the study of regional structures, which had been prepared by the Secretary-General pursuant to the request contained in resolution 1553(XLIX) of the Economic and Social Council. The secretariat drew attention to paragraphs 10 and 11 of the introduction to the questionnaire to emphasize the purposes of the questionnaire, namely;

- (a) To ascertain the views of governments on the desirability of changes in geographical structures and on what basis such changes should be made;
- (b) To spell out the improvements that might be introduced into the working relationships between regional inter-governmental bodies of the UN and the specialized agencies and the regional secretariats without geographical structural changes.

85. It was pointed out that the problems posed by the questionnaire were extremely complex and that, in addition, member States were not always very familiar with United Nations terminology. It was therefore decided to lay down a few guidelines which might help African Governments in preparing their replies. The guidelines agreed upon are attached in Annex IV.

86. It was explained that the agencies mentioned under Question 1 were those which had several offices in Africa. In cases when certain offices dealt with policies and matters with general economic and social implications, consideration could be given to the regional office being located in the same city as the regional Economic Commission. But it was emphasized more than once that special offices and centres would be needed for specific projects or multi-national activities at the sub-regional level. When it was not possible for regional offices to be located at Addis Ababa, the idea of establishing a joint division within the secretariat should not be ruled out.

87. With regard to Question 4, it was stated that, in addition to offices and centres, periodic meetings involving regional groupings, UNDP and the regional Economic Commission, should be instituted to make it easier to co-ordinate policies and harmonize activities.

88. With regard to Question 5, the Committee favoured the appointment of a senior UNDP official to the Commission as a better means of ensuring closer liaison between the policy decisions of the Commission and UNDP activities than the creation of a UNDP regional office.

89. The Committee recalled that the Commission at its ninth session and at its own meetings had emphasized the role which African Governments wished ECA to play. The instructions for preparing an answer to Question 6 specified the areas in which the Commission was expected to play a major and effective role.

90. The Committee requested African Governments, when answering Question 7, to recall the wishes of the Commission and the resolutions of the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly regarding the decentralization of responsibilities in the economic field towards the regional economic commissions. The Committee added that the transfer of activities to sub-regional groupings would be a natural consequence of the policy of fully involving regions and sub-regions in the formulation and implementation of the programmes of the UN system.

91. The Committee considered that a three-tier arrangement - national, sub-regional and regional - would increase the usefulness and effectiveness of

United Nations programmes. Such an arrangement would fit into a global programme of United Nations activities. The Committee fully commended the arrangement which enabled ECA to take part as a full member in the biennial conferences of FAO, and suggested it as a model to be followed by other specialized and operating agencies.

92. The Committee requested the secretariat to investigate a suitable basis for ensuring effective co-operation with regional inter-governmental organizations and non-governmental bodies not directly within the United Nations system in order that their contribution to African economic development might be better known and increased.

Other business

93. The secretariat submitted to the Committee a document summing up three questions for the consideration of members, namely, the appointment of the members of the Executive Committee, the expiry of their term of office and the submission to the Conference of Ministers, through the Executive Committee of the report of the Technical Committee of Experts.

94. Following an exchange of views, it was decided that the officers of the Commission elected at each session should be members of the Executive Committee, but that the Executive Committee would elect its own officers: a Chairman, two Vice-chairmen and a Rapporteur. The Chairman of the Executive Commission would thus become the spokesman and representative of the Commission. That decision called for no change in the Commission's rules of procedure, but only for an amendment of the text of the annex to resolution 188(IX) on the institutional machinery of the Commission.

95. To ensure continuity in the work of the Executive Committee, it was agreed that the term of office of each member should be for two years, but that at meetings of representatives of States of the sub-regions held in connexion with the Commission's sessions, the States of each sub-region should renew for a further two years the term of office of one of the two members appointed to represent the sub-region within the Committee.

96. The Committee approved a draft resolution to be submitted to the Conference of Ministers for its consideration, giving effect to the decisions adopted by the Committee at its first meeting, that the reports of the Technical Committee of Experts should be submitted to the Conference of Ministers through the Executive Committee (see Annex V).

97. Before the meeting rose the Committee members, in accordance with their terms of reference, paid unanimous tribute to the Chairman, His Excellency, Youssouf Sylla, and thanked him for his skill, devotion and understanding in conducting the proceedings of the Committee and upholding the decisions of its members.

ADOPTION OF THE REPORT

96. After examining the draft report and making the necessary amendments, the Committee adopted it at its meeting on 13 November 1970.

Annex I. LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

A. REPRESENTATIVES OF SUB-REGIONS

Central Africa

Mr. R. Mutombo) Democratic Republic of Congo
Mr. A. Makouangou	} People's Republic of the Congo
Mr. M. Ngandaloki	

East Africa

Mr. Ochieng Adala) Kenya
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West Africa

Mr. J. U. Onochie) Nigeria
Mr. Youssouf Sylla	} Senegal
Mr. Mansour Seck	
Mr. J. Parsine Crespin	

North Africa

Mr. Abderrahim Harket) Morocco
Mr. Osman Abdalla Hamid) Sudan

B. REPRESENTATIVES OF AFRICAN MEMBERS OF UNITED NATIONS BODIES

Economic and Social Council

Mr. Mahamat Gabdou) Chad
Mr. Jones Ofori-Atta	} Ghana
Mr. J. C. Bonney	
Mr. H. C. K. Seddoh	

Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme

Mr. Mohammed Aberkane) Algeria
Mr. Saleh Said Mbonde) Tanzania

C. OBSERVERS

United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

Mr. Sergije Makiedo

International Labour Organization (ILO)

Mr. Pierre Adossama

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United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)

Mr. M. C. Mensah

United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)

Mr. E. Amerding

Organization of African Unity (OAU)

Mr. Diallo Telli
Mr. F. Warsama

African Groundnut Council

Mr. J. Diouf

Annex II. LIST OF DOCUMENTS

- E/CN.14/ECO/23 Provisional Agenda
- E/CN.14/ECO/22
E/CN.14/479 Report of the third meeting of the Executive Committee
- E/CN.14/ECO/INF/10 Measures taken in pursuance of the recommendations of the Executive Committee
- E/CN.14/487 Report of an ECA Economic Co-operation Mission to Central Africa
- E/CN.14/497 Some Institutional Aspects of African Economic co-operation
- E/CN.14/ECO/24 Questionnaire for the Study on Regional Structures
- Africa's Strategy for Development in the 1970's (Provisional draft)

Background documents

- E/CN.14/ECO/11
E/CN.14/456 Report of the first meeting of the Executive Committee
- E/CN.14/ECO/18
E/CN.14/462 Report of the second meeting of the Executive Committee
- E/CN.14/453 ECA Annual Report (1968-1969) (Volume I)
- E/CN.14/480 A Survey of economic conditions in Africa, 1969 (Part I Preliminary draft)
- E/CN.14/CAP.3/20
E/CN.14/481 Report of the third session of the Conference of African Planners

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Annex III

Annex III. TELEGRAMME FROM THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE UNITED NATIONS ON THE SUBJECT OF THE VENUE OF THE TENTH SESSION OF ECA

UNATIONS
NEW YORK

N1014 FOR SECRETARY-GENERAL U THANT THE CHAIRMAN INFORMED THE FOURTH MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE NOW BEING HELD IN ADDIS ABABA FROM 9 TO 13 NOVEMBER THAT IN SPITE OF FORMAL RESOLUTIONS OF ECA (9TH SESSION) ECOSOC (47TH SESSION) AND THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY (24TH SESSION) AS WELL AS PERSONAL INTERVENTION BY PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF TUNISIA AT UNITED NATIONS AND LETTER SIGNED BY SEVERAL AFRICAN DELEGATIONS TO UNITED NATIONS, THE SECRETARY-GENERAL IS STILL CONTEMPLATING EXERCISING HIS POWERS TO CHANGE THE VENUE OF THE TENTH SESSION OF ECA STOP THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE STRONGLY FEELS THAT SUCH ACTION WOULD UNDERMINE CONFIDENCE IN THE COMPETENCE OF ECA AS AN ORGAN TO SERVE INTERESTS OF AFRICAN COUNTRIES IF THE WISHES OF ONE NON-AFRICAN STATE CAN BE ALLOWED TO SET ASIDE THE DECISION OF THE COMMISSION AND THWART THE EFFORTS OF ITS MEMBER STATES STOP

THE EXCLUSION FROM THE WORK OF THE COMMISSION OF THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA FOR ITS RACIST POLICIES AND OF PORTUGAL ON COLONIALIST GROUNDS SUGGEST SOME DISCRETION IN THE INTERPRETATION OF THE PRINCIPLE OF UNIVERSALITY TO TAKE INTO ACCOUNT DUE CONSIDERATION OF SPECIAL POLITICAL CIRCUMSTANCES STOP AND SINCE TUNISIA HAS SIGNED THE NECESSARY AGREEMENT FOR THE HOLDING OF THE TENTH SESSION THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE THEREFORE STRONGLY URGE THE SECRETARY-GENERAL TO ENSURE THAT THE TENTH SESSION OF THE COMMISSION TAKE PLACE IN TUNIS AS DECIDED BY THE COMMISSION, ENDORSED BY ECOSOC AND APPROVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

AMBASSADOR YOUSSEUF SYLLA
CHAIRMAN ECA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

9 NOVEMBER 1970

Annex IV. EXPLANATORY NOTES BY THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ON THE QUESTIONNAIRE
OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE UNITED NATIONS
FOR THE STUDY ON REGIONAL STRUCTURES

Reference should be made to the following documents in the preparation
of replies to the questionnaire for the Study on Regional Structures:

Report of the ACC on Co-ordination at the Regional Level
(E/4335 and Add.1);

General Review of the Programmes and Activities of the United
Nations Family in the Economic, Social, Technical Co-operation
and Related Fields (E/AC.51/GR/L.6 Chapter I);

Capacity Study of the United Nations Development System
(DP/5) (Appendix Three);

General Assembly resolutions 1709(XVI) and 1823(XVII);

Economic and Social Council resolutions 793(XXX) and 1442(XLVII);

Report of the meetings of the Executive Secretaries
of the regional economic commissions held in 1970;

Report of the tenth session of the Governing Council of the
United Nations Development Programme to the forty-ninth session
of the Economic and Social Council (E/4884) (paragraph 94:
Consensus approved by the Governing Council).

Question One:

The Committee considered that some common criteria should be established for the creation of regional structures to take into consideration the reasons for their location and composition, the specific functions they are intended to serve and whether such structures are in a position to co-ordinate their activities effectively with other United Nations sub-regional units and, in particular, with the overall activities of the regional economic commission. The offices of the following agencies in Africa called for immediate review:

UNESCO

WHO

WMO
ILO
UNICEF
FAO
ICAO
IBRD
ECA Sub-regional Offices

Question Two:

The Committee considered that it would not be necessary to have identical regional groupings for all the organizations in the United Nations' system. It recognized that it would be necessary to have offices of the specialized agencies for general and special purposes. Offices for general purposes should be at the seat of the Regional Economic Commission so that overall economic and social policies could be co-ordinated. This would facilitate the sharing of information between the agencies and the regional commissions and the formulation of an integrated United Nations approach in specific fields. Wherever possible the Committee considered a joint division which should be established with specialized and operating agencies, e.g., ECA/FAO, ECA/UNIDO, ECA/UNCTAD, etc.

Special purpose offices should only be established to deal with local projects or localized problems of multinational co-ordinating functions or the running of common services, e.g., multinational meteorological service, transport development and co-ordinating centre, research and training facilities, etc.

Question Three:

The main argument of Question Two applied. It was possible to have several centres of activities of the United Nations. Such special centres should serve special purposes as defined in the answer to Question Two.

Question Four:

The Committee considered that governments would welcome action at the sub-regional level for special purposes, such as:

- Trade and industrial promotion;
- Transport co-ordination;
- Specific institutes for natural resources development;
- Co-ordinating efforts in the application of science and technology;
- Co-ordination of the movement of labour and multinational efforts at promoting employment.

The institution of periodic review meetings at the sub-regional level to be attended by sub-regional representatives of the UNDP, the regional economic commission and other United Nations agencies.

Question Five:

Co-ordination at the regional level was indispensable because the impact of a United Nations effort would not be maximized if the rates of change in different sectors of the economy and society in general were uneven. For general purposes, i.e., overall economic and social purposes, such co-ordination should be based on the activities of the regional economic commission.

A senior UNDP official might be attached to the secretariat of the regional economic commission to facilitate co-ordination between policy decisions of the Commission and actions of UNDP.

Question Six:

Measures to ensure full implementation of the General Assembly and ECOSOC resolutions which seek to enhance the role of the regional economic commissions were discussed during the ninth session of ECA, the meetings of the Executive Committee and most recently in "Africa's strategy for development during the 1970s". The implementation would require decentralization of responsibilities as between headquarters and the regional economic

commission and transfer of some activities from the headquarters of the regional economic commission to the sub-regions. The role of the regional economic commission had been defined as follows:

- (1) A centre for scientific and technical studies and promotion of activities in all sectors of the economy of African countries;
- (2) A planning advisory service to be closely linked to country programming exercises;
- (3) Promotion of structural changes with particular reference to transport and communications, trade and industry;
- (4) Promotion of education and facilities for the transfer of skills (applied science and technology);
- (5) Co-ordinator of United Nations initiatives in Africa.

In all these activities the Commission should be in close contact with the specialized agencies. In brief, serve as a co-ordinating centre for activities intended to promote economic and social advancement. In recent years, the Commission had taken decisions and promoted actions with the full backing of OAU, i.e., the African Heads of State and Government.

Question Seven:

The functions of the regional economic commission outlined in the answer to Question Six, in particular the transfer of responsibilities from headquarters to the sub-regions, assumed that the Commission would participate in planning and programming of technical co-operation in individual African countries. The sectoral divisions of ECA in this process collaborate with the officials of the specialized and operating agencies and make available to them intimate knowledge of African conditions. The observations of the Executive Committee on the Jackson Report laid special emphasis on the need for ECA to be associated with operational activities.

Question Eight:

The Committee considered that ECA should have joint divisions with most of the specialized and operating agencies, in particular, UNESCO, FAO, UNIDO, UNCTAD, UNICEF, ITU and the ILO. In the field of science and technology and natural resources development, the counterpart sections and units in ECA were in close contact with headquarters' divisions. Such an arrangement made possible the sharing of experiences and the articulation of local interests and problems. That suggestion stemmed from the fact that global resolutions, policies and schemes needed to be translated into national requirements and programmes. A three-tier arrangement in order to increase the relevance and effectiveness of United Nations programmes was inevitable. Specialized and operating agencies would be in a position to participate effectively in activities at the regional level if their officials worked with the secretariats of the regional economic commissions in joint divisions which would formulate unified programmes.

Question Nine:

The Committee considered that African Governments could favour periodic discussions of broad sectoral policies and activities and overall regional development policies within the regional economic commission with the specialized agencies. That had already been done at meetings such as the biennial regional conference of FAO. It would in fact be an unnecessary duplication to have separate regional conferences of the specialized agencies in addition to regional conferences organized by the regional economic commissions.

Question Ten:

The Committee requested an investigation to be undertaken by the regional economic commission to establish a basis for effective co-operation with regional inter-governmental organizations and non-governmental bodies not directly within the United Nations system, but whose activities were relevant to the effectiveness of the development effort in Africa either in individual countries or the region as a whole.

Annex V. DRAFT RESOLUTION ON THE SUBMISSION OF REPORTS BY THE TECHNICAL COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS

The Economic Commission for Africa,

Recalling resolution 188(IX) establishing the Institutional Machinery of the Commission and resolution 191(IX) on Transitional Provisions,

Taking into account the respective functions of the Executive Committee and the Technical Committee of Experts, in relation to their responsibilities as set out under resolution 188(IX),

Noting with satisfaction the work performed by the two Committees since their establishment in 1969,

Desirous of improving the work of the Committees and, in particular, their working relationship with each other,

Recommends that:

(a) all reports of the Technical Committee of Experts shall be submitted through the Executive Committee for consideration of the Conference of Ministers;

(b) resolution 188(IX) B(a), relating to the functions of the Technical Committee of Experts, be amended to read as follows:

" to examine studies prepared by the secretariat and to make appropriate reports, through the Executive Committee, to the Conference of Ministers. "

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