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CO-OPERATION BETWEEN THE UNITED NATIONS AND THE ORGANIZATION OF AFRICAN UNITY

Report of the Secretary-General

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I. INTRODUCTION

1. The General Assembly, in its resolution 39/8 of 8 November 1984, expressed satisfaction over the continued co-operation between the United Nations and the Organization of African Unity (OAU) in areas of common interest. The Assembly pointed to various problems facing the African continent, including the urgent development needs of independent African States, the refugee situation, and the need for special economic and emergency programmes to help African States affected by natural disasters and socio-economic problems. Reference was also made to the situation in southern Africa, particularly with regard to the deteriorating situation arising from South Africa's policy of apartheid and by its acts of aggression against neighbouring States.
2. In that resolution, the General Assembly, inter alia, recognized the importance of continued close association by the United Nations and the specialized agencies with the efforts of OAU to promote social and economic development and to advance intra-African co-operation in that vital field; and reaffirmed the determination of the United Nations to work closely with OAU towards the establishment of a new international economic order and, in that regard, to take full account of the Lagos Plan of Action for the Implementation of the Monrovia Strategy for the Economic Development of Africa.
3. Referring to the initiative of the Secretary-General in alerting the international community to the critical economic situation in Africa, the General Assembly expressed its appreciation of the action he had taken to organize and mobilize special programmes of economic assistance for African States experiencing grave economic difficulties and requested him to strengthen co-operation between the United Nations and OAU, particularly with regard to the provision of assistance to the victims of colonialism and apartheid in southern Africa. It urged the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system to continue to expand their co-operation with OAU and, through it, their assistance to the liberation movements recognized by that organization.
4. The following chapters of this report indicate the nature and extent of co-operation which has taken place between the United Nations and OAU during the past 12 months, as well as the response of the various components of the United Nations system to the measures called for in the resolution.

II. CONSULTATIONS AND EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION

5. During the period under review, the Secretary-General addressed two meetings of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of OAU, which were held in Addis Ababa. On each occasion, it enabled the Secretary-General to meet with the current Chairman as well as with many other African leaders. The Conferences also provided an opportunity for meetings with the Secretary-General ad interim of OAU to discuss matters of mutual concern to the two organizations.

Assembly of Heads of State and Government of OAU, November 1984

6. In his address to the 1984 Assembly of Heads of State and Government of OAU, the Secretary-General reviewed Africa's main problems including the emergency situation and the drought. He called on the international community to increase its assistance to the affected African countries. As regards the situation in southern Africa, the Secretary-General emphasized that the policy of apartheid pursued by the Government of South Africa was at the centre of the violence and conflicts in the region. He stated that these developments indicated that without the eradication of apartheid, the situation would continue to remain grave. Concerning the question of Namibia, he stated that South Africa's insistence on the linkage pre-condition still made it impossible to proceed with the implementation of the United Nations plan. In this connection, he said that Namibia should be considered as a primary issue in its own right in order to facilitate the achievement of self-determination and independence by the people of Namibia. Turning to the question of refugees in Africa, the Secretary-General stated that the United Nations family of organizations would continue to do all within its competence to help the effective implementation of the programme of action adopted by the Second International Conference on Assistance to Refugees in Africa (ICARA II).

Assembly of Heads of State and Government of OAU, July 1985

7. In his address to the 1985 session, the Secretary-General said that only through bold and co-ordinated measures and true international co-operation could one hope to avert economic catastrophe and relaunch the process of long-term development in Africa. He described some of the activities undertaken by the United Nations Office for Emergency Operations in Africa, including ascertaining the critical needs of each country concerned and then mobilizing international assistance in response. He added that the International Conference on the Emergency Situation in Africa had been successful in convincing the international community of the gravity of the situation and in mobilizing the additional resources for relief operations. The response by the international community had been generous. However, it had not proved sufficient to meet current requirements which remained considerable. He emphasized that priority attention must be given to the food and agriculture sector, and that measures must also be taken to combat drought and desertification. He called for resolute and imaginative efforts by the international community to mobilize additional resources for the rehabilitation, revitalization and reconstruction of the devastated economies of Africa.

8. Referring to the situation in southern Africa, he said that States in that region had to contend with externally supported acts of sabotage and destabilization and with violations of their territorial integrity. He added that it was evident that the various peace initiatives taken last year had not produced the desired results, and that the armed actions by South Africa against neighbouring States must be viewed with the gravest concern. He further said that the installation by South Africa of an interim government in Namibia would be accorded no recognition either by the United Nations or any Member State.

United Nations Special Meeting on the Emergency Situation in Africa

9. The Secretary-General convened a special meeting on the Emergency Situation in Africa at Geneva in March 1985. The meeting was attended by the current Chairman of OAU, as well as by the President of Niger representing the Permanent Intergovernmental Committee on Drought Control in the Sahel (CILSS), and many other African leaders.

10. In his statement to the Conference, the Secretary-General said that many countries in sub-Saharan Africa were experiencing a disaster of tragic proportions. Thirty million men, women and children faced the grim reality of debilitating malnutrition, starvation and in many cases, death. He called for immediate emergency and long-term sustained assistance to Africa. He also announced that he had established under his direct supervision a special unit - the Office for Emergency Operations in Africa - to assist him in co-ordinating the response of the United Nations to the emergency situation and mobilizing the international community.

Postponement of meeting between secretariats of the United Nations system and OAU

11. The proposed meeting between the United Nations system and OAU, which was envisaged in paragraph 8 of resolution 39/8, could not be convened during the period under review because of unforeseen developments. At the request of OAU, it has been postponed sine die.

III. CO-OPERATION WITH REGARD TO THE SITUATION IN SOUTHERN AFRICA

A. Centre for Human Rights

12. Co-operation between the Centre for Human Rights and OAU has continued in the examination of human rights in South Africa and Namibia. The input of OAU has been sought in particular in the activities of the Ad Hoc Working Group of Experts on the Situation of Human Rights in Southern Africa and those of the Special Rapporteur of the Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities on the adverse consequences for the enjoyment of human rights of political, military, economic and other forms of assistance given to colonial and racist régimes in southern Africa.

B. Department of Political and Security Council Affairs

13. During the period under review, the Security Council held important meetings on various items concerning South Africa at the request of the African Group of the United Nations, listed as follows:

- (a) The question of South Africa;
- (b) The situation in Namibia;

(c) Complaint by Angola against South Africa;

(d) Complaint by Botswana against South Africa.

14. During the meetings of the Security Council, the Foreign Minister and the Ambassador of the United Republic of Tanzania made statements on behalf of their Head of State in his capacity as current Chairman of OAU.

15. OAU was invited to all conferences organized or co-sponsored by the Special Committee against Apartheid.

16. In addition, during the period under review, the Special Committee organized the International Conference on Women and Children under Apartheid in Arusha, United Republic of Tanzania, from 7 to 10 May 1985, in co-operation with OAU and the Government of Tanzania. The International Conference on Sports Boycott against South Africa was held in Paris from 16 to 18 May 1985 and was organized in co-operation with the Supreme Council for Sport in Africa and the South African Non-Racial Olympic Committee (SAN ROC).

17. The Special Committee has, as before, continued to co-ordinate its efforts with those of OAU to increase moral and material support of the international community to the oppressed people of South Africa, and the Centre against Apartheid has continued to provide OAU with its publications and audio-visual material.

C. Department of Political Affairs, Trusteeship and Decolonization

18. The Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples continued to maintain a close working relationship with OAU during the period under review. A representative of the Chairman and the Assistant Secretary-General of OAU took part in the extraordinary session of the Special Committee held at Tunis in May 1985 in observance of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples. The Minister for Foreign Affairs of Ghana participated in his capacity as Chairman of the OAU Co-ordinating Committee for the Liberation of Africa.

19. The Special Committee was represented by its Chairman at the forty-third ordinary session of the OAU Co-ordinating Committee for the Liberation of Africa at Accra from 31 January to 2 February, and at the forty-first ordinary session of the Council of Ministers of OAU at Addis Ababa from 25 February to 5 March. In response to invitations received, the Special Committee was represented at the following meetings of OAU: forty-fourth ordinary session of the Co-ordinating Committee for the Liberation of Africa at Arusha, United Republic of Tanzania, from 4 to 6 July; forty-second ordinary session of the Council of Ministers at Addis Ababa from 10 to 16 July; and twenty-first session of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government at Addis Ababa from 18 to 20 July.

20. In accordance with its usual practice of maintaining close co-operation with OAU, where the Council for Namibia has permanent observer status, the Council

continued to co-operate with OAU in their common effort to bring about the early implementation of relevant resolutions and decisions of the United Nations on the question of Namibia. As in previous years, an invitation was extended to the Secretary-General of OAU to address the Extraordinary Plenary Meetings of the United Nations Council for Namibia, held in Vienna from 3 to 7 June 1985. Representatives of OAU participated in the solemn meetings of the Council in observance of Namibia Day on 27 August 1984, and the Week of Solidarity with the people of Namibia and their Liberation Movement, the South West Africa People's Organization, on 22 October 1984. Invitations were also extended to OAU to attend seminars and symposia organized by the Council both at and away from Headquarters.

21. During the period under review, the Council participated, as in the past, in meetings of the Council of Ministers of OAU as well as at meetings of its Co-ordinating Committee for the Liberation of Africa.

22. As part of its work programme for 1985, the Council sent a high-level mission led by its Acting President to Dar-es-Salaam, to hold consultations with the current Chairman of OAU on 24 April 1985, on the latest developments pertaining to Namibia and to discuss the role that OAU had played and could play, in co-operation with the Council, to mobilize greater support for the Namibian cause and to assist in the early achievement of independence by Namibia.

23. The Office of the United Nations Commissioner for Namibia has continued its close co-operation and contacts with the OAU secretariat and attends the meetings of its Bureau for Refugees every year. OAU is a member of the Senate of the United Nations Institute for Namibia. It is also represented on the Governing Body of the United Nations Vocational Training Centre for Namibia, based in Luanda. Thus, OAU is fully involved in policy-making decisions with regard to the administration of these two very important educational projects for Namibians. In addition, the Council continues to exchange with OAU, information relating to Namibia. The Council's co-operation with OAU has been most productive in identifying areas of common concern and in enabling the views of the Council to be fully reflected in the work of the Organization.

D. United Nations Development Programme

24. The assistance extended in 1984 to the three national liberation movements of southern Africa (ANC, PAC and SWAPO) concentrated on the same priority areas covered since the beginning of the current cycle in 1982. UNDP support was thus given to activities aimed at:

(a) Promoting professional skills and manpower development through formal education and practical training with a view to preparing national liberation movements for eventual administrative, technical and managerial responsibilities in their respective countries when conditions are right for them to return there and lead a normal life as full-fledged citizens.

(b) Promoting among the national liberation movements a measure of self-reliance in their respective countries of asylum in such vital areas as

agriculture and food production, public health services and vocational trades aimed at both assisting the national liberation movements in their everyday tasks of developing their communities, and preparing them for eventual civic responsibility and gainful employment. The total number of approved projects stood at 17 in 1984, for a combined UNDP contribution of \$2,930,133.

25. UNDP assistance in this context, as was the case during the previous year, was directed mainly to the education sector, with smaller contributions going to the health and agricultural production sectors and to activities of a basically support character. The educational projects - all executed by UNESCO - amounted to 11 with total UNDP inputs valued at \$2,061,746. There were two health projects executed by the World Health Organization (WHO) and to which the UNDP inputs amounted to \$504,511. One agricultural project aimed at promoting food production and executed by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations had a UNDP contribution for the year of \$195,350. The remaining three projects were of a strictly support function and had UNDP budget inputs of \$168,526. The UNDP office of Projects Execution had executing responsibilities in regard to all three projects.

E. United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization

26. As in the past, UNESCO continues to execute several projects financed by UNDP for the benefit of the liberation movements of southern Africa, and to provide the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees with consultative services for the preparation and execution of educational activities in behalf of African refugees. Under the Participation Programme for the 1984-1985 biennium, UNESCO provided the following assistance to the liberation movements:

African National Congress (ANC):

Equipment (\$22,048) and financial contribution (\$12,240) for the ANC Education Centre.

Pan Africanist Congress (PAC):

A six-month subregional scholarship in the field of educational statistics;

A six-month subregional scholarship for educational programmes.

South West Africa People's Organization (SWAPO):

Two international scholarships of nine months each in the field of administrative management.

IV. CO-OPERATION IN THE FIELD OF ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

27. With regard to paragraphs 12 and 17 of resolution 39/8 concerning special assistance to various African countries, individual reports relating to Equatorial Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Liberia and Uganda will be submitted separately to the General Assembly at its fortieth session. A summary report will also be submitted to the General Assembly relating to Benin, Cape Verde, the Central African Republic, Chad, the Comoros, Djibouti, the Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Lesotho, Madagascar, Mozambique, Sao Tome and Principe, Sierra Leone and Swaziland. These reports will contain detailed information on the response of the international community to the special programmes of assistance to those countries.

A. Centre for Human Rights

28. The Centre for Human Rights has maintained contacts and exchanges of views with the secretariat of OAU regarding the implementation of international conventions on human rights including the International Covenants and the African Charter on Human and People's Rights.

29. The Centre for Human Rights provided views and comments on a preliminary draft project document on African humanitarian affairs being envisaged by the Economic Commission for Africa in co-operation with OAU and the United Nations.

B. Department of Political and Security Council Affairs

30. The African Regional Seminar for the International Year of Peace jointly organized by the Department for Political and Security Council Affairs (PSCA), and the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) was held in Addis Ababa from 8 to 11 January 1985 in accordance with General Assembly resolution 38/56 of 7 December 1983. This seminar was attended by experts from 27 Member States of ECA, representatives of the United Nations organizations, non-governmental organizations, as well as the Organization of African Unity, the United Nations Special Committee against Apartheid, the African National Congress and the South West African People's Organization.

31. The Outer Space Affairs Division of PSCA has co-operated with Member States of OAU through various activities of its Space Applications Programme.

32. In addition, through its participation in the OAU/ECA Expert Group Meeting on the Implications of New Technologies on the Lagos Plan of Action, held at Mbabane, Swaziland, in October 1984, the United Nations contributed to the identification of the proper technologies and associated mechanisms that could be used to find solutions for the problems of the African continent.

C. Department of International Economic and Social Affairs

33. Pursuant to General Assembly resolution 39/8, the following initiatives, in addition to activities in the regular work programme, are underway in the area of competence of the Department of International Economic and Social Affairs to ensure continuing priority attention at the global level for the special needs of Africa, in conformity with the Lagos Plan of Action:

(a) The Committee for Development Planning has continued to monitor the implementation of proposals for action on sub-Saharan Africa pursuant to its statement issued in November 1984;

(b) A special issue of the Journal of Development Planning on Africa has been released in April 1985;

(c) Other global analyses being prepared within the Department for the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) and other relevant intergovernmental bodies, particularly the World Economic Survey and the Socio-Economic Perspective of the World Economy to the Year 2000, place special emphasis this year on the critical situation in Africa and its long-term aspects.

34. In pursuance of ECOSOC resolution 1979/20 and General Assembly resolution 35/171 of 15 December 1980, the United Nations Secretariat has continued its collaboration and consultations with the secretariats of OAU and ECA to finalize arrangements for the establishment of an African Regional Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders.

35. The Trust Fund of the International Year for Disabled Persons contributed \$38,000 to make possible the holding in January 1985 in Arusha, United Republic of Tanzania, of an international meeting on the development of the African Rehabilitation Institute, the establishment of which was called for by an OAU/ECA/DIESA sponsored meeting in 1980.

36. The Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs (CSDHA) of DIESA is presently reviewing a request for financial assistance from the OAU Secretariat for the holding in Brazzaville of a colloquium on deafness in Africa. CSDHA has continued its close co-operation and exchanges with OAU concerning the observance of the International Youth Year (IYY) and its follow-up.

D. United Nations Conference on Trade and Development

37. In February 1985, UNCTAD participated in the preparatory meeting of experts for the first meeting of the OAU Ministerial Steering Committee set up to prepare the documentation for the OAU Economic Summit (July 1985). In the area of monetary and financial questions, UNCTAD has provided to the OAU secretariat, on a regular basis, data on the external debt of African countries, on terms of trade and on capital inflows on a country-by-country basis. Moreover, UNCTAD has backstopped a study requested by the League of Arab States (LAS) on "Trade relations between Arab and African countries, 1970-1981". The study will form part of the substantive documentation of the joint committees, from OAU and the LAS, in charge of the

follow-up of Afro-Arab Economic Co-operation. A large part of the technical and operational assistance of UNCTAD Advisory Service on Transfer of Technology (ASTT) continues to be directed to African countries.

38. During the period under review, co-operation between OAU and UNCTAD has continued through the African Regional Centre for Technology (ARCT), an OAU-supported organization and the main African institutional instrument in that field. ASTT has provided various substantive and operational inputs into the ARCT programme of activities. Contacts and consultations with ARCT have also been centered on the identification of joint undertakings such as policy and action-oriented studies on the technological dimension of the food crisis in Africa, as well as in other sectors of critical importance to African countries, such as energy. Financing sources for these studies are being explored.

E. United Nations Industrial Development Organization

39. As an ongoing activity since 1983, UNIDO has financed a post of an industrial advisor to the OAU secretariat. The advisor has been of great assistance to the OAU in defining industrial policies and strategies for African countries. The secretariats of UNIDO, ECA and OAU are maintaining a close working relationship in their joint responsibility for coordinating the programme for the Industrial Development Decade for Africa (IDDA).

40. UNIDO has assisted OAU in preparing for the 1985 OAU meetings by preparing two studies for consideration by the OAU Steering Committee in June 1985. One study provided an analysis of Africa's external debt in respect of the industrial sector and the other on the linkages between agriculture and industry. UNIDO also funded a meeting on Africa's external debt in respect of the industrial sector.

41. On its part, OAU has continuously given strong political support to UNIDO activities in Africa. This has been effectively demonstrated in the organization of African delegations to adopt a common position in both UNIDO IV and the Industrial Development Board, especially with regard to the funding and implementation of the programme for IDDA.

42. In this connection OAU played an instrumental role in the adoption of a common African position on UNIDO IV by the Seventh Conference of African Ministers of Industry.

In 1984, UNIDO assisted the following specialized agencies of OAU:

Union of African Railways: A group training programme for the repair and maintenance of railroad equipment in Africa;

Pan African Telecommunications Union (PATU): in 1984/85 PATU was assisted through South-South co-operation between India and the African countries. A programme of co-operation was established by a joint mission for implementation in forthcoming years.

43. In the framework of IDDA, the following projects have been approved for implementation:

Assistance to the African Regional Organization for Standardization (ARSO) in the area of manpower development;

Establishment and promotion of linkages between the UNIDO Industrial Technology Information Bank and national and subregional industrial technology information services in Africa;

Subregional meetings for integrated subregional industrial promotion programmes for Western and Central Africa.

44. Finally, under the programme of technical advisory services, UNIDO will assist OAU in the organization of the Fourth All Africa Trade Fair. This project will be implemented in the second half of 1985. However, funds have already been earmarked for this purpose.

F. United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat)

45. At its forty-first ordinary session (Addis Ababa, 25 February to 5 March 1985) the OAU Council of Ministers considered and approved a draft memorandum of understanding between the Organization of African Unity and the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) which had been prepared by UNCHS (Habitat) in consultation with the secretariat of the Organization of African Unity. The executive heads of the two organizations expect to sign the draft memorandum of understanding in the near future.

46. The draft includes modalities and mechanisms for co-operation and the monitoring of the projects which will be mutually agreed upon by the two organizations for, inter alia, the speedy realization of the aims and objectives of the Lagos Plan of Action. UNCHS (Habitat) has, in this connection, written to the OAU secretariat expressing its readiness to co-operate with the secretariat in the implementation of the two specific programmes in the field of human settlements within the context of the Lagos Plan of Action. Other activities which will be carried out in co-operation with the secretariat of OAU include the programme for the International Year of Shelter for the Homeless (1987).

G. United Nations Development Programme

47. OAU continued to be represented at major UNDP meetings, including the UNDP Governing Council sessions. High-level and operational contacts remained frequent between the two organizations both through the UNDP representation to OAU in Addis Ababa, and meetings between the OAU Secretary-General a.i. and his senior staff on the one hand and the Administrator of UNDP, the Associate Administrator and the Assistant Administrator and Regional Director for Africa on the other.

48. In July 1984, the Joint OAU/UNDP Committee met at Geneva immediately after the session of the UNDP Governing Council, ECOSOC and the International Conference on Assistance to Refugees in Africa II. The meeting reviewed overall co-operation between the two organizations. The specific issues discussed included:

- (a) Amendment to the 1975 OAU/UNDP Co-operation Agreement;
- (b) Convening a high-level tripartite OAU/ECA/UNDP meeting aimed at improving and strengthening co-operation among the above organizations;
- (c) OAU strategy for building the African Economic Community; and
- (d) Assessment of the state of OAU/UNDP programme of co-operation during the period 1982-1984. In addition, the two organizations also discussed future plans for (i) a meeting of scientists on drought and desertification in Africa which the UNDP Governing Council had agreed to co-sponsor with the OAU; (ii) a joint high-level OAU/ECA/UNDP/ADB meeting to discuss important economic issues in Africa; and (iii) the potential for technical co-operation among African and other developing countries.

H. United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

49. The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees maintains its principal contact with the secretariat of the Organization of African Unity through its regional liaison office in Addis Ababa. The objective of this contact is to ensure effective representation and co-operation between UNHCR and OAU on all matters concerning refugees in Africa. At the same time, the office remains in close contact with the local representatives of member States of OAU and the UNHCR branch and field offices throughout the continent on refugee matters.

50. Three key contact points and their functions may be identified, namely: the OAU Bureau for Refugees, which receives contributions from UNHCR for its operating budget, the OAU Co-ordinating Committee for Refugees; and the Commission of Fifteen, chaired currently by the Ambassador of Uganda to Ethiopia.

51. Other key areas of co-operation with the OAU Bureau for Refugees have been on educational placements and training of refugees, research and resettlement as well as information and awareness building. Currently, both organizations are working together in exploring possibilities of establishing income-generating projects to motivate refugees in settlements to be self-reliant and relieve the burden of host countries. In this regard, while OAU initiated field trips to Tanzania and Zaire, UNHCR provided local contacts and logistics through branch offices. It is envisaged that voluntary agencies in collaboration with governments will supervise implementation and UNHCR branch offices will ensure that the activities follow the Arusha 1979 guidelines.

52. The OAU Co-ordinating Committee for Refugees and the Commission of Fifteen have each met several times during the period, to review matters of interest to UNHCR, namely the Arusha recommendations, ICARA II, implications of drought and

famine on the refugee problem in Africa, and the utilization of the special refugee contingency fund. In addition, the Commission of Fifteen undertook fact-finding missions to Ethiopia, Sudan and Somalia. UNHCR holds an observer status in the two bodies and has assisted their missions through branch offices.

53. At international meetings, OAU and the Regional Liaison Office of UNHCR have worked together with ECA to produce common position papers and inputs. These have included making inputs on refugees, displaced persons and victims of natural disasters to the meetings of ECA Ministers of Labour, Social Affairs, Information and Economic Planning.

54. The OAU Bureau for Refugees and UNHCR have also worked in close collaboration in bringing the OAU Ministerial Steering Committee of February 1985 and of June 1985 to consider a report proposing short-, medium- and long-term solutions on country, regional and continental basis to the refugee problems of Africa.

I. Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

55. Major inputs have been made by FAO into the preparation of a "Special Programme of Action for the Improvement of the Food Situation and Rehabilitation of Agriculture in Africa" for consideration by the OAU Summit Meeting of July 1985. In addition, FAO has prepared a comprehensive paper on its activities in support of the implementation of the Lagos Plan of Action, for incorporation into the report of the OAU Secretary-General on this subject to the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of OAU. Other important recent documents in the preparation of which FAO has co-operated substantively are "Evaluation of the Implementation of the Regional Food Plan for Africa and a Preliminary Assessment of the Food and Agricultural Aspects of the Lagos Plan of Action" and "Proposals for Food and Agriculture Development 1986-1990" (both February 1985) which are for presentation to various ECA and OAU forums.

56. The OAU-sponsored project on the "Integrated Management of the Fouta-Djallon Mountains", which is funded by UNDP and the United Nations Sudano Sahelian Office and executed by FAO, is under way. OAU has appointed a project co-ordinator who works in close collaboration with the FAO senior technical adviser. At a meeting of representatives of all agencies involved and of the Guinea Government in February 1985, it was agreed to seek additional funds to extend the activities of the project.

57. Close collaboration has continued between FAO and OAU/IBAR in the preparatory phases of the Pan-African Rinderpest Campaign (PARC). Currently, FAO is implementing six OAU-sponsored regional projects relating to the PARC. The projects, with a total value of \$US 0.9 million, are all funded under FAO Technical Co-operation Programme. They are concerned with training national personnel in various aspects of rinderpest control work including vaccine production, drawing up strategic measures for reducing opportunities for disease exchange between wild and domestic stock, preparation of motivational audio-visual materials, and strengthening the capacity of OAU/IBAR to monitor the rinderpest situation in the region.

58. FAO collaborated with OAU and WHO in organizing the Fifth FAO/OAU/WHO Graduate Training Seminar on African Trypanosomiasis Control held in February/March 1985 in Harare, and attended by participants from 36 African countries. The seminar was organized in conjunction with the 18th meeting of the OAU/International Scientific Council for Trypanosomiasis Research and Control.
59. In support of OAU efforts to set up centres for tick and tick-borne disease control, FAO organized a seminar on the subject in Ouagadougou in November 1984. OAU and ILRAD collaborated with FAO in convening an Export Consultation on Veterinary Education in Africa which took place in December 1984 in Nairobi. With a view to alleviating the economic losses caused by the cassava mealybug (CMB) and cassava green spider mites (CGM), and in anticipation of the proposed African Biological Control Project, FAO is funding (under the Technical Co-operation Programme) and implementing an OAU-sponsored regional project to train national personnel in the techniques of importing, transporting, releasing, spreading and rearing introduced parasitoids of these two pests and assessing their impact.
60. A high-level FAO consultant evaluated the structure and functions of the Inter-African Phytosanitary Council and made recommendations for its strengthening.
61. Two FAO consultants have assisted the Scientific, Technical and Research Commission of the OAU (STRC) in planning for Phase III of the Semi-Arid Food Grains Research and Development Project.
62. FAO participated in the OAU/ECA Expert Group Meeting on the Implications of New Technologies for the Lagos Plan of Action, which took place in Swaziland in October 1984. A background paper entitled "Role and Implications of Recent Developments in Satellite Remote Sensing for African Development with Particular Emphasis on Food and Agriculture" was prepared by FAO for the meeting.
63. FAO headquarters and project staff have made a number of visits to the headquarters of the African Regional Centre for Engineering Design and Manufacturing in Ibadan, Nigeria, to foster co-operation between the two organizations, specifically in the design of a Tikonko cassava grater.
64. A sub-contract was carried out by FAO under the Industry Twinning Project (composite biscuit based on local cereals) of the African Regional Centre for Technology (ARCT), and FAO participated in the ARCT/UNFSSTD meeting on International Co-operation for African Technological Development which took place in Rome in November 1984.
65. The Joint FAO/IAEA Division of Isotope and Radiation Applications of Atomic Energy for Food and Agricultural Development will assume technical responsibility for a pre-assistance project sponsored by the ARCT and funded by IAEA for assessing the feasibility of a regional African project in food preservation by irradiation.
66. Under the auspices of the Joint FAO/WHO/OAU Regional Food and Nutrition Commission for Africa, a food and nutrition identification mission was mounted to the Niger, documents were prepared on food and nutrition policies and programmes for Uganda and Ghana, advice was given on the implementation of nutrition surveys

and programmes in Ghana and the Gambia, work was carried out on the development of local weaning foods in Ghana, and a national workshop on Food Control Strategy was organized in Liberia.

J. International Fund for Agricultural Development

67. Information relating to two technical assistance grants provided by the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) to the Scientific, Technical, and Research Commission of the Organization of African Unity (OAU/STRC) is provided below:

(i) Technical assistance grant for research and development for food grains in semi-arid regions of Africa

68. The grant, of \$US 1 million in 1984, would be utilized to develop farming systems research within three national agricultural research organizations in the Sahel region. The overall objective of the grant is to improve the production of millet, sorghum and maize, taking into account the prevailing agro-climatological and socio-economic characteristics of the environment in which farmers live and operate. Furthermore, the grant would contribute to enhancing farmers' adoption of improved technology and thus to increasing and stabilizing food production in the area in question. It would also improve co-ordination between research carried out by international agencies and that being done by national agricultural research agencies in the member countries of OAU. Twenty-five African countries are expected to benefit from this grant. IFAD commitment to finance the project would extend from June 1983 until December 1986.

(ii) Technical assistance grant for the agricultural management training programme for Africa

69. In response to the experience gained during project implementation, IFAD initiated the formulation of the above programme through the provision of a technical assistance grant to OAU/STRC. The programme, which will be implemented in close collaboration with the Training Centre of the African Development Bank and the Economic Development Institute of the World Bank, aims at promoting human resources development in agricultural and rural development, with the ultimate objective of covering some 550 beneficiaries at various levels of decision-making. Through active involvement of regional training institutions, the programme is expected to have a major impact on institution-building stretching also to institutions at national level. The total cost of the programme is \$US 8.3 million over the four-year period, the first tranche being \$US 2.1 million.

70. The amount of the grant supplied by IFAD is \$US 1.45 million. The African Development Bank is co-financing the project to the amount of \$US 350,000 and the World Bank is contributing \$US 300,000. The African Development Bank would provide the necessary administrative and logistic support to the Coordinator, Administrative Officer and the Secretary for effective management and supervision of the programme. The executing agencies are the African Development Bank and the Economic Development Institute (EDI) of the World Bank.

K. World Food Programme

71. Co-operation with OAU continued in pursuance of the relationship between OAU and the World Food Programme (WFP) which was established in June 1974 by an exchange of letters and memoranda between the two organizations. WFP and OAU exchanged information in March-May 1984 on WFP-assisted projects in Africa. Further, WFP contributed to efforts by the United Nations and OAU regarding ICARA. WFP was represented at meetings of the Inter-Ministerial Committee (June 1984), the Steering Committee, the Council of Ministers and the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of OAU in June-July 1985. WFP takes into account the OAU list of liberation movements when considering requests for assistance to these movements submitted by their countries of asylum.

L. United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization

72. In order to define the institutional framework for co-operation between UNESCO and OAU, it has been decided, by an exchange of letters between the Secretary-General a.i. of OAU and the Director-General of UNESCO, to establish a joint OAU-UNESCO co-operation commission, which held its first session in Paris at UNESCO headquarters from 5 to 7 December 1984.

73. The purpose of this commission is to improve co-operation between OAU and UNESCO, to focus such co-operation on concrete and immediate projects to be implemented according to a medium-term plan covering the period 1985-1989 and to permit annual evaluation of the progress achieved.

74. UNESCO is continuing its co-operation with OAU in the provision of advisory services and the training of staff. Under the Regular Programme for 1984-1985, research contracts have been concluded, as in the past, with the Centre d'études linguistiques et historiques par tradition orale de Niamey. UNESCO has also made available to OAU under the Regular Programme a consultant whose task, as part of the revision of the Lagos Plan of Action decided on by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of OAU at its twenty-first session, will be to incorporate the cultural aspects of development into the Plan.

75. Under the International Programme for the Development of Communication (IPDC), OAU has obtained a contribution of \$50,000 for the purchase of equipment for the radio production studio at OAU headquarters. Finally, UNESCO was represented at the meeting of African Ministers of Information held at Addis Ababa from 27 to 30 March 1985.

M. International Civil Aviation Organization

76. The International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) continues to maintain a close and continuous working relationship with the African Civil Aviation Commission (AFCAC) and provides expert advice and secretarial assistance upon request.

77. In early 1985, within its continuing programme of regional air transport studies, ICAO published a study on air passenger and freight development in Africa, which analyses current trends, identifies obstacles to development and suggests measures to overcome them. This study provides a useful working tool to AFCAC in developing its future work programme.

78. In implementation of Chapter VI - Transports and Communications - of the Lagos Plan of Action and of the Strategy for the Transport and Communications Decade for Africa, ICAO continues to play an active role and participates regularly in the inter-agency co-ordinating committee for the Decade. OAU is invited to ICAO meetings within its sphere of interest, and documents and studies of interest to the African region are provided to OAU on a regular basis to allow it to maintain basic documentation on civil aviation matters.

N. World Health Organization

79. Technical co-operation between WHO and OAU continued within the framework of the agreement signed between the two organizations. Following a meeting between the WHO Regional Director for Africa and the Assistant Secretary-General of OAU in May 1985 in Geneva, a number of areas for close collaboration between the two organizations have been defined and an expert team was asked to prepare an addendum concerning health, for incorporation into the Lagos Plan of Action. In addition, a joint WHO/OAU meeting is scheduled to take place after the July 1985 Summit Meeting of Heads of State and Government.

80. Among the main areas of collaboration between the two organizations, the following may be indicated:

- (a) Co-operation with OAU and FAO within the framework of the joint FAO/WHO/OAU Regional Food and Nutrition Commission for Africa;
- (b) Co-operation in the promotion of measures to prevent man-made and natural catastrophes and emergencies;
- (c) Collaboration in emergency health and medical assistance to drought-stricken and famine-affected countries in Africa;
- (d) Promotion and development of TCDC activities in the health field among African countries;
- (e) Technical co-operation with national liberation movements.

O. World Bank

81. At the request of its African Governors and the Development Committee, the World Bank prepared a comprehensive report on the current economic difficulties facing sub-Saharan Africa and the prospects of recovery. The report, Toward Sustained Development - A Joint Program of Action, was discussed with OAU officials

in draft form and published in August 1984. Its analysis and recommendations were broadly endorsed by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of OAU at its Meeting held in November 1984. Resolution 130, adopted at that meeting, strongly supported the Bank's proposal to establish a Special Fund for Africa - now referred to as the Special Assistance Facility for sub-Saharan Africa - and invited the Bank to organize a donors' meeting to discuss the nature and scope of the proposed fund.

82. The donors' conference held in Paris in January 1985, was successful: pledges to the Facility now amount to \$US 1.3 billion, of which \$US 150 million is expected to be contributed by the Bank from future net income. The Facility, which is to commence operations by 1 July 1985, will provide fast disbursing financing in support of reform programmes undertaken by a number of African Governments. These actions will complement food relief efforts by addressing the underlying structural problems which have hampered food production in the past. Lending financed by the Facility will be additional to lending expected from the regular resources of the International Development Association (IDA).

83. Underlining the Bank's determination to contribute to long-term development in Africa, its Board approved an expanded programme of technical assistance and a special grant-funded programme to support agricultural research in regional and sub-regional centres.

84. Effective working relations with OAU and its specialized agencies are maintained through staff visits, participation in meetings and exchange of information on central development issues in Africa. At the Second International Conference on Assistance to Refugees in Africa, the Bank's representative emphasized the development link to refugee assistance programmes and indicated its willingness to consider refugee-related projects that fit into the overall planning of host governments.

85. The Bank was represented by senior staff members at the Eleventh Meeting of the Conference of Ministers responsible for economic development and planning, the Meeting of Experts for the Steering Committee for the 21st Assembly of Heads of State of OAU, and the ECA Round-table Conference on Balance of Payments Problems. Additionally, Bank staff have provided the OAU secretariat with detailed data and assisted in the analysis of the current African debt problem. One of the central objectives of the Bank's Economic Development Institute (EDI) for the next five years is to "increase the capacity of sub-Saharan African countries specifically, both to identify the critical factors which have been causing deterioration of their economies, and to devise and implement policies and programs capable of reversing the trend".

P. International Telecommunication Union

86. The main direction of co-operation between the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) and OAU has been aimed at achieving the objectives of the Lagos Plan of Action in ITU's field of competence. Thus, firstly, the Pan African Telecommunications Network (PANAFTEL) has been the principal project in which ITU and OAU have been active partners. The development of PANAFTEL continues to gather

momentum and although diminishing finances threatened to reduce the scale of this project, a recent injection of additional funds from UNDP will ensure that the project's activities are maintained at the level foreseen for the current UNDP planning cycle. A sister project to PANAFTTEL development is PANAFTTEL maintenance which is showing positive results in an area of major weakness among most African telecommunication administrations. ITU and OAU are very active members of the PANAFTTEL Co-ordinating Committee, of which the other members are ECA, ADB and the Pan African Telecommunication Union (PATU), an OAU specialized agency.

87. The other major project cited in the Lagos Plan of Action in which ITU has co-operated with OAU is the Regional Satellite Communication Project for Africa. The project has now passed the pre-feasibility stage and funds are being sought for the feasibility study. ITU and OAU have participated in several meetings which have led to the present stage, namely, Meeting of African Experts, Inter-Agency Meetings and Ministerial Meetings. ITU has been appointed lead agency for the project.

88. ITU has also given some assistance to PATU, the OAU specialized body for telecommunications. It prepared a large number of papers for the PATU Administrative and Technical Conference, held in Kinshasa from 4 to 13 September 1984. ITU is currently seeking to help PATU obtain funds for a seminar on industrialization to be held in India.

89. Further assistance was rendered to the Pan African News Agency (PANA, another OAU organization) in the setting of its network. ITU also participated in the Third Meeting of the Ministers of Information held in Addis Ababa from 27 to 30 March 1985.

90. Finally, a common area of co-operation is the United Nations Transport and Communications Decade for Africa, of which ECA is the lead agency, but in which both ITU and OAU are very active members of its Inter-Agency Co-ordinating Committee as well as regular participants in the Meeting of Experts, Financial Institutions and Ministers.

Q. Universal Postal Union

91. Co-operation between the Universal Postal Union (UPU) and OAU operates, with regard to postal services, mainly in the permanent relations with the Pan-African Postal Union (PAPU), an OAU specialized agency. A constant exchange of information as well as contacts have been established, on the one hand, between the two Postal Unions, and, on the other, with the OAU, particularly on the occasion of meetings of the respective bodies (Executive Council and Consultative Council for Postal Studies for UPU and Administrative Council for PAPU).

92. In addition, OAU and PAPU attended the 19th UPU Congress which was held in Hamburg from 18 June to 26 July 1984. Among other things, technical assistance questions concerning the developing countries in general and the African countries in particular were discussed during the meeting.

93. UPU has concentrated on stepping up co-operation with OAU and PAPU not only in order to carry out, in a spirit of concerted action, the assistance activities coming within the framework of UPU's regular programme, but also to associate itself in postal development activities aimed at implementing the Lagos Plan of Action, the programme of the Transport and Communications Decade for Africa and the recommendations of the conferences on mail circulation in Africa.

R. International Maritime Organization

94. With regard to the implementation of the transport component of the Lagos Plan of Action, the International Maritime Organization (IMO) participates, in co-operation with ECA and OAU, in projects and activities within the framework of the United Nations Transport and Communications Decade for Africa.

95. At the national level, IMO technical co-operation programme has promoted and has provided assistance to OAU in the establishment or improvement of nautical schools and marine academies. Examples of the African institutions assisted or scheduled for assistance are: the Nigerian Nautical College, the Maritime Training Institute in Lobito, Angola, and the Higher Institute for Maritime Studies, Morocco.

96. At the regional level, IMO has continued its support to the Academy of Sciences and Techniques of the Sea in Abidjan, for French-speaking countries, and the Regional Maritime Academy in Accra, for English-speaking African countries.

97. In addition, the World Maritime University created by IMO in Sweden continued as in the past to receive African students, 29 of whom attended the 1985 session.

98. Continuous advice and support for maritime transport development in Africa is available through IMO's regional maritime advisers who are stationed respectively in Lagos, and until recently, in Abidjan. An adviser on maritime legislation for French-speaking countries in Africa has also done very useful work. In addition, the inter-regional maritime advisers and consultants based at IMO headquarters in London are available on request to advise African countries on maritime questions.

99. In pursuance of the policies and directives of its Council and Assembly, IMO is continuing with its efforts to mobilize necessary resources for the maintenance and improvement of technical co-operation projects in Africa, in consultation with OAU and ECA in all appropriate cases.

100. The limitation of funds available for ongoing projects and the tremendous difficulties in mobilizing financial support for new projects at a regional level in Africa is a matter of increasing concern. This, however, has not led to any reduction in IMO efforts to provide all possible assistance to the African countries in their efforts to achieve self-reliance in the maritime and shipping fields, as laid down in the Lagos Plan of Action.

S. World Intellectual Property Organization

101. During the reporting period, the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) continued to assist groups of OAU member States, co-operating in building up or strengthening sub-regional institutions in the field of industrial property. WIPO is co-operating with the African Intellectual Property Organization (OAPI), an inter-governmental organization of 13 French-speaking African States 1/, and also with the Industrial Property Organization for English-Speaking Africa (ESARIPO), an inter-governmental organization of 12 African States. 2/

(i) African Intellectual Property Organization

102. In July 1984, a Deputy Director General and another official of WIPO undertook a mission to Yaoundé and discussed further co-operation between WIPO and the African Intellectual Property Organization (OAPI). Subsequently, WIPO prepared a medium-term plan for development co-operation in the field of industrial property for OAPI member States. The plan was endorsed by the Council of Ministers of OAPI in January 1985.

103. A draft co-operation agreement between the African Regional Centre for Technology (ARCT), ESARIPO, OAPI and WIPO was prepared by WIPO and discussed with the Director General of OAPI in Geneva in November 1984. The draft was approved by the Council of Ministers of OAPI in January 1985. Furthermore a fellowship was awarded by WIPO to OAPI in 1984.

104. In June 1985, WIPO organized an introductory course on industrial property, at the OAPI headquarters in Yaoundé in which ARCT and 11 African countries participated.

(ii) Industrial Property Organization for English-Speaking Africa (ESARIPO)

105. In association with ECA, WIPO continued to execute the UNDP-financed project for the establishment of a Patent Documentation and Information Centre (ESAPADIC) with ESARIPO. A WIPO expert continued to serve in Harare as technical adviser to the project.

106. During the eighth session of the ESARIPO Council held in Harare in December 1984, a seminar was simultaneously organized by WIPO. All delegates to the Council's session participated in the seminar, the purpose of which was, in view of the entry into force of the Harare Protocol on Patents and Industrial Designs in April 1984, to provide explanations on the procedures to be followed in the practical operation of the protocol. A fellowship was awarded by WIPO to ESARIPO in 1984. In June 1985, WIPO organized at Arusha, United Republic of Tanzania, an introductory course on Industrial Property, in which ten African countries participated. WIPO is also co-operating with the following African organizations:

(iii) African Regional Centre for Technology

107. In October 1984, a WIPO official undertook a mission to Dakar, under the UNDP-financed Interregional Sectoral Adviser Project, and discussed with the African Regional Centre for Technology (ARCT) secretariat the elements of a medium-term plan for co-operation between WIPO and ARCT. In April 1985, a WIPO official attended the meetings of the Executive Board and Council of Ministers of ARCT held in Lagos, in which the quadripartite agreement between WIPO, ARCT, ESARIPO and OAPI was approved. Two fellowships were awarded by WIPO to ARCT in September 1984 and June 1985.

(iv) OAU Prize for African Scientific Renaissance

108. In response to a request made by OAU in 1984, WIPO explored areas for possible collaboration in the Prize for African Scientific Renaissance which was established by OAU to promote popular knowledge of science and technology. Thereafter, the International Bureau of WIPO, within the context of its programme for the award of medals and diplomas to inventors and innovators, offered to make available one medal per year to the recipients of the prize for scientific accomplishment as an encouragement.

T. United Nations Institute for Training and Research

109. In the area of research concerning the institutional development of OAU, UNITAR continued its collaboration with the OAU secretariat along the lines initiated in 1980. A proposal for the establishment of an African Political and Security Council as a principal and permanent organ of OAU was considered by the Council of Ministers in May 1982 on the basis of a study prepared jointly by UNITAR and the OAU secretariat. At the request of an Ad Hoc Ministerial Committee of Twelve, established by the OAU Council of Ministers to examine the proposal, UNITAR and the OAU secretariat prepared in 1984, a joint working paper analysing the legal, political, military and financial implications of the envisaged OAU Political and Security Council. The paper was elaborated in September 1984 in New York, with the help of a workshop convened by the Executive Director of UNITAR, comprising African diplomats and experts from OAU and UNITAR. The paper was submitted as a document for consideration by the OAU Council of Ministers.

U. International Atomic Energy Agency

110. An Agency representative visited the African Regional Centre for Technology which was established under the aegis of OAU and the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa in November 1984, to discuss ways of co-operation. As a result, the Centre will co-operate with the Agency in implementing an Agency-approved regional project for food preservation in Africa. An Agency representative also attended the meeting of the Executive Board of the Centre which took place in Lagos in April 1985.

V. CO-OPERATION IN THE FIELD OF INFORMATION AND PUBLICITY

111. During the period under review, the Department of Public Information (DPI) continued to intensify its co-operation with OAU in the field of information and publicity. It further undertook an extensive information programme in support of the activities of the Office for Emergency Operations in Africa (OEOA).

112. DPI also continued to provide press and audio-visual coverage for the activities carried out by OAU within the framework of the United Nations. These activities included press briefings by leaders of the African Group, OAU, leaders of the liberation movements, and special commemorative meetings and observances of important dates. In particular, attention was paid to statements made by representatives of OAU to the General Assembly and the Security Council.

113. In addition, radio programmes, television spots, posters, exhibits and public screenings of films were prepared in connection with the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, Africa Liberation Day, the Week of Solidarity with the Colonial Peoples of Southern Africa, and the International Day of Solidarity with the Struggling People of South Africa.

114. In close consultation with OAU, DPI also regularly placed its radio programmes concerning southern Africa at the disposal of the national liberation movements, for their broadcasts over transmitter facilities to member States. In addition, special radio feature programmes were produced on the topics of UNDP assistance to liberation movements, the decolonization of Africa, the task in southern Africa, and the 25th anniversary of the Declaration on Decolonization. The Counselor for Economic Affairs at the OAU Mission to the United Nations was also interviewed for a radio programme on the problems of desertification.

115. Developments concerning Africa continue to be covered fully in press releases, press briefings, booklets, pamphlets and periodicals, including the Yearbook of the United Nations, the monthly UN Chronicle, the News Digest, the magazine Objective: Justice, and the publication United Nations Today (Suggestions for Speakers). Particular attention was paid to events in southern Africa, centering on the struggle against the policies of apartheid of the Government of South Africa and on measures to secure the independence of Namibia.

116. During the reporting period, the global network of United Nations Information Centres (UNICs) co-operated with OAU, maintaining direct working contacts in the countries where there are OAU offices. Where no OAU office existed, the Centres maintained contact with diplomatic representatives of OAU member States on coverage and dissemination, while supplying them with information materials on United Nations work and activities, especially those on the issues before OAU and of particular concern to Africa.

117. Generally, co-operation between UNIC and OAU was most visible and effective during the observances of United Nations anniversaries, especially those special days and weeks related to the struggle and campaign against apartheid, racial discrimination, human rights, the question of Namibia, economic development, refugee questions, food, etc.

118. A major activity of the Department during the reporting period was the implementation of an extensive information programme to sensitize the international community to the crisis in Africa. The Department, working in close co-operation with the Office for Emergency Operations in Africa, provided support to that office through the various means at its disposal. Press releases, radio, TV and photo coverage were provided for the International Conference on the Emergency Situation in Africa, held on 11 and 12 March 1985 in Geneva. Coverage was also provided on developments and activities of the United Nations system, including statements and press conferences by the Secretary-General and officials of the OEOA.

119. A special information kit on the crisis in Africa was produced and publications such as Development Forum and the UN Chronicle carried a series of articles on the emergency situation.

120. Several feature radio programmes in the Perspective and Scope series, as well as the weekly/bi-weekly regional television magazines, reported on the situation. The television interview programme World Chronicle featured several programmes on the topic.

121. A photo exhibit on the situation in Africa was launched in November 1984 at Headquarters and was later shown during the International Conference in Geneva. It was also aired extensively in the Washington D.C. area. An additional ten sets of the exhibit have been prepared for further distribution.

122. The Department also organized regular briefings on the African crisis to non-governmental organizations. Instructions have also been issued to the network of United Nations Information Centres to ensure that they explain the dimensions of the crisis and maintain high public interest and support. The Centres have performed a variety of services in connection with the emergency situation in Africa. In countries where sub-regional or regional consultations on emergency operations have been held, the Centres have made the necessary arrangements for publicity and coverage, including press, radio and television interviews for participating officials.

123. In order to stress the necessary system-wide dimensions of the response to the crisis, the Joint United Nations Information Committee (JUNIC) discussed the critical situation in Africa and the 40th Anniversary as two priority items at its recent meeting in Rome. The organizations concerned reported on the activities they had undertaken, and agreement was reached on a number of approaches to guide future work.

Notes

1/ Benin, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Congo, Gabon, Ivory Coast, Mauritania, Mali, Niger, Senegal, Togo.

2/ Botswana, Gambia, Ghana, Kenya, Malawi, Sierra Leone, Somalia, Sudan, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia, Zimbabwe.
