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STANDARD PERIODIC NATIONAL ECONOMIC SURVEY

1. General Assembly Resolution 1710 (XVI) of 19 December 1961 urges that: "Member States and their peoples will intensify their efforts to mobilize and to sustain support for the measures required on the part of both developed and developing countries to accelerate progress towards self-sustaining growth of the economy of the individual nations and their social advancement so as to attain in each underdeveloped country a substantial increase in the rate of growth".
2. This objective has hitherto been met by the secretariat largely through the publication of proposals for agreed action and policies as well as information on the entire range of economic matters that affect development in the countries of the African region. For instance, the Foreign Trade Newsletter supplies news of all trade, payments, foreign aid and related subjects concerning the region. Other newsletters on statistical development and services and on natural resources and energy serve similar purposes in their respective fields, while the Agricultural Economics bulletin deals with productivity, modernization and reform among many other areas in a field where progress is of crucial importance to the whole future of the continent. The Economic Bulletin for Africa published twice a year surveys trends in trade, production, investment and other economic activities in the African countries, and also deals with special subjects which recount the experience of some of these countries in the region and offer a yardstick by which other countries may assess their own progress.

3. Recently the United Nations Headquarters prepared in response to a Commission request made in 1959 an Economic Survey of Africa for the period 1950-1958. A more comprehensive and up-to-date survey of Africa, partly completed and partly still in preparation, will deal with the problems of sub-regional integration and also study the general prospects and vital issues in economic development for the various countries.

4. A further step that the secretariat is considering is the preparation of periodic economic surveys by all African countries on a comprehensive basis. So far, very few African countries prepare economic surveys on a regular basis; fewer still make the survey a vital instrument for controlling economic growth and for shaping future plans. The secretariat is now examining ways of correcting this deficiency, and towards this end, has drawn up and issued a STANDARD PERIODIC NATIONAL ECONOMIC SURVEY form^{1/} to all the members of the Commission. The form consists of a comprehensive range of questions concerning each country's economy, including relevant social aspects. It is considered that not all countries will be able to supply the required answers to these questions, as the analytical and statistical services have not had time since political emancipation to be developed to a sufficiently advanced stage everywhere to make this possible. An asterisk has been used to mark the questions which are not only of fundamental importance to planning, but also of such a nature that the provision of answers to them will probably not present serious difficulties. The questions have been designed (in both coverage and depth) so as to ensure that the answers to them will help materially in the formulation of development plans, the revision of existing ones, and the preparation of economic, demographic and social projections, which are an essential part of all planning.

5. The secretariat has appointed members of its staff to the sub-regional offices, whose duty it will be to visit the administrations

^{1/} Annex I, distributed to participants at the first session of the Conference of African Planners.

of the various countries and co-operate with the officials specially designated by their respective governments and also official and other organizations who are able to provide the relevant information. The aim is to enable countries who already prepare surveys to improve their studies in coverage and depth while assisting the others that do not issue any such surveys in laying the foundations for such publications. A further important aim is to open up the possibilities for countries to compare their relative rates and methods of progress and to draw helpful conclusions therefrom.

ANNEX

Standard Periodic National Economic Survey
(Recent and Planned Changes)

Preface

The outline of the annual economic survey of individual African countries presented overleaf pursues two objectives:

- (i) The principal objective is to help each country to understand its own economic problems better, to help it to find solutions and to get a proper perspective of the direction in which it is going.
- (ii) The other objective is to facilitate comparisons between one African country and all others and to stimulate co-operation among them for mutual advantage.

To achieve these two purposes the individual countries must know a great deal more about themselves than they do at the present time. The outline was drawn up in the full knowledge that many African countries do not possess today the data or the statistical services to enable them to prepare a full economic survey as envisaged. Statistical services are, however, being rapidly developed throughout the continent, and the outline has been compiled to guide such development which is an important pre-requisite of sound planning for economic growth.

CHAPTER I

Population Changes

- *Estimate of the current population.
- *Recent growth rates.
- *Vital rates, if possible by sex and age groups. Recent changes.
- *Sex and age group distribution.
- *Rural and urban population. Net migration to urban areas.
- *Population in different political divisions and tribal areas.
- *Immigration and emigration, African, Asian and Euro-American.

*Occupational and industrial distribution.

*Employment, visible.

Distinguished unemployment.

Population projection forwards (to the end of the next decade or later).

CHAPTER 2

National Income

*Gross domestic product (gross factor cost, indirect taxes, import content).

Split-up of gross domestic product into subsistence and market economy sectors.

*National expenditure (consumption, investment, public authorities, expenditure on goods and services, exports, imports).

Aggregate incomes in basic economic sub-areas of the country.

*Income per head in the country as a whole; in urban and rural areas.

Growth rates of aggregate income and of income per head.

CHAPTER 3

Trade with Other African Countries

(a) The Framework of Intra-African Trade

*Progress in providing infra-structure for increased intra-African trade (e.g. roads with adjoining countries, transport facilities and telecommunications, facilities for foreign exchange transactions, etc.).

*Measures for active promotion of intra-African trade.

*Establishment of multi-national industries with free or preferential access to markets of neighbouring countries.

*Functioning of an existing customs union (e.g. Equatorial Customs Union, East African Customs Union).

*Bilateral and multilateral trade and payment treaties with other African States, including plans for or progress towards the implementation of new customs union.

*New Rights and duties under GATT and UNCTAD.

*Intra-African customs duties, import quotas, exchange restrictions.

*Goods smuggling.

(b) Changes in exports to African countries

Changes in value of exports to other African countries during the last three years.

Analysis of total change into volume and price.

(c) Changes in imports from African countries.

Changes in the value of imports from other African countries during the last three years.

Analysis of total changes into volume and price.

*Changes in the composition of imports. (Consumer goods, investment goods, intermediate input goods, government goods, re-export goods).

Import propensities of different industries in respect of current inputs and fixed equipment, of consumers, of public authorities.

(d) *Changes in invisible exports to and imports from African Countries

(e) *Transit trade in African goods

(f) Development of intra-African terms of trade

(g) Intra-African balance of payments

*Bilateral trade balances.

*The sum of the in-payments and out-payments between the national economy in question and all other African States.

*Means of settling intra-African deficits.

(h) Progress towards a larger ratio of intra-African trade to total trade

*Change in growth rate of intra-African imports and exports.

*Change in intra-African import and export propensities.

CHAPTER 4

Trade with Other Continents (Inter-Continental Trade)

(a) The Framework of inter-continental trade

*Infra-structure for inter-continental trade (shipping lines, harbours transport facilities to harbours).

*Measures for active promotion of inter-continental trade.

*Multilateral conventions of economic association with EEC and other blocs of overseas countries (e.g. EFTA, COMECON).

*Bilateral and multilateral trade and payments agreements with overseas countries.

*New rights and duties under GATT and UNCTAD.

*Inter-continental customs duties, import quotas and exchange restrictions.

*Smuggling of inter-continental goods (e.g. diamonds, gold, cigarettes, etc.)

(b) Development in the main extra-African markets for the country's exports

*Changes in export duties and export controls.

*Changes in value of exports to different countries over the last three years.

*Analysis of the total change into volume and price.

*Changes in composition of exports.

*Main determinants of exports (boom or recession in the main buying countries, trade agreements affecting sales, competition from new suppliers).

*International commodity agreements.

(c) Developments in imports from other continents

*Changes in import controls, tariffs, etc.

*Changes in the values of total imports from different countries or other continents over the last three years.

*Analysis of total change into volume and price.

*Change in composition of imports, consumer goods (necessaries, light and heavy luxuries), investment goods, intermediate input goods (unfinished goods), government's goods, re-export goods.

Changing import propensities of different industries in respect of current inputs and fixed equipment, of consumers, of public authorities.

(d) *Changes in invisible trade (e.g. banking, insurance, transport tourist services).

(e) Transit trade in overseas goods

(f) *Development of the terms of inter-continental trade

(g) The balance of inter-continental payments and changes in foreign exchange reserves

*Bilateral trade balances.

*Changes in the trade balance.

*Changes in recorded income transfers (profits and interest), and capital transfers.

Probable magnitude of unidentified income and capital flows, including loans raised, trade credits incurred, etc. Flight of capital. Currency smuggling.

*Change in foreign exchange reserves of central bank.

*The change in external balances of commercial banks in countries without monetary autonomy.

(h) *Progress towards less economic dependence on, or domination by individual or groups of industrialized countries with respect to imports and exports.

(i) Change in growth rates of inter-continental imports and exports.

Change in inter-continental import and export propensities.

Comparison with growth rate of national incomes.

CHAPTER 5

Progress of the domestic economy in relation to targets

(a) Development of aggregate supplies in the main sectors in relation to targets

(i) Agricultural performance and targets

- *Foods and agricultural raw materials for domestic markets.
Degree of self-sufficiency in agricultural products.
- *Harvests; actual yield and forecasts.
- *Change from subsistence to commercialized agriculture.
Provision of incentives.
- *Measures to promote large-scale production.
- *Provision of transport and marketing facilities, etc.
- *Primary processing (oil expression, sugar refining, etc.)
- *Agricultural credit.

(ii) Mining development and targets

- *Discovery of new natural resources. Newly proved deposits.
- *New mining operations.
- *Planned utilization.
- *Primary processing (concentrates, smelters)

(iii) Progress of manufacturing industries and targets

- *New manufacturing projects.
- *New large and medium scale plants in construction or
being run-in.
- *Multi-national plants.
- *Displacement of imports.
- *Growth of exports of manufactures.
- *Measures for promotion of manufacturing business -
industrial credit, marketing facilities, etc.

(iv) Small-scale industries and artisans, and targets

- *Output of small-scale industries and artisans in towns and
- *Village industries and targets.
- *Technical aid for small-scale producing business.
- *Use of power-driven hand tools.
- *Trading estates for small-scale business.
- *Sub-contracting work for small-scale industries.
- *Co-operation and mergers among small scale producing businesses.
- *Credit facilities for small-scale businesses.

(v) Service industries (except finance) and targets

- *National and multi-national power, transport, telecommunications, systems.
- *Retailing, wholesaling, advertising, tourist trade, personal services, etc.
- *Indication of progress in efficiency and technology of production

(b) Development of aggregate internal demand in relation to targets

(i) Aggregate demand for domestic products

- *Changes in consumption of necessities, light and heavy luxuries.
- *Demand for investment goods.
- *Demand for government goods.
- Demand for inter-industry inputs and inventories.
- *Excessive or deficient aggregate demand for domestic products and its explanation.

(ii) Aggregate demand for imports

Imports of investment goods, of inter-industry inputs, consumption goods, government goods and of re-export goods.

Changes in stock of imported goods.

*Changes in the composition, volume and value of imports and inferences from those changes.

*Excessive or deficient aggregate demand for imports and its explanation.

(c) Inter-action between aggregate supply and demand in domestic markets

*(i) Trend of wholesale prices of domestic goods

*(ii) Trend of retail prices of domestic goods

(iii) Cost-price-and profit relationships

(iv) Intended and unintended stock changes

*(v) Excess or deficient productive capacity in some sectors

(vi) Change in income-and-price elasticities and marginal propensities to spend.

(d) Changes in quantity and productivity of factors of production

(i) *Manpower and training

*Structure of employment

*Comparison between the increment in the labour force of various types

Changes in paid employment and in family employment

*Comparison between new jobs created by development and increase in manpower

*Output of schools and training institutions by public and private sector.

*Absorption of qualified manpower

*Net arrivals of expatriate high and middle-level manpower
Employment opportunities for women

*Labour migration

*Labour productivity. Trade union attitude to productivity
Changes in attitude to work

*Industrial discipline.

(ii) *Real capital formation

*Construction of infrastructures

*Construction of industrial and office buildings

*New plants, vehicles, etc.

Multiple shifts in industrial plants.

(iii) *Improvement of land and land use

*Land reclamation: irrigation schemes, anti-erosion measures, improvement, fertility

Land reform and immediate plans.

(iv) *Indigenous and expatriate entrepreneurship and management

Insurable and non-insurable risk-bearing

*Growth of indigenous and expatriate managerial cadres.

(e) The money and capital markets, central and commercial banking and insurance

*Supply of domestic savings (personal, government and business savings)

*Net influx of foreign money-capital

Changes in assets and liabilities of commercial banks. Various banking ratios (e.g. cash ratio, liquidity ratio, loan and advances ratios)

Progress of indigenization of bank assets

Advances to the different sectors of economy

Measures to make potential borrowers more creditworthy

*Industrial and agricultural development banks

*Changes in assets and liabilities of central bank

*Branch banking

Policy on rediscounting

*Indigenous and foreign insurance

Monetary causes of boom or recession.

CHAPTER 6

The Public Sector

(a) The Budget

(i) Changes in tax and subsidy structure designed to aid economic and social development

Analysis of:

taxes with high income-elastic yield

taxes and subsidies encouraging technical progress

taxes and subsidies promoting efficient utilization of factors (land, labour, producers' capital)

taxes and subsidies equalizing factor productivity and remuneration (e.g. tax on artificially low factor costs and subsidies to artificially high factor costs)

taxes promoting conservation of resources and domestic primary processing

taxes promoting fair competition

*differential taxes encouraging savings

*differential taxes encouraging productive investment and discouraging unproductive investment

taxes discouraging unproductive speculation (capital gains tax, etc.)

*taxes reducing inequalities of income and wealth

subsidies for promoting family control

(ii) Progress in efficiency of tax administration

Changing difference between possible and actual yield of the following categories of taxes:

on products

on factors of production (land, labour, machinery, vehicles, etc.)

on incomes

on financial assets of businesses

on consumer capital

(iii) Consolidated current expenditures by public authorities
on goods and services (i.e. resources-using expenditure)

- a. promoting economic development
- b. maintaining economic position unchanged
- c. ratios of different items of resources-using expenditures
per head of population.

(iv) Consolidated current and capital transfer expenditures by
public authorities

subsidies

interest payments

social welfare payments

net acquisition of titles to wealth

ratios of different items of transfer expenditure per head
of population

(v) *Changes in public real investment expenditure analyzed with
reference to planned changes. Under-spending, over-
spending

(vi) Fiscal control of inflation and deflation

changes in taxes and subsidy rates

changes in borrowing and lending

changes in total expenditures by public authorities

(b) Infrastructure

*Maintenance of existing infrastructures

*New infrastructures in progress or completed

(c) Physical planning

New plans for cities and towns. New plans for land use. New road
plans. Acquisition of land for public uses (e.g. hospitals, town
centres, roads, etc.)

(d) Cost of public supply of high and middle-level manpower

*Training in progress or completed at home or abroad.

Government financed supply of expatriate high and middle-level technical aid manpower (teachers, medical personnel, administrative personnel, technologists, technicians, etc.)

(e) *Economic services provided by public authorities, including aids

to private sectors. New services, reorganization of services, efficiency of services

Trade Fairs

(f) *Purchasing and selling transactions by public authorities (producer marketing boards, etc.)

(g) *Public authority producing enterprises (mining, plantation, manufacture, shipping, railways)

(h) Statistical services for economic development

(i) *Census and sample survey of population, classification by
occupations, industrial, industrial status, etc.

(ii) Global social accounts

*national product and income

*balance of payments

*international indebtedness

input-output accounts

(iii) Sectoral censuses

census of agriculture

census of mining production

census of industrial production

census of distribution

census of transport

census of housing and households

land use survey

(iv) Public sector accounts

reclassified according to social accounting terminology
current resources - using expenditure
current and capital transfer expenditure (subsidies,
interest payments, borrowing, lending, redemption of
loans, purchases of land)
real investment expenditures, etc.

(v) Production statistics(vi) Trade statistics(vii) Consumption sample surveys

(viii) Price statistics for different types of goods (consumption,
investment, imports, exports, government goods, etc.)

(ix) Sample surveys of factor remunerations (wages, rents, profits,
etc.)

(x) Financial statistics (savings, statistics of financial
institutions, etc.)

(xi) Physical planning data (hydrological survey, geological survey,
traffic statistics, town planning data, country planning
data)

(xii) Are sample surveys organized on a continuing basis?

CHAPTER 7

Foreign Aid and Technical Assistance and Foreign Indebtedness

- (a) *Mutual intra-African aid and assistance. Continuing and new projects.
- (b) *Bilateral extra-African aid - Continuing and new projects
(including aid from the big philanthropic foundations).
- (c) *Multilateral extra-African aid. Continuing and new projects
IBRD, IFCO, SUNFED, IDA, EEC, European Fund, DAC, Commonwealth Aid, etc.
- (d) *Foreign indebtedness. Accumulated to-date and changes in current year.
 - *Annual debt service. Foreign exchange stipulations for payments.
 - *Total indebtedness. Net growth of foreign indebtedness compared with growth of gross domestic product and exports.
- (e) *Technical experts working in the country, their fields of work and changes in numbers. Financial sources for defraying their cost.
- (f) *National trainees abroad . Expected return of fully trained nationals, specified as to date of return, numbers and qualifications.
- (g) Absorption capacity for foreign aid. National programming to mobilize domestic resources and to derive maximum benefit from foreign aid.

CHAPTER 8

National Economic Policy(a) Formulation of new annual plans. New long-term plans

*Revisions of existing plans

*New targets

*New forecasting techniques

Use of input-output accounts.

(b) The current development strategy.(c) Measures to achieve economic equality among the basic economic sub-areas of x million population inside the national territory.(d) Multi-national economic projects and co-ordination.(e) Development financing.(f) *Promotion and guidance of expatriate enterprises

Co-operation between public and private enterprises to promote larger national purposes.

(g) Budget policy (see Chapter 6 (a)).Income policy, tax policy, subsidies policy, price policy
(combatting inflationary and deflationary tendencies).(h) Trade and foreign exchange policyControl of imports, exports, foreign exchange
commodity controls

new economic groupings (customs unions, etc.).

(i) Control of restrictive practices.(j) Changes in inter-personal inequality of incomes.(k) Population policy.

CHAPTER 9

Institutional and Social Policy for Development

- (a) *Measures for producing sociological changes favouring development
 - *Remove obstacles to development (e.g. tribal and racial discrimination)
 - *Changes to promote development (e.g. co-operatives).
- (b) *Africanization and optimization of expatriate assistance.
- (c) The economic roles of citizens originally of Asian or European extraction.
- (d) Administrative changes in the economic field.
- (e) Legislative changes in the economic field (e.g. Investment codes, etc.).
- (f) Changes in the machinery of planning - Feasibility studies - Pre-investment studies - Project evaluations.
- (g) Social welfare measures, as indispensable inputs into human productivity (housing, health, education) and as brakes on growth.
 - Cost-benefit analysis of social welfare expenditure
 - Density of occupation of floor space in towns
 - *Growth of housing, health and educational expenditure per head compared with growth of income per head.

CHAPTER 10

Approach to Self-Sustaining Growth

- (a) * The retreat of the subsistence sector and the growth of the market sector.
- (b) * Transition from a dual (expatriate and indigenous) economy to a unified system of economic inter-relationships.
- (c) Changing dependence on external stimuli
 - Ratios of occupied persons in export industries to total fully-occupied persons.
 - Expatriates as a ratio of total occupied persons.
 - High-level and middle-level expatriates as a ratio of total high level and middle level manpower.
 - Comparison of indigenous high-level and middle-level manpower trained abroad and at home as ratio of total occupied persons.
 - Growth rate of production for domestic use and for exports.
 - New home production substituted for imports.
 - New expatriate and new indigenous businesses.
 - Growth of expatriate and domestic capital.
- (d) Cost-benefit analysis of investment and cost consciousness
 - Elimination of private prestige investment (ownership of land, houses, cars, etc.).
 - Elimination of ostentations and conspicuous investment (lavish buildings).
 - Elimination of unproductive public investment (e.g. purchase of trading firms).
 - Standard costing procedures: comparison of standard and actual costs.
 - Standard rates of return.
 - Standard managerial performance.
 - Standard man/hour productivity.

- (e) Internal points and areas of economic growth. Stagnant sectors.
- (f) Spread of modern technology
 - Ratios of natural science teaching in school and universities.
 - Scientific research into production possibilities.
 - Use of electricity by sub-areas.
 - Use of lorries by sub-areas.
 - Use of motorized portable hand tools.
 - Ratio of workers with power-driven machinery to total workers in different industries.
- (g) Specifically reorganizing family, educational and social environment
 - so as to provide inside the nation the maximum possible number of innovators, initiators, experimenters, inventors, modernizers, enterprisers.
 - Social, political and economic prestige of modernizers compared with traditional persons of importance.
- (h) Adequacy of indigenous high-level manpower
 - Optimum ratios of high-level manpower in different industries and indigenous supply.
- (i) Income-elasticity of the rate of domestic savings.
- (j) * Excess of income growth rate over population growth.
- (k) The will to develop
 - (i) Actual and potential, physical and mental vigour of the population in the different sub-areas of the nation or determined by the living conditions, especially of women, babies, children and youths.
 - (ii) Willingness of local authorities and voluntary institutions to co-operate for development.
 - (iii) Nature and effectiveness of incentive revolutionary technologies
 - (a) Are new, simple but revolutionary technologies demonstrated in every part of the country such as efficient hand-tools (axes, scythes, saws), bicycles to reduce drudgery? And increase output?

- (b) Are durable consumption goods (e.g. kitchen ware, shoes, transistor-radios) demonstrated to elicit extra efforts by which to acquire them?
- (c) Does extra-effort earn extra remuneration?
- (d) Have the fruits of development been distributed in such a way as to provide incentives to all sections and areas of the nation?
- (iv) *Is there a vigorous display on the part of local authorities, groups of citizens (e.g. undertaking self-help projects), business enterprises and private individuals to promote development?
- (v) The social prestige and the availability of modernizers.

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