

ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR AFRICA

ANNUAL REPORT, 2011

**Economic and Social Council
Official Records, 2011
Supplement No. 18**



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allow the Institute to effectively assume its mission in supporting the capacity-building efforts of its member States;

Reiterates its request to the IDEP Governing Council to continue to furnish it with an annual report on the progress made in the work of the Institute.

Other resolutions adopted by the Commission at its forty-fourth session

In addition, the Commission adopted 10 resolutions and a Ministerial Policy Statement addressing various issues on the agenda of its meeting, which are of particular interest to the Economic and Social Council. The resolutions and Ministerial Statement are listed below (*for the full text see Annex I*):

Resolutions

- | | |
|------------|--|
| 879 (XLIV) | Governing development in Africa: The role of the State in economic transformation |
| 880 (XLIV) | Millennium Development Goals |
| 881 (XLIV) | Enhancing United Nations support towards accelerating the implementation of the Ten-Year Capacity-Building Programme for the African Union and the programme of the New Partnership for Africa's Development |
| 882 (XLIV) | Implementation of the African Charter on Statistics and the Strategy for the Harmonization of Statistics in Africa |
| 883 (XLIV) | African risk capacity: a Pan-African disaster risk pool |
| 884 (XLIV) | Climate change and sustainable development in Africa |
| 885 (XLIV) | Health financing in Africa |
| 886 (XLIV) | Illicit financial flows |
| 887 (XLIV) | Enhancing science and technology for development in Africa |
| 888 (XLIV) | Proposed programme of work and priorities for the biennium 2012-2013 |
| XLIV | Ministerial Statement |

CHAPTER II

Work of the Commission Since its Forty-Third Session

1. This chapter highlights the major achievements of ECA under the 10 subprogrammes around which the work of the Commission was organized, including the main challenges and lessons learned during the past year. It also highlights the major achievements under the other programmes implemented by ECA, in particular, the regular programme of technical cooperation; the United Nations Development Account; and the progress made by the United Nations system in support of the African Union (AU) and its NEPAD programme at the regional level.

A. Regular programmes

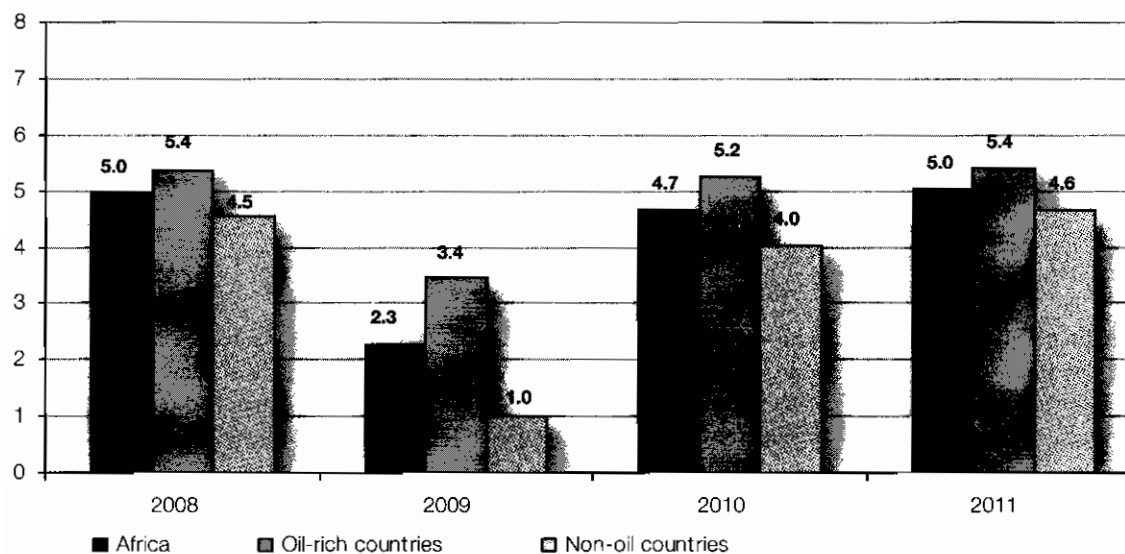
Macroeconomic analysis, finance and economic development

2. ECA work under this subprogramme continued to focus on efforts to enhance the capacity of member States to mainstream and integrate macroeconomic and sectoral policies in national development strategies for higher growth for poverty reduction and sustainable development, including the MDGs. Following the minor revision to the programme structure of the Commission in December 2009, the work of the subprogramme was organized around four issues: macroeconomic analysis; finance, industry and investment; MDGs and Least Developed Countries (LDCs) monitoring; and support to implementation of NEPAD.

3. In the area of macroeconomic analysis, the secretariat undertook policy research and analysis, prepared reports and organized or contributed to several high-level conferences as well as capacity-building workshops during the period under review. Two of the leading annual publications of the Commission, namely, *Overview of Economic and Social Conditions in Africa* and *ERA 2010*, were prepared under this subprogramme during the past year. Both publications are

targeted mainly at policymakers, technical experts, academics and researchers. An annual flagship publication of ECA and AUC was launched at the joint AU and ECA Conference of Ministers in Lilongwe, Malawi in March 2010 and at several other forums thereafter. As in previous years, the report contained a review of recent economic and social developments on the continent as well as an analysis current and emerging developments issues. The 2010 edition of the report focused on the link between growth and employment in Africa. The report provided a basis for dialogue as well as a reference for policymakers on how to design and implement strategies and policies to accelerate and sustain growth for poverty reduction through employment generation.

4. The *Overview of Economic and Social Conditions in Africa in 2010* was prepared during the period under review and will be presented at the 2011 session of the Joint ECA-AU Conference of Ministers in March 2011. It provides a review of Africa's economic performance during the year and an assessment of significant macroeconomic trends and variables at the regional, sub-regional and country levels, including growth projections for the following year. This year's edition of the *Overview* notes that Africa has sustained and strengthened the economic recovery that started in the aftermath of the recent global crisis with an average GDP growth rate of 4.7 per cent in 2010 compared to 2.3 per cent in 2009. Real GDP per capita also expanded in 2010 by 2.4 per cent for the continent as a whole. Oil-exporting countries expanded more strongly than oil-importing countries. Notwithstanding downside risks, growth prospects remain optimistic for Africa with an expected average growth rate of 5 per cent in 2011 (see figure 1).

Figure 1: Growth in Africa, oil-exporting vs. oil-importing countries, 2008-2010 (%)

Source: UNECA calculations based on UNECA and UNDESA databases, November 2010.

5. The continent's economic rebound is yet to translate into meaningful reduction in unemployment, particularly among the youth and vulnerable groups. Unemployment remains high. High unemployment and food prices have instigated political and social unrest in some African countries during the past year. The low employment content and poor social outcomes of Africa's growth are the result of lack of meaningful economic diversification and continued heavy dependence on commodity production and export. This highlights the need for promoting economic transformation for Africa to accelerate and sustain growth and achieve its social development goals. There is also a need for African countries to continue to focus on macroeconomic stability and responsible fiscal policies.

6. The 2011 edition of *ERA* was also prepared during the period under review and will be launched at the 2011 session of the Joint ECA and AU Conference of Ministers. It examines the role of the State in governing development, triggering economic transformation, and catalysing sustainable development. The report provides an evidence-based and policy-oriented framework for enhancing the role of the State in performing the key tasks necessary for economic transformation in Africa: planning of the development process and formulation and implementation of relevant development plans and policies. In addition to its use by policymakers as a tool to monitor recent economic and social developments in Africa, *ERA* has proved useful in enhancing the

awareness of policymakers about effective policies and strategies for addressing key development challenges of concern to Africa. The reports have generated strong interest and intense discussions at the annual AUC-ECA Conference of Ministers and beyond.

7. As in previous years, ECA also contributed to the discussion and finalization of Project LINK forecasts for major African economies and provided substantive inputs in the preparation of the next issue of the annual publication, *World Economic and Social Prospects*, published by the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA). In addition, the ECA secretariat prepared background papers for the third edition of *African Economic Outlook*, a joint annual publication of AfDB, Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) and ECA, launched in May 2010 and widely disseminated during the year. ECA's contribution to the *Outlook* included four country chapters besides sections of the *Overview* chapters on political economy and corporate governance, regional integration, and intra-Africa trade, global trade and trade negotiations.

8. Activities undertaken in the area of finance, industry and investment continued to focus on assisting African countries to address the impact of the global financial and economic crises, and on enhancing the capacity of member States to develop and implement industrial policies to raise the continent's international

competitiveness. In particular, ECA continued to provide technical support to African countries for their participation in various forums organized to address the impact of the financial crisis, such as the G-20 Summit held in Seoul, Korea in November 2010. As a contribution to the formulation of Africa's common position on the ongoing reforms of the international financial architecture, ECA convened an Ad Hoc Expert Group Meeting in Gaborone, Botswana in June 2010 to discuss a technical research paper on the reforms, which resulted in a set of policy recommendations that is expected to inform Africa's common position.

9. In the framework of the follow-up to the implementation of the Monterrey Consensus on Financing for Development, a progress report was prepared and submitted to the Fourth Session of the Joint AU-ECA Conference of African Ministers of Finance, Planning and Economic Development held in Lilongwe, Malawi in April 2010. Among other matters, the report reviewed progress towards meeting the commitments made by both African governments and their development partners on key areas of financing for development and identified future priority actions that should be considered to improve the mobilization of both domestic and external financial resources for Africa's development. In addition, a policy brief was prepared to assess the challenges and opportunities facing African countries in the implementation of the Basel Agreements on Banking and Financial Standards.

10. Several activities were undertaken during the year in support of promoting industrial development in Africa. These included (a) a paper on industrial policies for structural transformation of African economies; and (b) an expert group meeting, held jointly with United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) and AUC, which reviewed the implementation of the Plan of Action for the Accelerated Industrial Development of Africa (AIDA). The meeting highlighted the main industrial policy challenges facing Africa and provided policy options for industrial development based on the endowments, geographical location and size of population of African countries.

11. The fifth African Economic Conference was held in Tunis, Tunisia in October 2010 on the theme "Setting the Agenda for Africa's Economic Recovery and Long-term Growth". The conference, which was jointly organized by ECA, AfDB, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the Development Bank of South Africa (DBSA), brought together a number

of finance ministers and central bank governors as well as researchers and development experts to discuss and share views on some of the key challenges facing Africa. The discussions underscored the importance of good governance, infrastructure and private sector development, and domestic resource mobilization in addressing many of the challenges that Africa faces. The annual conference has now become a premier forum for discussion and exchange of ideas among policymakers and development practitioners on African development issues, thus serving as a bridge between knowledge and policymaking on the continent.

12. A major achievement in the area of monitoring progress towards the MDGs was the launch of the 2010 Africa MDGs Report, jointly prepared by ECA, AU, AfDB and United Nations development Programme (UNDP). According to the report, African countries and their development partners have shown a strong commitment and willingness to achieve the MDGs. The report notes that there is a positive sign of improvement across all the MDGs on the continent but the rate of improvement varies across goals, countries and within countries. There has been progress in reducing poverty rates, attributing such progress to improvements in the political, economic and social landscape across much of the continent. The report, which is based on the latest updated and harmonized data from UN agencies and OECD statistics databases, reveals that while Africa is lagging behind on the attainment of the MDGs compared to other regions, African countries through support from their international development partners, including ECA, AfDB and UNDP, have adopted a number of innovative policy measures aimed at stemming the adverse effects of development choices and accelerating progress towards the MDGs. Many African countries have used the MDGs as a framework for development planning, strengthening coordination and cascading them to lower tiers of government.

13. To help accelerate progress towards the MDGs, ECA convened the fifth meeting of the African Learning Group on Poverty Reduction Strategies and the MDGs (PRs/MDGs - LG) in Lusaka, Zambia in October 2010. The main objective of the meeting was to contribute to the strengthening of social protection schemes in Africa through peer-learning and knowledge exchange. With slightly over five years to the MDGs end-date of 2015, efforts are being intensified across Africa to accelerate progress to attain the targets. African governments are placing greater emphasis on social protection policies to aid growth and improve human welfare

including achieving the MDGs. Social protection can contribute to improved social outcomes, including the MDGs, through a number of transmission instruments. Among the results of the meeting was a set of recommendations for consideration and adoption by policy-makers on how current social protection schemes can be made more relevant to accelerating progress towards the MDGs. The meeting also helped to articulate an African viewpoint on social protection as an input to the debate on MDGs. The e-LG initiative provides an opportunity for countries that are lagging behind to learn from those that have achieved remarkable progress.

Food security and sustainable development

14. Work under this ECA subprogramme is aimed at strengthening the capacity of member States to formulate and implement policies and programmes for achieving food security and sustainable development. Several activities were carried out during the past year in support of this objective. Some of the major activities are described below.

15. A major accomplishment under the subprogramme during the year was the successful organization of the seventh African Development Forum (ADF-VII) held in Addis Ababa in October 2010 on the theme "Acting on Climate Change for Sustainable Development in Africa". The event, which was jointly organized with AUC and AfDB, brought together more than 1000 participants from African governments, private sector, civil-society, research and academia, and development partners, to discuss and build consensus on how Africa could effectively tackle the climate-change challenge and leverage the opportunities it presents. The Consensus Statement that was adopted at the end of the forum highlighted some key challenges and opportunities in the areas of economics; peace and security; governance and leadership; integration; infrastructure development; social and human development; climate change; science and technology innovation; and capacity-building. It states for example, that climate change could severely undermine progress towards sustainable development, including the attainment of targets set out in the MDGs. On a positive note, it further explains that climate change also provides an opportunity to pursue a sustainable development path given responsive leadership and good governance at all levels. There are 56 points of agreement on a number of pertinent climate change issues vital to Africa. It was agreed by the

various stakeholders, based on the evidence and impact of climate change, that large-emitting countries should make deep cuts in their emissions and that the international community should support Africa in its promotion of broad-based, equitable, resource-efficient and environmentally-sustainable growth.

16. The consensus statement helped strengthen Africa's participation in international climate change negotiations and informed the continent's common position at the COP-16 in Cancun, Mexico. It will also raise awareness and build consensus among stakeholders on Africa's concerns and priorities in a post-2012 international climate change regime. It will also form the basis for the preparation of an African Action Plan on Climate Change that AfDB, ECA, and AUC will implement jointly in collaboration with other stakeholders and partners.

17. ECA, jointly with AUC, UNEP, and UNIDO, also participated in the eighteenth session of the United Nations Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD-18) which was held in New York in May 2010. CSD-18 reviewed progress with implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for Further Implementation of Agenda 21 (PFIA21) and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation (JPOI) commitments focusing on the thematic cluster of issues comprising Transport, Chemicals, Waste Management, Mining, and a Ten-Year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production (SCP). During the meeting, ECA, jointly with AUC, UNEP and UNIDO, provided substantive technical support to African member States through facilitation of the Africa regional discussions and effective participation in the thematic discussions. Africa effectively articulated its concerns and priorities relative to the thematic cluster of issues and these are adequately reflected in the report of the meeting.

18. In accordance with its role of coordinating regional preparatory processes for major global conferences and summits on sustainable development, ECA embarked on a series of activities during the past year to facilitate Africa's participation in the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (UNCSD) also referred to as 'Rio+20' to be held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil in January 2012. In this context, the Eleventh Session of the Regional Coordination Mechanism of United Nations Agencies and Organizations Working in Africa (RCM-Africa) provided a platform to raise awareness and mobilize the necessary support to ensure Africa's effective preparation for the Rio+20 Conference.

19. The linkages between trade, environment and sustainable development was at the heart of a training workshop organized in collaboration with UNEP in January 2011 for policymakers and officials from ECOWAS member States and the ECOWAS Commission. The workshop was aimed at increasing awareness and capacity of policymakers to formulate and implement mutually-supportive trade and environment policies.

20. The main constraints to agribusiness development in Africa include the high risks of doing business in the agricultural sector and the scale of investments required. These constraints are further compounded by the underdeveloped agricultural services sector, less than optimal farm size, and business investment climates that are not particularly conducive to private sector investment. An important institutional mechanism for mitigating the risks facing agribusiness enterprises – both productive enterprises and service providers – is public-private partnership (PPP). To this end, ECA, in collaboration with other partners organized a High-Level Conference on African Agribusiness and Agro-Industries (HLC-3A) in Abuja, Nigeria in March 2010. The Declaration of the conference called for concerted efforts to accelerate agribusiness development. As a follow-up to the 2010 Abuja HLC on Agribusiness and Agro-industries in Africa, ECA and the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) developed an analytical framework to assess the national development context, trends and policies influencing the relevance of and need for PPPs in agribusiness, and to draw lessons from the challenges and specific issues that need to be considered.

21. Collaboration with AUC, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and UNIDO was further strengthened through the elaboration and implementation of a programme on regionally integrated value chains of strategic food and agricultural commodities in the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) and the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA) subregions. An Expert Group Meeting held in Addis Ababa in January 2011 reviewed a project focusing on the development and promotion of regional strategic food and agricultural commodities value chains in Africa. The project entails a pilot project in the COMESA and ECOWAS subregions focusing on three strategic food and agricultural commodities – livestock, maize and rice. The meeting set up a multi-institutional task force comprising ECA, AUC, FAO, UNDP, UNIDO, COMESA, ECOWAS, the International Livestock

Research Institute (ILRI), International Fertilizer Development Centre (IFDC), Africa Rice, the private sector and farmers' groups to take this major agenda forward.

22. In a similar vein, several activities were undertaken to further advance implementation of the Land Policy Framework and Guidelines, a joint initiative of AUC, ECA and AfDB launched in 2009. The document was widely disseminated and popularized through a number of key events at the regional and subregional levels, such as the African Presidential Round Table on "Leadership Solutions to Land Reform in Africa" held in Dar es Salaam, United Republic of Tanzania in August 2010 and the official launch of the implementation phase of the Declaration of African Heads of State and Government on Land.

23. In the area of water resources development and management, ECA responded to several requests for assistance from member States and their institutions for urgent policy-related advice. In this regard, assistance was provided in the substantive servicing of the following meetings: the Regional Forum on "Agricultural Water" organized by Volta Basin Authority in May 2010 in Accra, Ghana; the Zambezi coordination meeting and the twenty-first Southern African Development Community (SADC) Water Sector Regional Group Meeting in Gaborone, Botswana in June 2010; and the Joint Eastern and Southern Africa Regional Climate Change Workshop in Nairobi, Kenya in March 2010. In addition, the ECA secretariat co-organized and hosted the sixth regular meeting of the UN-Water/Africa Group of Agencies and Partners in January 2011 and the third Africa Water Week in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia in November 2010.

Governance and public administration

24. The ECA objective under this subprogramme is to enhance the capacity of member States to promote good governance practices to achieve major development objectives, including the MDGs and the priorities of NEPAD. In support of this objective, ECA undertook a wide range of activities in support of promoting good governance in Africa, with particular focus on strengthening public administration and public sector management for effective service delivery; promoting private sector development; enhancing the role and capacity of civil society; and providing support to the APRM process to strengthen governance practices in Africa.

25. Several reports and analytical studies were prepared or completed in support of good governance. The preparatory work for *AGR-III* was completed during the period under review and the project is now in its implementation phase. The substantive activities in the preparatory phase included the preparation and review of background papers, preparation of methodology and research instruments, and the convening of three expert meetings to fine-tune the ideas, framework, methodology and research instruments for the report. In addition, a Technical Workshop on *AGR-III* was organized in early December 2010 to bring selected national research institutions together for briefing on the background, modalities, processes, management and production of the national country reports for *AGR-III*.

26. *AGR-III*, on the theme “Elections and the Management of Diversity in Africa”, will cover between 40 and 45 countries and ECA is working in close partnership with UNDP on the project, particularly in facilitating preparation of the national country reports. The report is expected to contribute to enhancing the capacity of member States to manage elections more effectively as instruments for managing diversity, while also retaining the democratic ideals of credibility, transparency and fairness. This should lead to less violent and contentious elections and promote inclusive governance in Africa. Besides the thematic approach to the biennial *AGR* report, there will be a report produced every six years to monitor at a general level, the progress African countries are making on governance.

27. Another important publication completed and launched during the year was the *Report on Mutual Review of Development Effectiveness* (MRDE), jointly prepared by ECA and OECD. The main highlights of the 2010 report were presented by the ECA Executive Secretary to the NEPAD Heads of State and Government Orientation Committee at its twenty-third summit held in July 2010 in Kampala, Uganda. At its summit, the Committee, called upon ECA and OECD to continue with the Mutual Review process and further mandated that the process should serve as the main mutual accountability mechanism for monitoring and assessing the delivery of commitments made by both African countries and their development partners relative to the African economic development agenda. The report was formally launched in September 2010 at a side event during the United Nations MDG Review Summit by the Executive Secretary of ECA and the Secretary-General of OECD in New York. The report was also discussed at the Africa Partnership Forum in

Malawi in October 2010 and has been widely disseminated.

28. A number of activities undertaken during the year in support of improved public administration and public sector management included effective service delivery. The main thrust of the activities in this area focused on strengthening the capacity of anti-corruption institutions, improving the capacity of African parliaments and promoting better public financial management and domestic resource mobilization in Africa.

29. Activities undertaken on anti-corruption included: (a) a training workshop for national anti-corruption institutions in Central Africa in October 2010 in Yaoundé, Cameroon, in partnership with UNDP and the ECA Subregional Office for Central Africa ECA/SRO-CA). Countries represented at the workshop included Cameroon, Gabon, Equatorial Guinea, Chad, Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), and Sao Tome and Principe. The training workshop identified the specific needs and challenges of anti-corruption institutions in the region and drew up an action plan to assist them; and (b) a training workshop on anti-corruption in August 2010 for 15 member States, through the Council for the Development of Social Science Research in Africa (CODESRIA), a governance institute based in Dakar, Senegal,

30. Activities in support of improving the capacity of African parliaments included the preparation of a publication entitled “*The Role of Parliaments in Promoting Best Practices in Governance*”, which assessed the capacity and efficiency of national parliaments in Africa, their operational modalities, the level of autonomy they enjoy, their funding, and their relationship with the executive arm of government and the judiciary. As a contribution to improving public financial management and domestic resource mobilization, a study was prepared and presented to an ad hoc expert group meeting held in Banjul, the Gambia in November 2010.

31. A side event organized by ECA at the Joint Annual Meetings of the AU and ECA Conference of Ministers held in Lilongwe, Malawi in March, 2010 drew the attention of policymakers to the critical issue of illicit financial flows from Africa and its effect on the continent’s development. The group discussion brought experts together from several organizations within and outside Africa, including large private sector organizations, to discuss and propose measures for addressing the problem of illicit capital flows, particularly in light

of the recent global economic and financial crisis, where external resources for development are fast drying up. A major outcome of the discussion was a proposal to establish a Commission to be housed at ECA that would be tasked with coordinating international, regional and national efforts to address the negative effects of illicit financial outflows on Africa's development. Activities are currently being undertaken to formally establish the Commission in 2011.

32. One of the strategic partners supporting implementation of the APRM, ECA made significant contributions to successful implementation of the process during the period under review. Support took the form of country support missions, country review missions, technical assistance in drafting country reports and national programmes of action (NPOAs) and training workshops to build the capacity of stakeholders in the APRM process. Support and review missions were undertaken to a number of countries in 2010, and 13 additional countries were peer reviewed during the period. Several countries, including Ethiopia, Sierra Leone, the United Republic of Tanzania and Zambia, are at an advanced stage of review and these processes should be completed in the course of 2011. A training workshop on enhancing the role and effective participation of parliamentarians in the APRM, for French- and Portuguese-speaking APRM countries was held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia in May 2010. The workshop brought 60 participants together, from 16 French- and Portuguese-speaking African countries that had already acceded to the APRM. In addition, ECA prepared and disseminated simplified guidelines for integrating and harmonizing the APRM-NPoA, existing national development programmes and the Medium-Term Expenditure Framework (MTEF). In September 2010, an expert group workshop was held in Kampala to review and validate the synthesis document produced, based on the APRM-NPoA challenges and experience of four countries selected by ECA and UNDP (Ghana, Benin, Rwanda, and Uganda). Other activities undertaken included the second technical meeting on streamlining of the APRM questionnaire and an ad hoc expert group meeting on deepening best practices and lessons learned to be used for an APRM book publication.

33. Other forms of support provided to the APRM included assistance to member States to build and maintain a database of information, including providing access to data sources, sharing of information and experiences, and advocacy and sensitization workshops to deepen the understanding of different stakeholders of

their respective roles in the process. In particular, ECA assisted African civil-society organizations (CSOs) and networks of non-governmental organizations (NGOs) in strengthening their participation in the APRM.

34. Civil-society provides part of the backbone and foundation for efforts to achieve the MDGs in Africa and its participation in the development process is essential to achieving progress. In recent years, ECA has placed increasing emphasis on strengthening its relationship with CSOs to facilitate their involvement in policymaking and to enhance the effectiveness of ECA in fulfilling its mandate. The year under review saw further improvement in civil-society participation in ECA work, largely due to the resuscitation of the African Centre for Civil-Society (ACCS), which helped to define a structured process of engagement between ECA and CSOs. The Centre also serves as a repository of relevant and timely information on issues related to civil-society in development and governance and facilitates effective and programme-based linkages between African CSOs and the international development community.

35. As part of its continued efforts to strengthen the role of civil-society in Africa's development, a website for ACCS was launched in May 2010 to provide information on issues pertaining to CSOs. The ACCS portal offers various directories of interest and includes over 1,000 registered African NGOs, national networks and regional NGOs. A training workshop was organized in Mauritius on the role of CSOs in conflict mediation and peace-building. Other activities organized included an expert group meeting on strengthening popular participation and good governance, and the African CSO Assembly Meeting on the Brussels Programme of Action in March 2010 at the United Nations Conference Centre, Addis Ababa, in preparation for the Fourth United Nations Conference on Least Developed Countries (LDCs) to be held in Turkey in 2011.

36. Activities in the area of private sector development were designed to help strengthen PPPs and supporting the development of small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs). In recognition of the complementary roles of the public and private sectors in sustainable development, ECA undertook several activities aimed at scaling up private sector participation in key strategic sectors such as infrastructure, energy, agriculture and agro-industry, and public service delivery.

37. A regional investment forum was organized jointly by ECA, AUC and AfDB, as part of a series of activities in November 2010 consisting of a thematic conference on energy infrastructure and services and an exhibition of energy technologies and services for poverty reduction and sustainable development. In addition, the pan-African Investment Forum included a business round table, which brought together a number of senior policymakers and businessmen from within and outside Africa to discuss opportunities for investments in Africa, with particular focus on selected country and subregional pipeline projects.

38. A recent study prepared by the ECA secretariat reaffirmed the role of the private sector in strengthening public regional integration in Africa. The study included an analysis of the challenges to economic integration in Africa, assessment of the role of the private sector in economic integration, and highlighted replicable best practices and lessons learned in the promotion of regional integration through private sector participation in various sectors, including intra-African trade and infrastructure. A group training on PPPs was also organized to strengthen the institutional and organizational capacity of the civil service and public enterprises for improved service delivery in Africa.

Information and science and technology for development

39. ECA work under this subprogramme focuses on improving the capacity of African countries to formulate, implement and evaluate national and sectoral ICT, science, technology and innovation (STI) policies, and geo-information strategies for development. Several milestones were reached during the past year in support of this objective. With support from ECA, six African countries (Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, Ethiopia, the Gambia, Mali, and Niger) have completed their national and sectoral ICT infrastructure policies and plans with application in key sectors such as health, agriculture, education, commerce and government. An additional four countries (Benin, Ghana, Nigeria and Rwanda) are now in the process of finalizing their national and sectoral ICT policies and plans. At the subregional level, ECA also contributed to formulation of the e-SADC strategy.

40. Major achievements and progress have also been made in harmonizing national ICT policies and plans as well as in creating subregional frameworks for regional

economic integration. The harmonization of the ICT legal framework which started with ECOWAS and West African Economic and Monetary Union (UEMOA) has now been extended to the other RECs. This will enhance security and confidence in the knowledge economy in Africa. In a similar vein, ECA continued support to member States in the context of the implementation of the African Cyber Security Strategy programme aimed at harmonizing cyber legislation in Africa resulted in the development of a Regional Draft Convention on cyber legislation.

41. The initiative on capacity-building for measurement of access and usage of ICT by households and enterprises was further strengthened during the period under review with a number of training workshops jointly organized by ECA, International Telecommunication Union (ITU) and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD). The initiative has contributed significantly to capacity-building of the National Statistical Offices (NSOs) from both Anglophone and Francophone Africa. This has led to the development of an initiative for core listing of ICT socio-economic impact indicators, which is currently being implemented in Tunisia. The development of e-Government indicators in the framework of the International Partnership for Measuring ICT for Development was another important achievement during the period.

42. Another major initiative during the period under review was establishment of the Knowledge Network of African Community Telecentres involving over 18 community telecentres and 8 national telecentre networks from Burundi, Ethiopia, Kenya, Rwanda, the United Republic of Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe. The regional knowledge network initiative is part of a UNDA project involving all five United Nations Regional Commissions led by the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia whose main goal is to empower poor and disadvantaged communities through the transformation of existing ICT access points in selected countries around the world into hubs of global knowledge networks, with particular focus on women's access.

43. Other ICT initiatives were also supported by ECA during the period. ICTs have been utilized in the development of prototypes of "Electronic Rural Schools in African Languages, which supports the e-learning and e-teaching of local languages. The prototype is currently operational and is being used in primary schools in Cameroon. ECA also provided support in the devel-

opment of the ICT Master Plan for the national parliaments of Botswana, Swaziland and Zambia. ECA, through ITCA the Information Technology Centre for Africa, has since delivered training on “ICT Essentials for Government Leaders” to African Parliamentarians in Swaziland and SADC. The online versions of the courses were launched in January 2011 (www.uneca.org/elearnafrica).

44. In the area of geo-information, ECA has continued to support development and implementation of spatial data infrastructure as the appropriate mechanism for production, management, dissemination and use of spatial data and information products at both regional and national levels. In this regard, ECA provided technical assistance in developing the necessary tools for member States to exploit Geographic Information Systems (GIS) for socioeconomic development and achievement of the MDGs. As a result, several African countries have started developing sectoral strategies for mainstreaming GIS to spatially enable ICT application in various sectors. Côte d’Ivoire has developed its National Spatial Data Infrastructure Strategy and Sudan has developed the Southern Sudan Water Information Clearing House. A number of activities have also been carried out in Ethiopia, South Africa, Senegal and Swaziland for the promotion of spatially enabled policies and applications, including development of a central Spatial Data Infrastructure; use of web 2.0 for promotion of Participatory GIS; and adoption of a programme of activities for the Regional Centre for Mapping of Resources for Development of East and Southern African countries. In addition, the Government of Ghana received assistance in development of the national street addressing and numbering system, including capacity-building, advocacy activities, and provision of very high resolution geo-referenced satellite imagery covering Greater Accra.

45. In continuation of its efforts to promote the use of STI for economic development in Africa and building on the success of the first Science with Africa Conference, ECA in collaboration with AUC and other partners, organized the second Science with Africa Conference in June 2010 on the theme “Science, Innovation and Entrepreneurship” (www.uneca.org/science-withafrica). The Conference brought more than 500 participants together, including business industrial leaders, researchers and policymakers to discuss innovative ways of improving the efficiency of technology development, transfer and commercialization in Africa. The conference explored policies, measures and mechanisms

for promoting innovation and entrepreneurship in various areas such as agriculture, ICT, health, infrastructure, intellectual property and technology transfer, green science and climate change, among others.

46. A major outcome of the conference was the launch of the African Science, Technology and Innovation Endowment Fund. The Fund the first of its kind - is designed to support individuals as well as research and development institutions in bringing their research outputs to market. The conference also launched the first-ever African Technology Development and Transfer Network, which aims at generating economic and social value from research and development outputs by facilitating technology adaptation, diffusion, and commercialization and by encouraging investment in research and development. Among its key activities, the network will embark on training programmes and awareness workshops on intellectual property protection and management, as well as technology commercialization and exhibitions. In addition, it will offer online platforms, databases and knowledge resources for managers and technology transfer officers, as well as support technology transfer initiatives within firms and SMEs. The conference also featured a number of forums and workshops such as the Innovation Investment Forum, Women and Innovation Roundtable, Science Innovation and Communication Workshop, Patent Fair and presentation of the Water Quality Report.

47. As a result of the African Innovation Framework process initiated by ECA, three national STI policy development initiatives were launched in Benin, Mali and Senegal. Five additional countries (Burkina Faso, Cote d’Ivoire, the Gambia, Niger and Togo) have also requested assistance in the formulation and implementation of their STI policies. At the subregional level, ECA is working with the Commission of ECOWAS on development of the ECOWAS Policy on Science and Technology

48. Under its outreach and advocacy, the Commission has continued to host and support the Access to Scientific Knowledge in Africa designed to promote access to scientific knowledge by African scientists, decision makers, students and researchers. There are also several activities that fall within the African Innovation Centre initiative which are currently being developed in support of the business development in Africa. ECA also supports and hosts the secretariat of the African Network for Drugs and Diagnostics Innovation, which was conceived by the World Health Organization (WHO)

and seeks to promote and sustain an African-led health product innovation platform that addresses African public health needs. It will establish a regional network of centres of excellence and regional hub, fund collaborative regional projects, and build capacity as needed to support research and development and commercialization in health. The network will benefit from and support some of the key STI activities of ECA.

49. In the area of library development, an institutional repository was launched during the period under review (<http://repository.uneca.org/>). The repository provides an electronic publishing means of collecting, managing and preserving information about ECA work. It offers unique knowledge and information not available elsewhere pertaining to economic and social development in Africa, including reports of ECA meetings and conferences. The repository is a collaborative effort between the ECA ICT, Science and Technology Division and the Division of Administration and is a good example of ECA 'Delivering as One'.

Trade, economic cooperation and regional integration

50. During the period under review, ECA work under this subprogramme continued to focus on strengthening the process of regional integration in Africa through enhanced intra-African trade and physical integration, with particular emphasis on infrastructure and natural resources development in line with the AU vision.

51. A key accomplishment in support of policy development and harmonization in the area of regional integration was the publication and launch of *ARIA-IV*. *ARIA* is a biennial report jointly prepared by ECA, AUC and AfDB to assess the status of regional integration in Africa and identify constraints and other factors affecting the integration process in order to assist member countries in designing and implementing appropriate policies and strategies. The first report (*ARIA-I*), published in May 2004, provided a comprehensive and holistic assessment of the status of regional integration in Africa. *ARIA-II*, released in May 2006, examined the issue of the rationalization of the multiplicity of integration groupings and their attendant overlapping memberships. Published in 2008, *ARIA-III* tackled the issue of macroeconomic policy convergence. *ARIA-IV*, which focused on the theme, "Enhancing intra-African trade" was launched in May 2010 in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire during the annual meeting of AfDB.

52. The report undertakes a comprehensive empirical analysis of the reasons why intra-African trade has remained low over the past decades and provides concrete policy recommendations to reverse the situation so that African countries can reap the benefits of improved intraregional trade. The lack of diversification and competitiveness of African economies is cited as a major impediment. Other major obstacles to intraregional trade addressed in the report include the poor state of trade-related infrastructure, lack of macroeconomic coordination in general as well as the multiplicity and inconvertibility of currencies. The report has been extensively disseminated to policymakers and stakeholders including the REC. Its findings and conclusions have led the Conference of African Ministers of Trade to adopt a resolution to fast-track the establishment of an African Continental Free Trade Area.

53. In the area of intra-African trade and trade facilitation, three regional workshops and study tours on trade facilitation and intra-African trade were organized in Dar es Salaam, Accra and Mombasa during the period under review. The workshops enabled stakeholders to share and learn from experiences and best practices in trade facilitation, port operations and corridor management across Africa. They also helped to boost the knowledge of about 200 stakeholders representing port authorities, corridor management institutions, transport and shipping companies, ministries of trade, shippers' councils, immigration and customs authorities and RECs, on various trade-facilitation issues. Furthermore, as a direct follow-up to these workshops, the West African subregion has embarked on a programme to harmonize and liberalize cross-border transportation of goods to improve intra-West African trade.

54. In the area of international trade, several activities were undertaken to strengthen the capacity of African countries for effective participation in various international trade negotiations and arrangements, within the context of the multilateral trading system, with particular emphasis on the Economic Partnership Agreements (EPAs), Aid for Trade (AfT) and the African Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA). In this regard, a workshop was organized in Nairobi, Kenya in April 2010 on issues related to the non-agricultural market access (NAMA) negotiations, and Non-Tariff Barriers (NTBs) within the World Trade Organization (WTO). The workshop provided a platform for African trade negotiators, representatives from AU and the RECs, and trade officials, to forge a consensus and a common African position on NTB issues. As a result of the workshop, the

Africa Group in Geneva has been more actively engaged in the NAMA and NTB negotiations.

55. With respect to AGOA, ECA, in partnership with AUC, developed a set of proposals and policy options for consideration by African countries when the current AGOA preferences officially come to an end in 2015. The options were discussed and endorsed by the sixth ordinary session of the African Union Ministers of Trade in Kigali, Rwanda in November 2010. This led the Ministers to adopt the Declaration on a Strategic Framework for Strengthening US-Africa Trade Relations 2010 and Beyond, which will inform the engagement of African countries with the US Government.

56. On the EPAs, ECA supported AUC in its role of coordinating the ongoing negotiations between the RECs and European Union (EU). In this regard, ECA provided technical inputs to two coordination meetings held during the period under review. The coordination meetings resulted in the AUC-RECs Position Paper on EPAs, which was considered by the sixth ordinary session of the African Ministers of Trade and culminated in a Declaration and Way Forward for African countries in the EPA negotiations.

57. On the AfT initiative, the Commission carried out a number of activities designed to enhance the awareness, knowledge and the capacity of member States and RECs to take advantage of its opportunities. In this regard, review meetings and stakeholder workshops were organized at the subregional level on AfT monitoring and evaluation. Further, a study on "Surmounting Africa's Trade Capacity Constraints: An Assessment of the Effectiveness of Aid for Trade" was prepared to help member States and RECs participate effectively in the third Global Review of Aid for Trade, through well-articulated case studies. The achievements noted in these case studies will help maintain the trade momentum, which is crucial to overcoming the challenges likely to be experienced in AfT supplies in the aftermath of the financial and economic crises. Similarly, several training and capacity-building activities were undertaken through the African Trade Policy Centre (ATPC) aimed at strengthening trade policy analysis and negotiation capacities of RECs and member States. Among other activities, ATPC organized a seminar on "Market Analysis Tools and Modelling Trade Negotiations Outcomes" in Dakar, Senegal in April 2010. Participants in the workshop were given practical lessons on how to identify new export market opportunities and delineate sensitive products in the context of trade negotiations.

58. In the area of transport, ECA continued to work with other partners in the context of the sub-Saharan Africa Transport Policy Programme (SSATP), an international partnership that aims to build policy development and implementation capacity in the transport sector. As Chair of the SSATP Board, ECA participated in the SSATP annual meeting held in Kampala, Uganda in October 2010 and in the RECs Transport Coordination Committee meeting held in Nairobi, Kenya in May 2010. These meetings reviewed the progress of RECs in the implementation of transport and trade facilitation activities, and identified gaps for strengthening the capacities of the RECs, corridor management institutions and policymakers in order to improve the efficiency of transport corridors. Together with SSATP and AUC, ECA also organized a training workshop on "Legal Instruments on Transport and Trade Facilitation" in Addis Ababa in November 2010. The workshop reviewed the implementation of international, regional and subregional instruments and agreed to prepare a compendium of all such instruments for wide dissemination to ease access to these instruments and improve their implementation. The compendium will be completed in 2011.

59. In the area of natural resources development, ECA and AUC completed the draft *Framework Report of the International Study Group* on Africa's mineral regimes. The report formed part of the implementation of the African Mining Vision adopted by African Heads of State in February 2009. An ad hoc expert group meeting was jointly organized with AUC in October 2010 to validate the report. Based on the report, an Action Plan is being jointly developed with AUC and AfDB to implement the Mining Vision. The Vision and Report of the ISG will form the basis for collaborative work between AUC and EU, and for harmonizing REC mining policies. The Vision was also adopted in 2010 by CSD-18 as the basis for the sustainable development of natural resources in Africa. Both the Framework Report and Action Plan will be submitted to the second AU Conference of Ministers responsible for Mineral Resources Development in Africa, which will be held in May 2011, and subsequently, to the AU Summit in July 2011 for adoption.

60. In the area of energy resources development, ECA continued to support the efforts of African countries and regional organizations in the development of the energy sector on the continent. The Commission facilitated the participation of regional organizations in the Global Energy Efficiency 21 Project (GEE21) which aims to

promote energy efficiency and investments in renewable energy working through the RECS. It also co-organized with AUC and AfDB, the All Africa Energy Week and the Pan-African Investment Forum, which brought investors, policymakers, development partners and other actors together to forge partnerships and promote investments in infrastructure development, including energy infrastructure in Africa. In furtherance of the GEE21 aims, ECA has submitted a proposal on renewable energy and energy efficiency for funding under the eighth tranche of UNDA.

Gender and women in development

61. Supporting member States to achieve gender equality through gender mainstreaming and empowerment of women continued to define the work under this subprogramme. Activities undertaken during the period under review focused mainly on implementation of the priorities identified by the 15-year review of the implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action in Africa; implementation of the African Gender and Development Index (AGDI) in more African countries; preparation and dissemination of a compendium of best practices; strengthening the capacity of member States in the area of gender statistics; research to support countries in implementation of their national gender-related policies; and promoting information and knowledge sharing through the African Women's Rights Observatory (AWRO) were among the most important achievements under this subprogramme during the period.

62. As follow-up to the recommendations of the Eighth African Regional Conference on Women (Beijing +15) held in November 2009 in Banjul, the Gambia, ECA developed a Beijing +15 Follow-up Strategy aimed at assisting member States and other stakeholders to implement the Banjul Declaration and the Africa-relevant outcomes of the fifty-fourth session of the Commission on the Status of Women. The Strategy provides clear indicators for helping member States and stakeholders to measure their performance on the agreed priority areas and to focus their interventions appropriately over the next five years. It will be presented to the Committee on Women and Development at its biennial meeting in 2011.

63. ECA continued to play a key role in strengthening the capacity of member States for collecting and analysing gender-disaggregated data on emerging issues, such

as time-use, unpaid work, violence against women and women's political participation. As part of its work in this area, a manual was developed and successfully tested in Ghana, to train national statisticians, accountants and policymakers in collecting and analysing sex- and gender-disaggregated data on time use. The initiative aims to bring economic and household information into a common framework, for measuring the contribution of household production to the economy and to assess the impact of the economy on household production. The data collected and analysed under the initiative showed that women's contribution to non-market production in the national economy is almost double that of men. The programme will be replicated in other countries in 2011 to assist member States to measure and integrate women's unpaid work in national planning instruments and macroeconomic policies.

64. The development of AGDI entered an expanded second phase during the period under review with data collection and refinement of the instrument in 18 countries: Algeria, Botswana, Burundi, Cape Verde, Côte d'Ivoire, DRC, Djibouti, the Gambia, Kenya, the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malawi, Mali, Morocco, Namibia, the Republic of Congo, Rwanda, Senegal and Zambia. The AGDI allows member States to review and assess their performance in meeting commitments on gender equality, including identifying and addressing gaps in policies and strategies. A *Compendium of Emerging Good Practices in Gender Mainstreaming* was prepared in 2010, which not only highlighted mainstreaming but also addressed gender issues in the context of peacebuilding and post-conflict reconstruction initiatives in nine countries in Africa: Côte d'Ivoire, DRC, Liberia, Rwanda, Sierra Leone, Somalia, South Africa, the Sudan and Uganda. The *Compendium* shows that while progress has been made in enhancing the role of women in peacebuilding processes and in improving the lives of women in post-conflict countries, women and children remain disproportionately affected by armed conflict and more needs to be done to address their plight.

65. Various studies were also undertaken to analyse and enhance understanding on gender-related issues. For example, a study on gender inequalities and social protection based on eight country case studies, provided a set of policy recommendations on the need to integrate a gender perspective in social protection policies, including enhancing social protection in the informal sector where a majority of women are employed. Similarly, a study on the gender dimensions of food security within the context of climate change analysed measures

taken by some African countries to address the impacts of climate change on food security, taking into account the gender dimensions. In addition, a study on women and land rights based on research findings and data collected in ten selected countries, namely Algeria, Cameroon, Chad, Liberia, Morocco, Namibia, the Niger, Rwanda, Uganda and Zambia, concluded that there was need to: close the gap between constitutional and policy commitments to gender equality; address challenges resulting from legal pluralism; and invest in other areas of social policy that empower women.

66. ECA has contributed significantly to United Nations work in the area of gender-based violence and violence against women (VAW). As a contribution to the United Nations Secretary-General's campaign against VAW that was launched in January 2010, ECA undertook a study to measure the prevalence of different forms of VAW and to analyse their causes and consequences. The study covered five African countries: Cameroon, Tunisia, Senegal, Uganda and Zambia and identified gaps in knowledge and data collection. It also highlighted good practices and strategies adopted to combat VAW. The study will be used to augment national initiatives in this area, such as data collection through specific national surveys, special programmes for women victims of violence (assistance, counselling and rehabilitation) and enactment of special laws to punish perpetrators of domestic violence.

67. The AWRO continued to serve as a strategic tool to inform member States on the status of women's rights on the continent and to highlight areas of concern. Through its website (<http://awro.uneca.org/>), newsletter and other publications, AWRO serves as a comprehensive source of data and information on research findings, best practices and events on women's rights in Africa. It also tracks the progress of African countries in upholding women's human rights. During the period under review, the three newsletters published and disseminated addressed various gender-related issues, including progress made in the area of women's rights, impact of the economic and financial crisis on women, prospects and challenges of women in decision making as well as women's vulnerability during conflict and their role in conflict and peace management. Both the AWRO newsletter and website have become valued sources of information and knowledge on gender issues and have helped in enhancing understanding of topical women's rights issues in Africa. Another valuable impact of both the newsletter and the observatory is the strengthening of electronic networking among national

gender machineries in Africa. AWRO also developed a wide range of web-based resources, including bibliographies and a databank that provides users with information on relevant court decisions that demonstrate the use of international law in domestic courts to uphold women's rights.

68. Significant results were also achieved in capacity-building for gender mainstreaming in national development policies and programmes. Advisory services and technical assistance were provided upon request to a number of member States and regional organizations. Assistance provided to the Ministry of Health, Solidarity and Gender of Comoros helped to strengthen the role of CSOs in integrating gender concerns in development programmes at the community level. Similarly, technical assistance provided to the Gender Unit of Central African Economic and Monetary Community (CEMAC), enabled the adoption of a strategy to mainstream gender in CEMAC policies and programmes. Technical inputs provided to the third Forum of Ministers of Women's Affairs in the Great Lakes Region resulted in the creation of the Great Lakes Documentation and Research Centre to be based in Kinshasa, DRC.

Supporting subregional activities for development

69. Confronting the particular development challenges facing different parts of Africa often calls for a subregional focus, which in ECA is provided by the five SROs located in each of the five subregions of the continent as follows: Rabat for North Africa, Niamey for West Africa, Yaounde for Central Africa, Kigali for East Africa and Lusaka for Southern Africa. The work of the five SROs is defined by the specific needs and priorities of each subregion. However, a major priority for all five SROs is to promote and accelerate the process of regional integration at the subregional level, by spearheading the delivery of operational activities targeted at the specific priorities of each of the five subregions, within the overall framework and priorities of AU and NEPAD.

70. The SROs have worked towards this objective by strengthening partnership with the major RECs, including the Arab Maghreb Union (AMU), SADC, the East African Community (EAC), the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD), ECOWAS, CEMAC, the Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS) and UEMOA.

71. During the period under review, the SROs continued to enhance their support to member States and RECs in strengthening their capacity to formulate and implement harmonized macroeconomic and sectoral policies and programmes in the areas of trade, infrastructure, human capacity development, gender mainstreaming, agriculture and food security. To this end, they organized and serviced various meetings, workshops, including the annual session of their respective ICEs) participated in the meetings of the policy organs of the major RECs; and provided technical assistance, on request, to member States, RECs and other intergovernmental organizations (IGOs) on institutional and sectoral issues in support of integration efforts.

72. The SROs also compiled and disseminated reports and studies on various economic and social issues, which were submitted to the ICEs. In addition, they continued to enhance their collaboration with other UN agencies and increased their participation in the activities of the United Nations Country Teams (UNCT) in support of the achievement of the internationally-agreed development goals, including the MDGs. In addition, some of the SROs made progress towards establishing mechanisms for enhancing coordination of United Nations activities at the subregional level in line with the mandate given to them by the RCM, including implementation of the joint activities agreed by the thematic clusters at the subregional level.

73. As the programming cycle and consultations for new MYPs begin, a major priority for all the SROs during the past year was to take stock of the achievements implemented during the period under review. The following section highlights some of the achievements by each SRO in the context of the implementation of the MYPs.

(a) Subregional activities for development in Central Africa

74. During the period under review, the ECA Subregional Office for Central Africa (SRO-CA) continued to provide capacity-building support to member States and the RECs on a wide range of development issues with particular focus on infrastructure development, transport, trade policies, rationalization of RECs, promoting macroeconomic policy convergence, free movement of people, use of ICT for development, and post-conflict reconstruction. The MYP which brings SRO-CA, ECCAS and CEMAC together under a single umbrella helped to rationalize regional integration programmes

in the subregion. The MYP framework resulted in the joint implementation of several priority projects.

75. Some notable achievements in the context of implementing the MYPs include: ongoing efforts to rationalize and optimize regional integration groupings in Central Africa in response to a request from ECCAS and CEMAC Heads of State; a study to assess the status of implementation of the Consensual Transport Master Plan for Central Africa, which aims to link all the capital cities in Central Africa by road; and capacity-building workshops in the area of post-conflict peacebuilding and rehabilitation with particular emphasis on justice sector reforms in several post-conflict countries in the subregion.

76. SRO-CA prepared several technical reports and publications during the year, including its flagship publication "*les Economies de l'Afrique Centrale*", which focused on the theme of domestic resource mobilization and economic diversification in Central Africa. The office also produced several outreach materials including a quarterly magazine, "*Les Echos d'Afrique Centrale*" and a weekly bulletin, "*Highlight*", which have contributed to information dissemination activities in support of regional integration in Central Africa.

77. A consultative meeting of United Nations agencies, ECCAS, CEMAC, IGOs, NGOs and member States was organized during the period under review, which led to adoption of a 2010-2012 common indicative programme of work and establishment of the Subregional Coordination Mechanism (SRCM) for Central Africa.

(b) Subregional activities for development in East Africa

78. During the period under review, the ECA Subregional Office for East Africa (SRO-EA) continued to focus much of its policy support and operational activities on fostering the regional integration process in East Africa by strengthening the capacity of member States and RECs in the formulation and implementation of harmonized macroeconomic and sectoral policies. The main beneficiaries of this support were IGAD, International Conference on the Great Lakes Countries (ICGLR), Economic Community of the Great Lakes Countries (CEPGL) and Indian Ocean Commission (IOC) within the context of their respective MYPs. Consultations are currently underway with the EAC Secretariat to establish a comprehensive framework of cooperation with ECA through SRO-EA.

79. The year 2010 was marked by a consolidation of some of the activities and initiatives started in 2009 in the context of the MYPs with the four RECs. A concrete example of this was the catalytic role of SRO-EA in developing a joint framework for the programme on food security for East Africa, which was adopted by all four RECs. Two meetings were held, in June and November 2010, to finalize the draft framework.

80. In the framework of the implementation of MYP with CEPGL, SRO-EA provided substantive support to the REC in the formulation of its Strategic Plan for 2010-2014. The plan aims at guiding CEPGL Secretariat in developing its vision with a view to attaining the strategic and programmatic objectives endorsed by the CEPGL Council of Ministers in 2007.

81. Collaboration with the Secretariat is also progressing well. In response to a request by the IGAD Secretariat, SRO-EA provided technical assistance in preparation of a regional directory on tourism and the hospitality industry for IGAD countries. The directory is intended to promote the seven member countries of IGAD as a single tourism destination for both investors in the hotel and hospitality sector and tourists. To this end, a report was prepared and discussed at the fifteenth ICE meeting held in Djibouti in February 2011 on the theme "Towards Sustainable Tourism Industry Development in Eastern Africa". The directory was endorsed by the meeting as an integrated tourism development master plan for IGAD countries.

82. In the implementation of the MYP with ICGLR, three core activities were undertaken as follows: (a) an ad hoc expert group meeting was organized in March 2010; (b) a study was carried out in collaboration with German Agency for Technical Cooperation (GTZ) on Trans-border Development Basins Zone 10; and (c) the field project on food security that is currently being implemented in ICGLR countries. Cooperation with IOC is still at an early stage with the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding between the two institutions in late 2009. The Memorandum provided a framework for cooperation between IOC and ECA/SRO-EA. Concrete areas of support were defined in the course of 2010 and implementation of the programme of cooperation is expected to start in 2011. The areas of focus will include trade, climate change and natural resources management.

83. SRO-EA also made progress in strengthening its partnership with other stakeholders, including United

Nations agencies working in Rwanda and within the subregion on a wide range of development issues. SRO-EA has become an active member of the UNCT in Rwanda and as such, played a lead role in the implementation of several key joint activities under the "One United Nations" programme. In 2010, it played a major role in the areas of environment and natural resources management. The office was also pivotal in ensuring that regional integration issues were included in the UNCT programme and reflected accordingly in the United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) Results Statement. This effort has culminated in the approval of a programme on "Mainstreaming Regional Integration in Rwanda" which will be implemented in 2011. Efforts were also made to raise the profile of STI in the work of the UNCT. As a result, within the framework of UNDAF Result 3, in 2011, ECA will provide institutional support to the Government of Rwanda on STI issues.

84. Inter-agency collaboration at the subregional level was also enhanced during the period under review with the establishment of the SRCM for United Nations system-wide support to AU and its NEPAD programme. As a follow-up to the high-level consultative meeting of United Nations agencies held in April 2010, a meeting of a task force of agencies was held in October 2010 to discuss operational guidelines for the establishment and functioning of a SRCM in the Eastern and Southern Africa subregions. The task force agreed that the SRCM should focus on the thematic areas of governance, gender and social development, and agriculture and food security. Knowledge management and information sharing were identified as cross-cutting themes consistent with the priorities of NEPAD. The outcomes of the task force meeting were endorsed by the eleventh RCM in November 2010. The SRCM for Eastern and Southern Africa will become operational in 2011.

85. In support of knowledge management and knowledge sharing, the Observatory on Regional Integration established and hosted by SRO-EA has contributed to the process of monitoring and tracking progress on regional integration in the subregion. Relevant instruments of regional integration (treaties, protocols, and conventions) are periodically posted on the Observatory. The platform helps to monitor how these instruments are being adapted, implemented, and mainstreamed into national legal and regulatory frameworks. It also helps to assess progress being made towards achieving the agreed regional targets and convergence criteria.

86. These joint undertakings have helped the SRO and its partners to realize economies of scale, and enhance focus and impact in programme delivery. It also helped partners forge common positions on key development issues affecting the subregion, such as peace and security, trade and macroeconomic policies, natural resources management, social development policies, transport and infrastructure development, industrial development, and ICT. However, the multiplicity of integration groupings remains a major challenge faced by SRO-EA in implementation of its activities. The subregion is characterized by multiple memberships of RECs/IGOs and the existence of many entities with overlapping regional integration mandates. As a result, SRO-EA implements the programme priorities of five different MYPs. The regular budget resources provided in 2010 fell short of the requirements for implementation of agreed programmes and projects.

(c) Subregional activities for development in North Africa

87. During the period under review, the ECA Subregional Office for North Africa (SRO-NA) scaled up its contribution to policymaking in the subregion through a number of capacity-building activities undertaken in support of member States and AMU as the main subregional IGO in North Africa. The activities addressed the priority areas of regional economic integration, climate change and sustainable development, ICT for development, and trade and transport facilitation.

88. SRO-NA organized several joint activities together with AMU in support of the implementation of the MYP for the period 2010-2011, including a conference on the role of women in development, a workshop on cyber security in North Africa and a meeting on collaboration between AMU and other RECs. Similarly, a meeting convened jointly by SRO-NA and AMU under the theme "Partnership for the Maghreb", brought major stakeholders together to assess progress in implementation of the MYP for 2010-2011 and discuss the activities planned for the second MYP (2012-2013). MYP implementation has helped strengthen the AMU General Secretariat and the capacity of member States to collaborate in the joint formulation of subregional policies, particularly in the area of food security.

89. In view of the vulnerability of member countries to climate change, SRO-NA undertook an in-depth study and prepared a major report which analysed the challenges posed by climate change to the subregion, includ-

ing strategies and adaptation measures. The report also highlighted innovative ways of making the shift to a green economy and achieving climate-proof development. The publication has helped to increase awareness of climate-related issues in North Africa.

90. As a key contribution to knowledge networking and knowledge management in the subregion, the fourth Mediterranean Colloquium was organized in collaboration with WTO, ATPC, Université Lyon II and University Mohamed VI Souissi, to discuss the main challenges relating to growth, international trade and regional integration faced by Mediterranean countries. The colloquium consolidated a network of academics, researchers and institutions working on international trade, growth and regional integration. Similarly, a workshop in Marrakech organized by the SRO on the role of women entrepreneurs in the economic development of AMU has strengthened networking among women entrepreneurs in the subregion.

91. The lead role of SRO-NA in coordinating United Nations work in the subregion was reinforced with the ongoing efforts to establish a SRCM in support of the AU-RECs and the NEPAD programme in North Africa. The SRCM for North Africa will become operational in 2011. SRO-NA is also active in the work of the UNCTs in Morocco and Tunisia, and aims to increase its UNCT involvement in the other member States. Its key input to the work of the UNCT is to mainstream regional integration dimensions into the UNDAF programmes.

(d) Subregional activities for development in Southern Africa

92. The work of the ECA Subregional Office for Southern Africa (SRO-SA) during the past year was geared towards strengthening the capacity of member States and the SADC Secretariat to formulate and implement harmonized macroeconomic and sectoral policies in several priority areas in order to enhance regional integration, with particular emphasis on achieving social development objectives and integration in the subregion.

93. The main strategy for programme delivery revolved around MYP activities agreed with the SADC Secretariat in 2008 as the main vehicle of support for speeding up regional integration in the subregion. Other modalities included advocacy, research, workshops and seminars, advisory services and capacity-building for policy harmonization and regional integration.

94. Through the MYP, ECA-SA provided support to strengthen capacity in several areas of SADC work programmes. It pursued efforts to implement the e-SADC initiative, which resulted in the finalization of the e-SADC Strategy Framework adopted in May 2010 by the Conference of SADC Ministers responsible for Telecommunications, Postal and ICT Affairs. The initiative and strategy are designed to address convergence issues and harmonization of ICT policy and infrastructure, and promote ICT usage for regional economic integration. Regional harmonization, capacity-building and the implementation of e-strategies will be at the core of the programme. The programme also addresses major aspects of e-applications including e-government, such as e-policing in SADC member countries; e-parliaments, including strengthening the role of the SADC parliament; e-commerce, e-education, e-health, e-agriculture, whilst encouraging PPPs.

95. SRO-SA also supported the SADC Secretariat in the formulation of a draft Framework for the Harmonization of Mining Policies, Standards, Legislative and Regulatory Framework in Southern Africa, which was adopted by SADC Ministers of Mining Affairs. The collaborative work has continued to review the mining protocol and to produce a report on the Security Framework for SADC Mineral Products, with a focus on tracking and certifying mineral products originating from or transiting through SADC member countries. In collaboration with the ATPC, SRO-SA supported the participation of women miners in the SADC Women in Business and Investment Forum, which resulted in the adoption of an action plan to support the formation of a regional women-in-business forum in Southern Africa.

96. The SRO supported the SADC Secretariat in initiating a pilot exercise of the SADC Gender and Development Protocol Monitoring Tool, to monitor implementation of the SADC Protocol on Gender and Development. In this regard, initiatives were launched in the DRC, Botswana and Namibia to harmonize the AGDI with the monitoring tool. A regional gender monitoring tool developed by SADC with support from SRO-SA was endorsed in 2010 by the African Ministers responsible for Gender Affairs.

97. Other significant achievements in the context of the MYP included assistance to SADC in implementing its programmes on macroeconomic and institutional convergence, including assistance in the development of a framework for regional financial integration towards the establishment of a monetary union in SADC, and

providing substantive technical inputs in the preparation of the *Regional Human Development Report for Southern Africa* and the biennial *Report on Gender and Development*.

98. As a follow-up to the technical advisory work jointly undertaken in 2009 by SRO-SA and the Eduardo Mondlane University in Mozambique on mainstreaming regional integration in national development plans and promoting macroeconomic convergence, a framework for mainstreaming regional integration issues into national policies and plans has been developed. Efforts are underway in several SADC member countries to adopt the framework. SRO-SA also provided assistance to the Eduardo Mondlane University in mainstreaming regional integration into the university curriculum and in establishing a knowledge-management platform.

(e) Subregional activities for development in West Africa

99. The Subregional Office for West Africa (SRO-WA) devoted significant efforts during the past year to operationalize the MYP of collaboration with the ECOWAS Commission, and providing technical assistance to member States, major IGOs and NGOs, including strengthening capacity in policy formulation and harmonization, and programme implementation.

100. In the context of MYP implementation MYP, SRO-WA collaborated with the ECOWAS Commission on a number of joint undertakings including organizing meetings, group training activities and advisory services to member States. These included the third West African Business Forum and sixth ECOWAS Trade Fair held in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire in September 2010 on harnessing energy resources for development in West Africa. Among other things, the forum facilitated exchange of information and experience in addressing the challenges in the energy sector in West Africa. Topics discussed included renewable energy sources; production, transmission and distribution of energy; strategies to reduce the cost of energy supply through pooling and other options; PPPs in generation, transmission and distribution of electricity, and research and development in the areas of cost, efficiency, demand management and alternative sources of energy.

101. Other activities carried out in support of the MYP include finalization of the legal framework for IGOs in the subregion, which will be adopted in 2011; contribution to the review of the ECOWAS Mineral Develop-

ment Policy to strengthen policy harmonization in the mining sector; the first Forum on Regional Electricity Regulation organized by the ECOWAS Regional Electricity Regulatory Authority in November 2010 in Accra, Ghana; ECOWAS Aid-for-Trade review meeting; and joint preparation of the *Report on Economic and Social Conditions in West Africa*. SRO-WA also prepared and submitted a concept note to the ECOWAS Commission as part of efforts to establish a subregional coordination mechanism to coordinate United Nations activities in support of AU and its NEPAD programme in West Africa.

Development planning and administration

102. The year 2010 was a turning point for African Institute for Economic Development and Planning (IDEP) as it witnessed one of the most vibrant programme and activity years since its founding in 1962. Significant progress was made in the efforts to reposition the Institute and set it on a new path of relevance, growth, presence, and visibility that corresponds with the wishes of its member States and the broad targets set by the Governing Council. The repositioning was launched and completed at a point in time when issues of long-term national, subregional and regional development and planning had again become topical and important across the world. As outlined in the Institute's new strategic plan, this changing context calls not only for a complete overhaul of its capacity-development and training programmes but also for enhancement of its allied policy research and dissemination work in order to enable it to respond in a more direct and meaningful way to the needs of its member States with regard to the skilled human resources needed and targeted policy advice and orientation. Integral to the programme overhaul undertaken and as a central part of the effort to meet the expressed needs of African Governments, the content of courses offered by the Institute was re-designed and attention paid to the urgent need to scale-up training activities and tap all opportunities for the decentralized delivery of services.

103. As a result of the repositioning, IDEP is now in a much better position to deliver on its mandate of providing capacity-building and training to middle- and senior-level officials in relevant areas of economic planning and development management so that they can be more proficient and effective in responding to the development challenges that their countries face. During the

period under review, IDEP not only expanded the menu of training courses it offers to member States but also significantly increased the number of participants in and beneficiaries of its capacity development and training programmes; launched the decentralized implementation of its activities for enhancing its presence and reach beyond its headquarters city of Dakar; organized a series of policy dialogues as its contribution to the strengthening of an Africa policy research agenda; re-launched its policy research activities; and laid the foundation for the launching of online programmes.

104. Efforts to re-launch the MA degree programme as the main flagship activity of the Institute reached an advanced stage during the period under review following consultations with a wide range of stakeholders, including policymakers, African universities and research institutes and development partners. When the fully revamped MA degree programme is re-launched in 2011, it is anticipated that, on the average, it will be able to provide advanced training to not less than 150 officials annually compared to the roughly 20 admitted annually in the past.

105. The short courses organized by IDEP remain a key component of the capacity development and training activities of the Institute. In 2010, ten short courses were designed and implemented by the Institute (see table 1). These courses covered issues that are relevant to African development and ranged from sectors such as agriculture, trade, and industrial policies to regional integration, gender in macroeconomic management and negotiating strategies. As at the end of December 2010, two 206 officials had been trained by the Institute. Of these, 76, 37 per cent were female officials. This compared favourably with the group of 154 officials trained in 2009. In addition, 5 high-profile seminars were given by reputable academics and policy intellectuals from across Africa and beyond. The seminars dwelt on contemporary development issues in Africa such as the implications of the rise of China and India for African development; poverty and climate change; technology and innovation; the progress and limitations of African regional integration; and the debates on the proposed EU EPAs with Africa. All the participants in the 2010 short courses organized by the Institute were beneficiaries of full scholarships that covered their tuition fees and subsistence costs. Preference in the admission of participants in the training activities continued to be reserved for officials of African governments. The evaluation reports filled and submitted by participants suggested that there had been considerable improvement

Table 1: Short Courses Implemented in 2010

	Course Title	Dates	Venue	Number of Applications Received			Number Admitted		
				Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female
1	Agricultural Policy in Africa (English)	05-30 April 2010	IDEP, Dakar	44	23	21	24	11	13
2	Preferential Trade Agreements for Development: Issues & Implications (With WBI)	12-16 April 2010	IDEP, Dakar	191	151	40	24	18	6
3	Market Analysis Tools for Trade Flows Analysis and Modelling (With ECA)	26-29 April 2010	IDEP, Dakar	-	-	-	20	12	8
4	Industrial Policy in Africa (English)	03-28 May 2010	IDEP, Dakar	49	25	24	19	11	8
5	Regional Integration in Africa (English)	07-25 June 2010	IDEP, Dakar	34	19	15	16	11	5
6	Agricultural Policy in Africa (French)	05-30 July 2010	IDEP, Dakar	45	35	10	21	16	5
7	TOT* Workshop on Gender-responsive Economic Policy Management (English) (With UNDP)	07-09 July 2010	IDEP, Dakar	-	-	-	21	10	11
8	TOT Workshop Gender-Responsive Economic Policy Management (French) (With UNDP)	12-14 July 2010	IDEP, Dakar	-	-	-	21	8	13
9	Industrial Policy in Africa (French)	09 Aug - 03 Sept	IDEP, Dakar	36	33	3	19	16	3
100	Regional Integration in Africa (French)	13 Sept - 01 Oct.	IDEP, Dakar	63	50	13	21	17	4
Total				462	336	126	206	130	76

Source: IDEP, 2010

* Training of Trainers (TOT)

in course organization and delivery strategies adopted by the Institute in 2010. The learning environment was found to be very conducive and the professional conduct of staff members was very much commended.

106. During 2010, IDEP continued its tradition of encouraging the nomination and participation of female officials in all its capacity development and training programmes and activities. Efforts were also sustained to ensure a diversity of geographical representation in the courses convened, through a vigorous outreach programme and delivery of decentralized training activities across all the five subregions of Africa.

107. Meeting the challenges of a new institutional orientation and direction has demanded expansion of its resource base and reinforcement of staff capacity. In 2010, the Institute registered major successes both in the growth of its regular budget and in the increments in the extrabudgetary (XB) resources it was able to mobilize. Contributions from member States reached a new peak; the number of countries contributing funds and countries without arrears were the highest ever

recorded. Steps were also taken to recruit new staff to boost programme implementation capacity. The absorption of the financial resources available for programme implementation was well over 80 per cent.

108. The year 2010 also witnessed significant increases in IDEP collaborative activities with relevant stakeholders. The Institute's portfolio of partnerships, both programmatic and financial, continued to expand. Integration into ECA as the arm of the Commission responsible for implementation of subprogramme 8 pertaining to economic management and development planning was reaffirmed and served as the main pillar for substantive collaboration with the ECA Divisions and SROs. The Institute also enhanced its programmatic collaboration with AUC and other organizations including UNDP. Discussions with a number of potential and existing donor agencies are already yielding positive results in strengthening the capacity development and training programmes of the Institute. Its collaboration with the Arab Bank for Economic Development in Africa also led to support for implementing two sessions of a course on "Regional Integration in Africa". Both

sessions will be conducted in 2011. The discussions with donor partners such as EU, Government of the Netherlands, Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA), United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM), and the Ford Foundation were further consolidated in 2010.

Statistics

109. The objective of ECA work under this subprogramme is to improve the production, dissemination and use of key demographic, social, economic and environmental statistics, including the MDG indicators, in accordance with internationally-agreed standards and best practices. Accordingly, the Commission's work during the reporting period was articulated around the following priorities: promoting, coordinating, and advocating for statistical activities in Africa; building a data hub at ECA for the provision of development data on Africa; implementing the standard international System of National Accounts (SNA) in Africa; supporting statistical training programmes; establishing a regional programme for population and housing censuses in line with internationally-adopted cycles; improving the status of civil registration and vital statistics (CRVS) in Africa; and providing technical assistance in various areas of statistics.

110. At the same time, given the ongoing efforts to strengthen the integration process in the subregion, it is vital to make progress in harmonizing data. These challenges continued to guide the work of ECA under this subprogramme during the period under review. ECA work in the area of promoting, coordinating and advocating for statistical activities in Africa is aimed at optimizing the work undertaken earlier by various stakeholders in statistical development in Africa in order to avoid duplication and to better leverage each partner's comparative advantage through enhanced coordination and collaboration. Cooperation has become increasingly important in light of the growing number of international organizations working in Africa. ECA work in this area promotes collaboration, particularly in the area of standards development, by organizing meetings and undertaking joint advocacy on the critical role of statistics in evidence-based policymaking. In this regard, the sixth Africa Symposium on Statistical Development was organized in November 2010 in Cairo, Egypt on the theme "Data Analysis and Use in the 2010 Round of Population and Housing Censuses". The Symposium was attended by 350 participants from NSOs, African

regional and subregional organizations, international organizations, and educational and research institutions. The outcome of the symposium addressed a number of key issues, including the need to strengthen CRVS systems in Africa; the role of statistical training institutions in enhancing the capacity of stakeholders in census data analysis; revival of the African Statistical Association; implementation of the International Comparison Programme (ICP-Africa); capacity reinforcement of countries in post-enumeration surveys, sharing household survey data on African countries; and harmonization of population projections in inter-censal periods. The symposium adopted CRVS as its theme over the next five years.

111. The fifth meeting of the African Statistical Coordination Committee (ASCC) was held during the period under review to discuss mechanisms for achieving greater synergy among regional institutions, and coordinating statistical programmes with a view to enhancing and sustaining the effectiveness of statistical support to African countries. It was specifically organized in preparation for the joint AU Conference of Ministers of Economy and Finance and the ECA Conference of Ministers of Finance, Planning and Economic Development that was held in April 2010 in Lilongwe, Malawi. The Ministerial Conference considered and endorsed the progress report on implementation of the African Charter on Statistics and the Strategy for the Harmonization of Statistics in Africa (SHaSA). It also discussed preparation for the sixth ASCC and the initiative to establish AfricaInfo Database. Other meetings held during the period included the first ICP-Africa governing board meeting; first meeting of the African national statistical associations; and meeting of the African Group on Statistical Training and Human Resources.

112. One of the major advocacy tools used to raise awareness on the importance of statistics in the development of African countries is the African Statistics Day which is celebrated every year on 18 November. In 2010, the World Statistics Day was celebrated for the first time on 20 October 2010 under the theme "Celebrating the Many Achievements in Statistics: Service, Professionalism, and Integrity". African countries aligned the theme to that of the World Statistics Day and organized national celebratory events from 20 October 2010 until 18 November 2010. ECA supported the national celebrations by preparing materials for the ASD celebrations and providing them to member States. The materials included advocacy posters in English, French, Arabic and Portuguese and drafts of technical notes and media

advisory in English and French. In addition, a dedicated website was created with links to the World Statistics Day website of the United Nations Statistics Division (UNSD). As part of the celebrations, ECA jointly with the Central Statistical Agency of Ethiopia organized a one-day seminar on 25 November 2010 at the United Nations Conference Centre in Addis Ababa. The seminar brought together some 120 participants from various organizations that are stakeholders in the national statistical system of Ethiopia. It featured presentations on various topics such as Ethiopia's Five-year National Statistical Development Plan, population and census data analysis and projections, use of ICT in statistical processes, data quality, and crop production trends, among others. Further, EthioInfo Version 3.1 2010, and the Population and Housing Census Atlas of Ethiopia were launched, greatly furthering human development data dissemination.

113. To facilitate production and use of harmonized data series, a repository of data from African countries was established under the aegis of the ASCC. The repository has data aggregated at the continental, subregional, and national levels. Similarly, based on the joint data collection mechanism established by ECA, AfDB and AUC, the second edition of the joint African Statistical Yearbook (ASYB) was produced in 2010 as a leading source of statistical information on Africa. The joint data collection and publication mechanism has significantly reduced the burden on countries in terms of data reporting as they now report once to the joint effort, rather than separately to the three institutions. The joint publication also reduces the potential for publishing conflicting information on African countries. In addition to the ASYB, a joint statistical pocketbook with the main indicators on social, economic and environmental conditions in Africa was produced for the first time. The third edition of the ASYB will be published in March 2011. The publication of the African Statistical Journal was one of the major initiatives facilitating the exchange of information and best practices among statisticians and other stakeholders in Africa. Two issues of the Journal and four issues of the newsletter were published and disseminated in 2010.

114. In 2010, efforts were also pursued to update and improve the ECA statistical database (StatBase) as the corporate platform for statistical data management and dissemination. Enhancements included improvements to the retrieval interface and data reporting, allowing more flexible downloading of bulk data and the embedding of Google mapping functionalities for retrieved

data. During the reporting period, the African Centre for Statistics (ACS) conducted training in Dakar, Senegal on the use of the StatBase data management platform for compilation and dissemination of statistical data at the *Agence Nationale de la Statistique et de la Démographie*. This is part of the continuing implementation of StatBase in ECOWAS countries. The system was also installed at the NSO of Morocco and at the SRO-NA in Rabat.

115. ECA maintains a free online mirror of the African Integrated Census Microdata at <http://ecastats.uneca.org/aicmd/>. The records of thirty-five million persons and of 19 anonymized high-precision census samples representing ten African countries are currently available to researchers at no cost. Over 500 original source documents such as census forms and instruction manuals are also available for viewing and downloading from the searchable metadatabase.

116. In 2010, ECA continued to promote the implementation of the global methodological standard for national accounting, the SNA, and contributed to the implementation strategy for the 2008 SNA in Africa through a number of activities. An expert group meeting on the harmonization of national accounts was organized at Port Louis, Mauritius in November 2010 to review the draft implementation guide on the implementation of the 2008 SNA in Africa. The meeting brought together experts from 20 NSOs and eight central banks to develop specific proposals and action plans for implementation of the 2008 SNA at country level. The meeting took note of the major changes between the 1993 SNA and the 2008 SNA, and recommended that countries should rebase their national accounts every five years and introduce the 2008 SNA during the rebasing exercise. Other related activities included a regional workshop on implementing the international strategy in economic statistics, organized jointly with UNSD and the Central Statistics Office of Mauritius in Port Louis, Mauritius in July 2010; and a workshop on the strategic plan for implementing the 2008 SNA held in Bamako, Mali in September 2010. In addition, ECA, through the ACS, is working jointly with AfDB to prepare recommendations for implementation of the 2008 SNA and the 2011 Round ICP-Africa.

117. The work on population and housing censuses continued to focus on: advocating for the participation of all African countries in the 2010 Round of Population and Housing Censuses (2010 RPHC); providing support to countries at different stages of census taking;

preparing and disseminating manuals and handbooks for proper census taking; and facilitating the exchange of experiences among countries and increasing knowledge on various issues related to the 2010 RPHC. A survey was carried out to collect information on the current status of census activities and preparations in different countries. Twenty-five ECA member States confirmed that they have conducted a census in this round, constituting a 47 per cent implementation rate. In terms of population, the censuses so far undertaken cover about 60 per cent. If the trend continues, the participation of African countries in the 2010 RPHC will be better than during the 2000 round when only 37 countries undertook a census. This is a result of strong advocacy mainly by the ASCC. In addition, ACS was engaged in a number of activities aimed at improving the participation of African countries in the 2010 round. Despite these commendable outcomes, there are still a number of problematic areas to be addressed, including the need for timely release of census data. Some countries that have conducted early censuses have not yet released the full set of data due to institutional issues. There are also issues related to archiving and availability of micro data and the use of ICT in census taking. In addition, for the census results to be widely accepted, it is of paramount importance that international standards are fully respected.

118. Efforts to advance the development of CRVS systems in Africa received a significant boost with the convening of the first-ever Conference of African Ministers Responsible for Civil Registration, held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia in August 2010. The conference was follow-up to a recommendation of the Regional Workshop on Civil Registration and Vital Statistics in Africa, which took place in Dar es Salaam, the United Republic of Tanzania in June 2009, on improving civil registration systems in Africa. Jointly organized by ECA, AfDB, and AUC, the conference was attended by 294 participants including 32 Ministers and 107 senior officials representing African countries. Technical inputs were provided by UNSD, United Nations Children Fund (UNICEF), United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and WHO. At the end of the workshop, the Ministers adopted a declaration in which they resolved to take appropriate policy measures to facilitate the implementation of plans, programmes, and initiatives for reform and improvement of CRVS systems, to achieve universal coverage and completeness, formulate laws and policies that ensure timely and compulsory registration of vital events occurring within

their countries, with guarantees for equal access to the systems for all persons; and intensify awareness-raising campaigns on the procedures and importance of CRVS systems, to ensure effective functioning of the systems. The Ministers also called upon ECA, AfDB, AUC and other development partners to continue to support capacity-building activities, including mobilization of resources and for ECA to consider establishing a substantive post on civil registration and vital statistics with appropriate support staff at ACS to ensure the sustainability of ongoing efforts to improve CVRS systems in Africa.

119. An important part of the work in the area of statistics is to assist African countries in building and improving their statistical capacity by organizing seminars and workshops, providing advisory services, promoting the implementation of international standards and recommendations, and transmitting best practices. In 2010, technical assistance was provided to several countries upon request in various areas of statistics, including prices statistics, trade statistics, education, health, agriculture, trade, gender, CRVS, and database management, among others.

120. As part of a project to improve the availability and use of statistical information for decision-making, two training of – trainers workshops were organized on “Innovative tools and techniques for data management and dissemination”, for selected countries. The first workshop, hosted by the National Bureau of Statistics of Nigeria in Abuja, Nigeria in March 2010, drew participants from the NSOs of Egypt, Lesotho, Nigeria, Uganda, and Swaziland as well as a representative from AUC, and representatives of Nigeria’s Office of the Surveyor-General, the National Space Research and Development Agency, the Nigerian Statistical Association, the Regional Centre for Training in Aerospace Surveys and the Geography Department of the University of Lagos also attended the workshop. A second workshop targeted at selected Francophone countries and RECs took place in Rabat, Morocco in June 2010. Participants were drawn from Burundi, Cameroon, DRC, Morocco, and Senegal, and as well as officials from AMU and SRO-NA. These workshops have all helped to enhance capacity in the beneficiary countries and organizations on innovative techniques and tools for statistical data management, including the use of such Google technologies for statistical data management as Google Map Maker, Google Maps, Google Earth, Fusion Tables, and Public Data Explorer.

121. A meeting to review and improve a draft manual prepared by the ECA secretariat on how to derive MDG indicators from censuses, surveys and administrative records was organized in collaboration with AfDB in Kigali, Rwanda in July 2010. ECA also collaborated with InWEnt Centre for Economic, Environmental and Social Statistics of Germany to organize a meeting on climate- change measurement as a pre-ADF-VII side event in October 2010. The meeting underscored the role of information and data exchange among stakeholders in addressing climate change in Africa.

122. ACS has conducted a number of technical advisory services in different areas of statistical development in support of evidence-based policy decision-making, accountability, multilateral surveillance and convergence programmes, especially for subregional integration and for monitoring progress toward the MDGs. This took place in areas such as prices statistics, trade statistics, education, health, agriculture, trade, gender, civil registration and vital statistics, and database management.

123. Other capacity-building activities undertaken during the period included a workshop on the “Organization and management of national statistical systems” held in October 2010 in Dakar, Senegal; and a workshop on the informal sector, household surveys and labour statistics in Bamako, Mali in November 2010 jointly organized with the International Labour Organization (ILO) and the World Bank. A joint assessment mission was undertaken to the DRC in September 2010, together with the African Capacity-Building Foundation, AfDB, Partnership in Statistics for Development in the 21st Century and the World Bank, in response to a request by the Congolese Government, for assistance in establishing a statistical training institution based on the standards of the existing subregional training institutions such as the Ecole Nationale Supérieure de Statistique et d’Economie Appliquée, Abidjan, and Institut sous-Régional de Statistique et de l’Economie Appliquée in Yaoundé and Dakar.

124. Technical assistance in 2011 and beyond will consist of a workshop jointly organized with the United Nations environment programme on environment statistics, agricultural statistics and climate change; a workshop on basic economic statistics and economic classifications in support of the 1993 SNA; two workshops on operational planning and reporting; a workshop on gender statistics; two subregional workshops on the “Reference Regional Strategic Framework on Statis-

tical Development in Africa”; and a workshop on how to derive data on the MDGs from population censuses and surveys.

125. Furthermore, technical assistance missions will be undertaken to RECs and member States on implementation of the 2008 SNA; environment statistics; needs assessment and a compendium of African statistical training centres; harmonization and standardization of statistical training centres curriculum development; preparation of a handbook on major data management platforms; statistical training programmes in Africa; statistical data management, geo-information and census cartography; census data processing; and gender statistics. Another priority activity for technical cooperation in 2011 is implementation of the interregional project on measurement of the informal sector under the seventh tranche of UNDA involving all five Regional Commissions.

Social development

126. The work under the subprogramme on social development, created in 2006 as a result of the ECA repositioning, was further developed in 2010 with an emphasis on enhancing national and regional capacity to design, implement and monitor social policies and programmes. The activities carried out under the subprogramme were also aimed at assisting member States in monitoring and tracking progress in the implementation of international and regional commitments made on social development, including the outcomes of the 2009 Regional Review of the International Conference on Population and Development Programme of Action and the outcome of the fifth African Development Forum (ADF-V) on youth.

127. During the past year, results were achieved on a wide range of social development issues, including issues related to youth development, ageing, disability, maternal health, social protection, and international migration. The modalities used to achieve results included advocacy and policy research, and facilitating networking, internships and fellowship programmes.

128. A major advocacy and policy-oriented document, the *African Youth Report: Addressing the Youth, Education and Employment Nexus in the New Global Economy* was prepared in 2010 to support the efforts of member States in education and youth development and to draw the attention of policymakers to the many challenges

that African youth continue to face. After the report was prepared as follow-up to ADF-V) on youth, it was reviewed by an expert group convened on the same subject in 2010. The findings of the report and its policy implications will be discussed at the forthcoming meeting of the Committee on Human and Social Development in 2011. The report will be widely disseminated to policymakers, youth organizations and networks, to contribute to the knowledge base on youth issues and to guide the formulation and implementation of youth policies on the continent. Other activities undertaken in support of youth development included contributing to the drafting and revising of the AU Plan of Action for Youth Development, which is to be implemented by member States during the African Decade on Youth (2009-2018) and the African Volunteer Corps Programme; preparation and dissemination of advocacy materials for the International Year of the Youth/African Youth Day, jointly organized with the AUC on the theme "Dialogue and Mutual Understanding". In addition, ECA recruited two Young African Professionals (YAPs) as short-term fellows to undertake research and acquire skills in the areas of youth and development, social protection, maternal and child health (MCH) and international migration.

129. In the area of population and development, a major study was undertaken focused on MCH. The study was primarily aimed at strengthening capacity in health economics and policy for addressing challenges in child and maternal health (MDG-5). It assessed the scale of exclusion of vulnerable and marginalized groups from MCH services, and the main obstacles to providing equitable healthcare services in Africa. Among the main findings was the need for innovative training programmes for health professionals to address the lack of equitable and quality maternal health services among poor women, adolescents and youth, women living in rural areas, women with disabilities, and women affected by conflict and disaster. Crucially, the study builds on the outcomes of the July 2010 Summit of AU Heads of State and Government which was devoted to the issue of maternal health. Another important report prepared by the ECA secretariat focused on unsafe abortion as a leading cause of maternal mortality in Africa. Worldwide, Africa accounts for over half of the women who die from complications arising from unsafe abortion annually. To address this issue, the report on *Strengthening policy development on sexual and reproductive health focusing on women's rights: an analysis of existing research addressing unsafe abortion in Africa* highlighted some best practices in reducing the incidence of unsafe abor-

tions. This would be mainly through enacting laws on undertaking abortions and providing medical professionals, practitioners and law enforcement with clear guidelines on how such laws should be implemented.

130. To promote the awareness and understanding of policymakers on issues relating to social protection systems, ECA has embarked on preparation of nine country reports and case studies to examine the range of social protection regimes that exist in Africa and their impact on reducing gender disparities in selected areas. The country reports will culminate in a major regional report on "Strengthening capacities to promote gender-sensitive social protection policies in African countries", which is intended to complement the AUC social policy framework endorsed by African Ministers responsible for Social Development in 2008. The reports will provide information on the extent to which social protection policies can be used as fundamental tools for achieving greater equality and reducing poverty in Africa. Several publications and activities have focused on issues relating to the human and social dimensions of climate change – a very timely line of work in terms of the dynamics of social development and climate change in Africa. Also worthy of note are the subprogramme activities in support of ADF-VII on climate change, including successful organization of a pre-Forum event on climate change, population, health, gender and youth, whose recommendations were incorporated into the ADF Consensus Statement for guiding future work by ECA and member States on the gender and social dimensions of climate change in Africa.

131. In addition, ECA provided technical assistance on international migration issues to the IGAD Secretariat, provided advisory services to a research programme funded by the Leonard Cheshire International Foundation and United Kingdom Department for International Development (DfID) to identify gaps in mainstreaming disability and increasing awareness of disability issues in international development and the poverty reduction agenda, and assisted AUC to draft the modalities and terms of reference for establishment of the Advisory Council on Ageing in Africa. ECA also participates actively in the work of the Global Migration Group, the Working Group on International Migration, the RCM clusters on Social and Human Development, and Environment, Population and Urbanization. Also, the secretariat compiled 12 papers on various social development topics as contributions to the Social Development Bulletin, which serves as an advocacy tool through which research results are disseminated to inform deci-

sion-making and public-policy formulation in African countries on social development issues.

B. Other programmes

United Nations support to the African Union and its NEPAD programme

132. The United Nations system is one of the major pillars of international support for AU and NEPAD. The nature and scope of that support was deepened in the past year with several joint activities undertaken by United Nations agencies in support of the implementation of NEPAD in the context of the RCM. The activities encompassed technical assistance and capacity-building for institutional development, project development, resource mobilization and advocacy.

133. The regional consultation meeting of United Nations agencies working in Africa, convened by ECA, remains the main mechanism for providing support to AU and NEPAD at the regional and subregional levels. The regional consultations have established nine thematic clusters around which United Nations support is organized. These clusters, which broadly correspond to the policy priorities of NEPAD, are: advocacy and communications; agriculture, food security and rural development; environment, population and urbanization; Science and Technology; social and human development; industry, trade and market access; infrastructure; peace and security; and governance. The work of the regional consultation meetings, their clusters and subclusters is guided largely by the Ten-Year Capacity-building Programme of the African Union which is the overarching framework for cooperation between the United Nations and AU based on the latter's priorities.

134. At the global level, the Office of the Special Adviser on Africa based at United Nations Headquarters in New York is responsible for coordinating and mobilizing international support for the NEPAD programme. At the regional level, ECA is responsible for coordinating United Nations activities and joint action through the RCM to ensure coherence and cooperation for maximum results. In line with its mandate to coordinate United Nations activities at the regional level in Africa, ECA has convened ten meetings of the RCM to date and achieved considerable progress in securing agreement on the work programme of collaborative arrange-

ments through the nine thematic clusters established for that purpose.

135. Over the years, the RCM and its cluster system have been strengthened and transformed from a process-oriented coordination mechanism to one focused on substantive actions and results. AUC, the NEPAD Planning and Coordinating Agency and the RECs - the beneficiaries - have now taken centre stage and become part of the RCM. The *'Delivering as One'* concept has gained increased acceptance, with agencies rethinking their way of working and moving to a collective approach in programme delivery in support of Africa's development. The RCM clusters, in varying degrees, have aligned their activities with the priorities of AU and NEPAD. Likewise, clusters have intensified their efforts to interact more regularly and to establish business plans, for embarking on inter-agency joint programming and joint implementation of specific projects. Cluster activities are having a tangible impact on the implementation of key elements of the regional development agenda and on the institutional landscape in support of AU and NEPAD.

136. Through the RCM Secretariat established for the coordination of United Nations support to AU and NEPAD, ECA is providing more strategic coordination and support to the RCM. The coordination of clusters has been strengthened with an increasing number of jointly implemented programmes leading to more tangible results. In addition, steps are being taken to establish the subregional SRCMs in order to provide more coherent support to the RECs and complete the missing link between the regional and country levels. In this regard, SRCMs were established in Central, East and Southern Africa during 2010 and similar efforts are underway in North and West Africa.

137. In line with its mandate, ECA convened the eleventh session of the RCM in November 2010 in Addis Ababa, jointly chaired by the United Nations Deputy Secretary-General and the Chairperson of AUC. The meeting brought together some 250 participants from the United Nations, AUC, NEPAD Planning and Coordinating Agency, RECs, AfDB, International Monetary Fund (IMF) and other regional and international organizations. The meeting reviewed progress, achievements and challenges faced by the nine clusters throughout the year, reports on the review of the Ten-Year Capacity-Building Programme of the African Union, as well as activities related to climate change, combating desertification and biodiversity conservation. Key presenta-

tions were made on the African regional preparation for the Rio+20 Summit to be held in Brazil in 2011; a green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication; and progress reports from RCM-Africa and from the subregional coordination mechanism, respectively. Deliberations also focused on advocacy, communication, programme implementation and resource mobilization matters, and the need for clusters to synergize activities and avoid duplication of efforts. The meeting also discussed operational aspects of capacity-building focusing on the additional resources needed to achieve integration and development in Africa.

138. In addition to the collective activities undertaken by United Nations entities in support of NEPAD, specific assistance was offered by individual entities to advance the work in the various thematic clusters. ECA supports the implementation of NEPAD priorities, most of which are at the core of its mandate, through its analytical work and technical assistance in different areas, with particular focus on socioeconomic development and political governance issues. ECA achievements in support of AU and NEPAD are many and are well documented throughout this report.

139. During the past year, the Commission embarked on efforts to scale up its technical support to AUC in support of the AU vision and mission. The ECA Business Plan 2010-2012 articulates the substantive priorities to be pursued over the next three years in support of the strategic plan of AUC. On-going collaboration, particularly in the areas of trade, gender, ICT, Science and Technology, governance and public administration, land policy and climate change was further enhanced during the past year. Various joint initiatives in support of knowledge generation and dissemination such as the preparation of ERA, ARIA, the MDG Report, as well as the joint implementation of activities such as the Conference of Ministers of Finance, Planning and Economic Development continued in 2010.

140. In support of the implementation of the APRM, ECA provided extensive technical support to the APRM Panel of Eminent Persons, the APRM secretariat and the participating countries at each of the five stages of the review process, ranging from country support missions to the drafting of background documents, country review visits, drafting of country reports, the final country report and the NPoA, and publication of the country review reports and the NPoAs. ECA has also been supporting participating countries in mobilizing stake-

holder participation and fostering peer learning among APRM countries by identifying best practices in the process and promoting their replication. In addition, it has provided technical assistance in integrating the APRM with existing national development strategies. Continued ECA support has increased the capacity of member States to conduct the APRM and enhanced the capacity of various stakeholders to engage in the process. A practical demonstration of these joint efforts is that more countries have acceded to the APRM while others have completed the process.

Regular Programme of Technical Cooperation

141. The Regular Programme of Technical Cooperation (RPTC), funded from the regular United Nations budget, continued to serve the important supporting instrument for implementing the ECA core programme activities described in the previous section of this report. RPTC, which takes the form of on-demand regional advisory services, training workshops, seminars, fellowships and field projects, are aimed at building and strengthening the capacities of ECA member States and their institutions in addressing clearly defined policy and technical challenges in different sectors with particular focus on achieving the MDGs and other regional priorities.

142. RPTC funds allocated to ECA in the 2010-2011 biennium amounted to a total of approximately \$11.5 million, which provided funding for a group of regional advisers and short-term experts deployed in the various Divisions and SROs, whose primary function is to provide specialized advice and training to address the urgent needs of member States in the following areas: design and implementation of MDG-based poverty reduction strategies and programmes; trade capacity-building and trade negotiations; integrated water resources management; statistics; gender mainstreaming, including enhancing women's legal and human rights; harnessing ICT for development; infrastructure development; governance and public administration; support to post-conflict reconstruction, and implementation of NEPAD. As part of efforts to promote policy change and strengthen institutional capacities in these areas, ECA organized 25 workshops and seminars involving nearly 800 participants and provided advisory services to 26 countries and eight RECs. RPTC funding also provided ECA with the means and operational flexibility to respond to new and emerging development

challenges in such areas as climate-change mitigation and adaptation.¹

143. Most of the RPTC activities were of a regional or subregional nature, which enabled the Commission to make optimal use of its limited resources while promoting regional and/or subregional cooperation on issues of common concern or shared interest. The MYPs for cooperation with the RECs remain the framework for the delivery of technical assistance to member States. However, following United Nations reform for greater system-wide coherence, the Common Country Assessment was revised and UNDAF guidelines increased the role of the Non-Resident Agencies. With the ECA repositioning, technical cooperation activities have been extended to the country level. As a result, in 2010, ECA became an implementing partner of UNDAF in 11 African countries, including Ethiopia and the five countries in which its SROs are located, namely, Cameroon, Morocco, the Niger, Rwanda and Zambia.

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144. UNDA constitutes a second funding window for ECA technical cooperation activities. Funding from UNDA has grown in magnitude in recent years and the ECA share has steadily increased, reaching a total of \$3.7million in the 2010-2011 biennium. During the period under review, four ECA-led projects with a total budget of \$2.6 million were approved for funding under the eight tranche of UNDA, to be implemented during the 2012-2013 programme cycle:

- a. Capacity-building for risk and disaster management systems in Africa;
- b. Strengthening the capacity of CRVS systems in Africa in order to produce continuous and reliable indicators for measuring progress on the development agenda;
- c. Strengthening the capacity of African countries in use of renewable energy to achieve sustainable development; and
- d. Strengthening capacities for the development of regional agricultural value chains in Africa.

145. In addition, six projects were approved for funding under the seventh tranche to be implemented during the 2010-2011 programme cycle:

- a. Facilitating Effective Integration of Developing Countries in the Global Economy through Aid for Trade Schemes (jointly with other Regional Commissions);
- b. Mainstreaming Climate Change into Agricultural Policies for Achieving Food Security and Poverty Reduction in West Africa;
- c. Capacity building for Integrated Shared Water Resources Management in Southern Africa;
- d. Strengthening national and regional capacities to mainstream natural disaster risk reduction into poverty reduction strategies in Africa;
- e. Strengthening capacity for sustainable social development in North Africa; and
- f. Capacity-building of government officials in management of PPPs for improved service delivery and infrastructure development in Africa.

146. ECA will also be involved in a number of inter-regional projects led by other Regional Commissions or by UNDESA, to address issues such as climate change, social protection, energy security, statistics and MDGs. These projects are aimed at providing support to member States in addressing key global development challenges to further the achievement of internationally-agreed development goals, through collaboration at global, regional and national levels.

147. During the period under review, ECA was also involved in four ongoing UNDA projects, which address needs in key areas such as capacity-building in support of land policy reforms in Africa; strengthening capacity for designing MDG-consistent poverty reduction strategies; capacity-building on gender statistics to promote gender equality and empowerment of women; and sustainable agriculture and rural transformation. These projects are nearing completion and are expected to achieve their objectives.

¹ More detailed information on specific technical cooperation activities as well as main achievements can be found online at www.uneca.org/

CHAPTER III

Issues Arising from the Meetings of the Intergovernmental Committees of Experts of ECA Subregional Offices

148. This chapter provides an overview of the main outcomes of the meetings of the Commission's subsidiary bodies, including the Intergovernmental Committees of Experts (ICEs) of the SROs which have been held since March 2010. In particular, it highlights key issues and recommendations from the meetings of the subsidiary organs which need to be brought to the attention of the Commission for action and/or information at its forty-fourth session.

A. Meetings held during the period under review

Twenty-sixth meeting of the ICE for North Africa

149. The twenty-sixth meeting of the ICE for North Africa was held in Rabat, Morocco, from 22 to 25 February 2011 under the theme "Governing Development in North Africa : the Role of the State in Economic Transformation, Financing for Development and Social Development". The discussions highlighted the strategic, catalytic role of the State in providing leadership and initiating partnerships with the private sector, civil-society and Partners.

150. The following major recommendations were adopted on the role of the State in economic transformation:

- a. Democratic institutions should be established and strengthened to promote broad stakeholder ownership of development programmes and enhance public accountability. The developmental State must ensure the inclusion and participation of all segments of society, including the private sector, civil-society organizations and academia;
- b. Efforts to strengthen coordination among various development actors are often inadequate or lack-

ing. It is crucial to strengthen such coordination through various institutions;

- c. Beyond industrial development, it is important to target key industry-related services and to define an active service-based industrial policy. The State's strategic role in policymaking was emphasized;
- d. The need to explore opportunities for promoting the green economy in the subregion and adopting appropriate policy measures was underscored;
- e. The SRO was requested to support capacity-building financial institutions to facilitate access to existing financial facilities for the development of renewable energy;
- f. The role of the State in financing economic development in North African countries was also emphasized;
- g. The efficiency of regulatory bodies and capacity-building of key actors in the public and private financial systems were highlighted. The importance of the State's role in setting up institutional, legal and regulatory frameworks, deepening domestic markets and promoting subregional market complementarities was emphasized; and
- h. With regard to the role of the State in social development, it was noted that the prevailing economic situation in the subregion was characterized by high unemployment and low productivity, especially among youth. The Committee requested the SRO to organize specific events on social development, including the economic and social rights of women and girls in North Africa; and to strengthen its cooperation with United Nations agencies such as the ILO, in the area of youth and women's employment.

Fifteenth meeting of the ICE for Eastern Africa

151. The fifteenth meeting of the ICE for Eastern Africa was held in Djibouti from 21 to 24 March 2011 under the theme “Towards a sustainable tourism industry in Eastern Africa”. The choice of this theme was based on a request made to the SRO by IGAD to assist in the design of a subregional policy on tourism.

152. The main objective of the meeting was to examine regulatory issues related to the mandate and operation of the SRO, assess the socioeconomic situation in the subregion, promote partnerships to develop regional cooperation and integration and provide a basis for an effective subregional policy for sustainable development of the tourism industry in East Africa. The Committee also reviewed the activities of ECA in East Africa, highlighting the main achievements of the SRO in 2010, including a progress report on the implementation of MYP together with RECs and IGOs. In addition, the Committee reviewed a report on “Tracking Progress on Macroeconomic and Social Development in East Africa”. It also considered a progress report on the implementation of regional and international programmes, especially NEPAD work, towards achievement of the MDGs and other initiatives designed specifically for the subregion. A study entitled “Towards Sustainable Development of the Tourism Industry in East Africa” prepared by the SRO provided the background for the discussions on the theme of the meeting.

153. The Committee made the following major recommendations on the theme of the meeting:

- a. A master plan for developing sustainable ecotourism in East Africa spanning a period of 20 to 30 years should be developed;
- b. A task force should be set up to support the formulation of the master plan; and
- c. The master plan should be validated through consultations with stakeholders.

154. Three parallel special task force meetings were held on the margins of the ICE meeting to review the following non-recurrent publications: World Summit on the Information Society Summit+5: Outcome and Perspectives for Eastern Africa; Ecotourism in the Intergovernmental Authority for Development region; and New trends in South-South and Triangular Cooperation: Impact in the Eastern African subregion.

155. The Committee noted that cyber security is an area of concern to the subregion and underscored the need to develop joint approaches and strategies to maintain a safe, secure and resilient cyber environment through the creation of a subregional cyber security framework. The Committee requested the SRO to play a more active role in strengthening coordination mechanisms and institutional arrangements for Internet governance at the subregional level.

156. On South-South and triangular cooperation, the Committee recommended that East African countries and regional economic communities should put in place a South-South cooperation framework and integrate it into their national and regional development strategies. It also suggested that member States should establish a subregional forum to address their special needs, assess comparative advantages and harmonize their programmes for South-South and triangular cooperation. SRO-EA was requested to support the efforts of member States in this regard.

Seventeenth Meeting of the Intergovernmental Committee of Experts (ICE) for Southern Africa

157. The Seventeenth Meeting of the Intergovernmental Committee of Experts (ICE) for Southern Africa was held from 17-18 March 2011 in Windhoek, Namibia on the theme of *Status and Prospects of Economic Diversification in Southern Africa*. The meeting, hosted by the Government of the Republic of Namibia brought together experts from relevant government ministries, departments and institutions, the private sector, civil society organizations and development partners to discuss current and emerging issues of relevance for the development of the countries of the subregion. The ICE meeting was preceded by an Ad hoc Experts Group Meeting on the theme *South South Triangular Cooperation: Implications in Southern Africa* held from 15 to 16 March 2011.

158. The ICE meeting considered and discussed the following reports: programme performance report of the ECA subregional office for southern Africa; the report on the economic and social developments in southern Africa; the proposed work programme and priorities of the ECA subregional office for the biennium 2012-2013; progress report on the implementation of regional and international agendas, including NEPAD and other special initiatives in the sub-region with par-

tical focus on water and sanitation. The meeting was also briefed on some recent major initiatives of ECA and other partners such as the efforts being made to strengthen coordination of UN activities at the regional and subregional levels; extrabudgetary resource mobilization and management; ECA programme of work and priorities for 2012-2013; the establishment of the African Climate Policy Centre at ECA and other initiatives on climate change; and mainstreaming regional integration in national development policies and programmes. Hence, the experts participated in a panel discussion on *China-Africa cooperation: Opportunities and challenges*.

159. The ICE welcomed the reports presented to it and endorsed the proposed programme of work and priorities of the ECA subregional office for the biennium 2012-2013. In addition, the meeting made the following observations and recommendations:

- Member States should accelerate diversification efforts with a view to reinforcing the economic fundamentals and hedging against external shocks. In this regard, member States were urged to adopt a sub-regional approach taking into account the comparative advantages and complementarities among participating countries;
- ECA in collaboration with the Government of Namibia, the current Chair of the Southern Africa Development Community, should engage the member States of the subregion with a view to facilitating the mainstreaming of regional integration into national policies and plans.

B. Preview of meetings to be held

1. Second meeting of the Committee on ICTs and Science and Technology

160. The second meeting of the Committee on ICTs and Science and Technology (CODIST-II) will be held from 2 to 5 May 2011 in Addis Ababa on the theme "Innovation for Africa's industrial development". The purpose of the meeting will be to explore the extent to which African countries have harnessed ICTs and other technological innovations to enhance industrial development on the continent, and the extent to which

industrial development has been linked to their innovation systems.

161. The main objectives of CODIST-II are:

- a. To provide broad-based recommendations aimed at ensuring an enabling environment for industrial development through innovation;
- b. To raise awareness of the importance of innovation in industrial development and the need to invest in the necessary education, skills and training;
- c. To formulate new guidelines for promoting the development and strengthening of innovation systems in African countries with the aim of improving their competitiveness in the global economy;
- d. To propose new approaches for increasing and accelerating innovation in the industrial sector through the use of knowledge resources, ICTs, science and technology, geo-information and library services in order to make products and services from the continent globally competitive; and
- e. To act as a platform for reviewing and sharing knowledge and best practices on the development of innovation systems and their linkages to industrial development.

162. As part of CODIST-II, ECA will also organize the 2011 Technology in Government Awards with the support of the Government of Finland. These awards recognize African governments' effective use of ICTs for public service delivery. The awards will go to African governments and institutions which have made use of ICTs for public service delivery and as a result contributed to the development of the information society in Africa.

Second meeting of the Committee on Governance and Popular Participation

163. The second meeting of the Committee on Governance and Popular Participation will be held on 9 and 10 March 2011 to review the work of ECA in the area of governance and public administration and the proposed priorities for the 2012-2013 biennium. Approximately 60 participants representing governments, the private sector and civil-society from across Africa are expected to participate in the meeting.

164. The meeting will assess the impact and effectiveness of civil-society organizations and non-governmental

organizations in promoting sound governance in Africa. They will also discuss progress in the implementation of the African Peer Review Mechanism and progress on the Mutual Review of Development Effectiveness in 2010.

165. The meeting will provide recommendations on how ECA could improve its working relations with regional, subregional and national institutions, including non-State actors and development partners, to enhance Africa's capacity in the areas of governance and public administration, civil-society, private sector development and support to the African Peer Review Mechanism. As a follow-up to the outcomes of the first meeting of the Committee, held in Addis Ababa in December 2009, the Committee will adopt its statutes at the second meeting in March 2011.

Seventh meeting of the Committee on Women and Development

166. The seventh meeting of the Committee on Women and Development will be held in Addis Ababa from 12 to 14 April 2011. The main objective of the meeting is to review progress in the implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action and other policy frameworks aimed at promoting gender equality and women's empowerment in Africa. The Committee will review a report on recent trends in promoting gender equality and women's empowerment, based on the seven priority areas identified in the Banjul Declaration on Strategies for Accelerating the Implementation of the Dakar and Beijing Platforms for Action, as well as a draft strategy and plan of action for implementing the commitments set out in the Banjul Declaration. It will also consider and endorse ECA's proposed work programme in the area of gender and women in development for the 2012-2013 biennium.

167. The main outcomes of the meeting will include the following:

- a. Endorsement of the report on recent trends towards gender equality in Africa;
- b. Endorsement of the strategy and plan of action contained in the Banjul Declaration;
- c. Endorsement of a strategy to follow-up the conclusions of the review conducted on the fifteenth anniversary of the adoption of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action; and
- d. Heightened awareness in Africa of the Secretary-General's Unite to End Violence against

Women campaign and the interregional project on "Enhancing capacities to eradicate violence against women".

Fourteenth meeting of the ICE for Central Africa

168. The fourteenth meeting of the ICE for Central Africa will be held in Yaoundé, Cameroon, on 11 and 12 March 2011 under the theme "Challenges and opportunities of industrial policies in Central Africa". The Committee will review progress in formulating and implementing industrial policies in the subregion, identify success factors and share experience and best practices in order to develop appropriate strategies for accelerating the industrialization process in Central Africa.

169. The Committee will also review reports on the following topics:

- a. Tracking progress made in macroeconomic and social development in Central Africa;
- b. Challenges and opportunities in relation to industrial policies in Central Africa;
- c. The status of regional integration in Central Africa;
- d. Progress with implementation of regional and international agendas, including NEPAD and other special initiatives, in the subregion;
- e. The work of ECA in Central Africa, including the status of implementation of the multi-year programme in Central Africa; and
- f. Progress with implementation of the recommendations of the 2010 meeting of the ICE.

170. The main outcomes of the 2011 ICE meeting will include a set of recommendations on: the major challenges to be addressed in the context of recent economic and social trends in the subregion; accelerating the industrialization process in Central Africa, and promoting policies and programmes for employment generation; the need to give priority to the development of the agricultural sector; and efforts to improve public financial management supported by good political and economic governance.

Fourteenth meeting of the ICE for West Africa

171. The fourteenth meeting of the ICE for West Africa will be held on 11 and 12 March 2011 in Freetown, Sierra Leone, under the theme “A decade of the implementation of the MDGs in West Africa: achievements and shortfalls”. The theme, which was selected in consultation with the Commission of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), underscores the need to redouble efforts towards the attainment of the MDGs, given that most countries in the subregion have made only limited progress towards many of the targets. The meeting will provide an opportunity for ECOWAS member States to review progress towards achieving the MDGs and share experience and best practices in order to agree on strategies and initiatives for accelerating progress towards the MDGs.

172. The fourteenth ICE meeting will be preceded by an Ad Hoc Expert Group Meeting focused on “Fragile

States and development in West Africa” to be held on 9 and 10 March 2011 at the same venue. The expert group meeting will discuss the developmental challenges facing fragile States in the subregion and recommend appropriate action to address those challenges.

173. The meeting is expected to adopt recommendations on the following issues:

- a. Stronger and time-bound commitments by member States to further strengthen initiatives for accelerating progress towards the attainment of the MDGs by 2015;
- b. Heightened appreciation among member States of the economic and social challenges facing the subregion and the need to develop strategies to overcome them; and
- c. More active engagement by member States in the work of SRO-WA and the programmes developed to assist member States.

CHAPTER IV

Forty-Fourth Session of the Commission/Conference of African Ministers of Finance, Planning and Economic Development

A. Attendance

174. The fourth Joint Annual Meetings of the AU Conference of Ministers of Economy and Finance and ECA Conference of Ministers of Finance, Planning and Economic Development was held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia on 28 and 29 March 2011.

175. The Conference was attended by representatives of the following member States: Algeria, Angola, Benin, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, the Comoros, Democratic Republic of Congo, Djibouti, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gabon, the Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, the Libya Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, the Niger, Nigeria, Republic of Congo, Rwanda, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Somalia, South Africa, the Sudan, Swaziland, the United Republic of Tanzania, Togo, Tunisia, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

176. The following United Nations bodies and specialized agencies were also represented: Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA), Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), International Labour Organization (ILO), International Maritime Organization (IMO), International Telecommunication Union (ITU), Office of Special Advisor for Africa (OSAA), Regional Commissions New York Office (RCNYO), United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), United Nations

Population Fund (UNFPA), United Nations High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR), The United Nations Office of High Commissioner for Human Rights (UNOHCHR), United Nations Office to the Africa Union (UNOAU), World Food Programme (WFP), World Health Organization (WHO), Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS), and the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN Women).

177. Observers from the following member States of the United Nations were present: Belgium, Denmark, France, Germany, Japan, Russian Federation, Spain and United Arab Emirates. Observers were also present from the Vatican.

178. Observers were present from the following organizations: Action Aid International (AAI); Africa Business Group, African Centre of Meteorological Applications for Development (ACMAD); African Forum and Network on Debt and Development (AFRODAD), Africa Humanitarian Action, African Health Economics and Policy Association (AfHeA), African Capacity-Building Foundation (ACBF); African Development Bank (AfDB), African Peer Review Mechanism (APRM), African Public Health Alliance (APHA), Arab Bank for Development in Africa (BADEA), African Regional Organization of International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC – Africa), Bank of Central African States (BEAC), Central Bank of West African States (BCEAO), Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, Consortium of Christian Relief and Development Associations (CCRDA), Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA), Coalition for Dialogue on Africa (CODA), Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA), Development Finance Interna-

tional; Envisioning Ethiopia; European Commission (EU), Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS), Fahamu Networks for Social Justice, African Women Solidarity (FAS), Gavi Alliance, Global Fund, Global Business Coalition, Institute for Social Studies (ISS), The Horn Economic and Social Policy Institute (HESPI), International Monetary Fund (IMF), International Organization of Employers (IOE), the African Regional Organization of the International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC-Africa), Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), Johns Hopkins Center for Communication Programmes, League of Arab States (LAS), Marie Stopes International, McKinsey and Co., Mo Ibrahim Foundation, New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD), Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), One Laptop per Child, Organisation internationale de la francophonie (OIF), Oxfam International (OXFAM), Pan-African Employers' Confederation, Princess of Africa Foundation, Reality of Aid Africa, Roll Back Malaria Partnership (RBM), Save the Children International, Southern African Development Community (SADC), Standard Chartered Bank, United States Agency for International Development (USAID), U.S. Mission to the African Union, West African Economic and Monetary Union (UEMOA), World Bank (WB) and World Vision.

B. Election of the Bureau

179. Following consultations among delegations that had taken place earlier, the following member States were unanimously elected by the Conference to form the new Bureau of the Conference:

Chairperson:	Guinea
First Vice Chairperson:	Rwanda
Second Vice Chairperson:	Central African Republic
Third Vice Chairperson:	Mauritania
Rapporteur:	Malawi

C. Adoption of the agenda and programme of work

180. The work of the Conference was carried out in plenaries and two parallel break-out sessions on the items contained in the agenda below.

181. The Conference adopted the following agenda:

Theme: Governing Development in Africa

1. Opening of the Conference
2. Election of the Bureau and adoption of the agenda and programme of work
3. High-level panel discussion on the theme of the Conference: *Governing Development in Africa*
4. Parallel panel discussions on key issues in Africa's development:
 - Panel on the Green Economy
 - Panel on Health Financing in Africa: Challenges and Way Forward
5. Leveraging Opportunities for Accelerated Growth: Prospects and Policies for the Next Decade
6. Launch of the Economic Report on Africa, 2011
7. Reports from panel discussions
8. Closed session on Alternative Resources for African Union Commission
9. Follow-up to the decisions and outcomes of the 2010 Session of the Joint Conference of Ministers
10. Consideration of the report and major recommendations of the meeting of the Committee of Experts of the Joint Annual Meetings of the AU Conference of Ministers of Economy and Finance and ECA Conference of Ministers of Finance, Planning and Economic Development
11. Consideration and adoption of the draft Ministerial Statement and draft resolutions
12. Any other business
13. Closing of the Conference

D. Account of proceedings

Opening of the Conference

182. The Conference was declared open by H. E. Meles Zenawi, Prime Minister of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia who delivered a keynote address on the theme of the Conference. Statements were also made at the opening session by the following senior officials and dignitaries: H.E. Mr. Kenny Edward Kandodo, Minister of Finance of Malawi and Chairperson of the outgoing Bureau of the Conference; H.E. Mr. Abdoulie Janneh, Under-Secretary-General and Executive Secretary of the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa; H.E. Mr. Sha Zukang, Under-Secretary-General of the United Nations Department of Economic and

Social Affairs and Secretary-General for the upcoming Rio 2012 Conference; H.E. Mr. Achim Steiner, Executive Director, United Nations Environment Programme and Chair of the United Nations High Level Committee on Programmes; H.E. Dr. Donald Kaberuka, President of the African Development Bank; and H.E. Dr. Jean Ping, Chairperson of the African Union Commission.

183. All the speakers commended the choice of the theme of this year's Conference, "*Governing Development in Africa: The Role of the State in Economic Transformation*", as both timely and relevant because it provides an opportunity to re-examine and enhance the developmental role of the state in Africa.

184. The Minister of Finance of Malawi, Mr. Kandodo who had chaired the Bureau of the Conference since April 2010 was the first to address the Conference. Speaking in his capacity as Chairperson of the outgoing Bureau, Mr. Kandodo expressed gratitude to the outgoing Bureau for the progress made in implementing important decisions and recommendations made during the last Conference held in Lilongwe, Malawi. On the theme of the Conference, he said that Africa did not need to reinvent the wheel in examining the role of the state in development. Rather, the continent should build on its unique social and cultural institutions to achieve a developmental state. He underlined the need for African countries to restructure their economies to deliver development dividends to the people by encouraging transparency, transforming mindsets, and facilitating private sector development. He stressed that going forward, development would require no tolerance for bad governance and corruption, and that it would rather rely upon transparency, including reaping the benefits from Africa's abundant natural resources. Mr. Kandodo concluded his statement by thanking the Committee of Experts for their report which would facilitate the ministerial discussions and wished full success to the incoming Bureau in its work during the course of the next one year.

185. H.E. Mr. Sha Zukang, UN Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs addressed the Conference as a special guest on the topic of sustainable development. He noted that 10 years after Africa hosted the UN World Summit on Sustainable Development, the continent as a whole was not on track to achieve the MDGs. As the convener of the forthcoming UN Conference on Sustainable Development (UNCSD 2012 – Rio+20), Mr. Sha explained that Rio+20 would

focus on two themes: a green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication, and an institutional framework for sustainable development. In this regard, he indicated that the Rio+20 summit would be an opportunity for accelerating Africa's development, as green economies would offer new avenues for achieving the integration of the social, economic and environmental dimensions of sustainable development. He therefore urged African countries to begin engaging with the rest of the world in the context of the Rio+20 Summit, so that their collective position is reflected in the outcomes of the global Conference. Mr. Sha stressed the need for efficiently governing development, and further explained that the Rio+20 summit would also include a sub-theme on governance, and specifically, institutional frameworks for sustainable development. He concluded by urging the Conference to start reflecting on an agenda to help Africa achieve sustainable development goals through the Rio+20 process.

186. Also addressing the Conference as a special guest, H.E. Mr. Achim Steiner, Executive Director, United Nations Environment Programme and Chair of the United Nations High-Level Committee on Programmes underscored the importance of the theme of the Conference, which he said was appropriate moment, considering the ongoing preparations for the Rio+20 Summit. He commended the efforts to strengthen coordination between Ministers of Finance, Planning and Economic Development and Ministers of Environment, particularly in the face of rising oil and energy prices, as well as volatile markets. He observed that UNEP's Green Economy Report included some lessons about the role of the State and how public policy could be used to ensure short and long term development goals on the path to green economies. As Africa's population continues to rise, Mr. Steiner stressed the need for the continent to invest additional resources to ensure that extractive sectors did not erode natural capital base along the path to economic growth. In this regard, he noted that Africa had huge potentials for achieving a green economy by investing in and adapting existing technologies.

187. In his welcoming remarks, H.E. Mr. Abdoulie Janneh, UN Under-Secretary-General and Executive Secretary of ECA observed that economic and social prospects for Africa as a whole remained encouraging, with an average GDP growth rate of 4.7 per cent in 2010 and projections for 2011 estimated at 5 per cent. In addition, Africa was making steady progress towards achieving the MDGs. However, the ECA Executive Secretary cautioned that this positive outlook could be

affected by risks and uncertainties caused by the ongoing political events on the continent, the issue of youth unemployment, the rising fuel and food prices, coupled with climate change and other development challenges such as fiscal consolidation, sovereign-debt crisis, and the inter-related issue of global imbalances and exchange rates. In this regard, he called on member States to continue their efforts to diversify and transform their economies, with particular emphasis on improving political governance.

188. Turning to the theme of the Conference, Mr. Janneh argued that the discussion on the role of the State in economic development and transformation was certainly not one of states versus markets. Rather, the discussion should focus on how best to operationalize the developmental state in Africa while taking into account the benefits of a market economy. In this regard, he highlighted five essential policy ingredients for a better governance of development. These included: (i) the need for flexible and sound macroeconomic policies to enable adjustments and underpin growth; (ii) high levels of investment to upscale production and build up infrastructure and human capital; (iii) mastering, adapting and improving technologies and skills acquisition for decent employment; (iv) adoption of appropriate trade and industrial policies; and (v) the need for the state to promote equity and equality of opportunity. In addition, a key role of the developmental state is to coordinate economic activities including a disciplined and inclusive visioning and planning process. In this regard, Mr. Janneh called on African Governments to take necessary steps to restore planning frameworks in their countries and promote competent and merit-based bureaucracies.

189. Moreover, the Executive Secretary stressed that a more active role for the state in Africa needed to be balanced by a commitment to democracy, human rights and transparency as articulated in the NEPAD framework. It should also avail space for the private sector and civil society to contribute to national development. Development policy also need to take into account new trends such as regional integration, the emergence of a multi-polar world, the challenge of climate change and environmental sustainability, changing global demographics and the increasing digitalization of economic processes. He further stressed the need for governments to be proactive in mobilizing resources for development from domestic and external sources.

190. In his opening statement, the President of the African Development Bank (AfDB), Mr. Donald Kaberuka focused on Africa's recent economic performance and noted with concern that the impressive growth in recent years neither contributed to poverty reduction nor generated employment. In this regard, he called on African countries to revisit the role of the State in promoting growth and economic development. He highlighted some of the issues that needed to be considered in any discussion on the role of the State in development - promoting private sector development, science and technology, regional integration, improving infrastructure, macroeconomic stability and protecting property rights. Mr. Kaberuka observed that the situation currently facing some North African countries, derived mainly from the lack of appropriate inclusive growth strategies and lack of adequate governance mechanisms. In this regard, he assured the Conference that the African Development Bank would continue to support African countries, including conflict and post-conflict countries, in building institutions and capable States.

191. Addressing other issues on the agenda of the Conference, Mr. Kaberuka called upon African Governments, as well as bilateral and multilateral partners to explore mechanisms for sustainably financing the work of the African Union Commission and ensure that the resources made available to the institution was commensurate with its mandate and mission.

192. In his statement to the Conference, H.E. Dr. Jean Ping, Chairperson of the African Union Commission underscored the importance of the Joint Meetings of AU and ECA as one of the key fora for discussions and consensus building for ensuring that decisions made at the G-8 and G-20 regarding Africa reflect the continent's priorities. Dr. Ping reviewed recent developments in Africa, noting that the continent had been growing at an average of 6 per cent in recent years and Foreign Direct Investment had increased by 17 per cent, making the continent an attractive destination for investment. He, however, lamented the fact that intra-African trade remained low at 10 per cent (compared with 80 per cent in Europe), a situation mainly due to lack of infrastructure. In this regard, he said that the AU Commission, in partnership with the African Development Bank (ADB) had prioritized infrastructure development and had already embarked on the development of the Great North Road. He further noted that despite gains in economic development, increases in food prices as a result of capacity limitations in agriculture were affecting the

purchasing power of households in Africa, while inflation was causing volatility of prices for raw materials.

193. On the theme of the Conference, the AUC Chairperson noted that even though the role of the state in economic development had been well articulated over the years adequate implementation and intervention policies were still lacking to realize the goal of development in Africa. In this regard, he called upon member States to be fully committed in implementing ongoing programmes and projects, particularly in the area of regional integration, as the continent could only realize its full potential through integration. He particularly underscored the role of regional economic communities (RECs) in promoting and harmonizing regional integration programmes, and commended the efforts of some Regional Economic Communities such as ECOWAS and SADC, that were already implementing most of the protocols agreed under the Abuja Treaty, thereby promoting and benefiting from free movement of people and goods.

194. On the issue of alternative sources of funding for the AUC, the Chairperson drew attention of the Conference to the precarious financial situation facing the Commission. He indicated that 75 per cent of the Commission's regular budget was funded by only five African countries, namely Libya, South Africa, Algeria, Tunisia and Egypt while some of the activities and projects, including peacekeeping operations, which account for 77 per cent of the total budget were financed by development partners. The AU Chairperson noted this precarious situation was no longer sustainable and appealed to member States to support the AU Commission with adequate financial resources so that it could fulfill its mandate.

195. In a keynote address to the Conference, the Prime Minister of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia, Ato Meles Zenawi welcomed participants to the Conference and noted that the debate on a new development paradigm centered on the concept of a developmental State was welcomed and long overdue for Africa. Ato Meles called for a review of the developmental approach adopted so far by most African countries in order to draw some lessons, assess obstacles and seek alternative approaches to market fundamentalism. He said that the prevailing neo-liberal paradigm had been associated with an inexorable widening income gap between the wealthy and the poor in the developed countries. This was a clear indication that the neo-liberal paradigm had failed to bring about inclusive growth. As

a result, academics and practitioners across the continent had been searching for a development paradigm which could address the shortcomings of the prevailing orthodoxy and perhaps replace it.

196. Noting that the primary objective of a developmental State is to bring about economic transformation through value creation, the Prime Minister said that the developmental State would have to exhibit certain attributes to achieve this demanding task. First, it should commit to equitable growth and transformation; second, it should build consensus on a development agenda to create the necessary groundswell of support that would be essential to embark on a radical re-ordering of a country's political economy. Finally, it should be independent from the private sector.

197. The Prime Minister argued that the neo-liberal paradigm had got Africa's development wrong both in terms of understanding the source of the underlying problem and the solution it prescribed. He, however noted that there were useful lessons to be learned from the experiences of other countries, particularly from the newly industrialized South East Asian countries. Even though not all African countries would succeed in building a developmental State, the Prime Minister said that the Conference, nevertheless, provided an opportunity to explore the possibilities of a new development paradigm that would point the path to sustainable growth and development in Africa.

198. Following his keynote address, the Prime Minister then declared the Conference officially opened and wished the participants successful deliberations.

High Level panel discussion on the theme of the Conference: Governing Development in Africa: The Role of the State in Economic Transformation (agenda item 3)

199. Following the opening session, a high-level panel discussion was held on the theme of the Conference - *Governing Development in Africa: The Role of the State in Economic Transformation*. The panel discussion was chaired and moderated by the Chairperson of the newly elected Bureau of the Conference of Ministers, His Excellency Kerfalla Yansane, Minister of Economy and Finance of the Republic of Guinea, with the following main speakers and panelists: Mr. Mo Ibrahim,

Chair of the Mo Ibrahim Foundation; H. E. Mr. Sufian Ahmed, Minister of Finance and Economic Development of Ethiopia; H. E. Mr. Lazarous Kapambwe, President of the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC); H. E. Mr. Michel Barnier, European Union Commissioner for Internal Markets; and H. E. Mr. Supachai Panitchpakdi, Secretary-General of UNCTAD.

200. In his brief introductory remarks, H.E. Mr. Kfalla Yansane thanked member States of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) for the opportunity they gave his country, Guinea, to represent West Africa on the Bureau. He also expressed deep gratitude to the Government and People of Ethiopia for the warm hospitality extended to him and his delegation. Mr. Yansane extended a message of appreciation from the President of the Republic Guinea, Mr. Alpha Conde to the international community for the support provided to his country in re-establishing constitutional order following the recent election in his country. The theme of this year's Conference provided an opportunity for participants to reflect on the challenges of the State in efforts to achieve economic growth and sustainable development; Guinea's experience with both a State controlled economy as well as a market economy had failed because of poor management and allocation of resources in the former and weak State authority in the latter; The Government of Guinea had engaged the public in discussing the role of the State in economic and social transformation by organizing a national conference with the active participation of the private sector and civil society; and Stressed the importance of regional and subregional integration in enhancing the role of the State in development in Africa.

201. Mr. Mo Ibrahim, Chair of the Mo Ibrahim Foundation, focused his presentation on two issues, namely, (i) regional economic integration in Africa; and (ii) harnessing Africa's resources for development. Economic and social development and regional economic integration were inter-linked. In that context, and in view of the small size of most African economies, there was a need for the continent to accelerate its economic integration in order to compete effectively with the rest of the world; African countries should integrate their economies by removing both tariff and non-tariff barriers to trade to enhance free movements of persons, goods capital and services; Membership in the regional economic communities (RECs) should be rationalized in order to avoid duplication of efforts and stretching limited resources thinly; and Transparency in the man-

agement of natural resources remained a major challenge in Africa. African countries should consider signing up to the Natural Resource Charter, which provides guidelines on management of natural resources.

202. In his presentation, Mr. Sufian Ahmed, Minister of Finance and Economic Development of Ethiopia reviewed the national development strategies adopted by Ethiopia since the 1980s in the context of a developmental State. The overarching goals of the Ethiopia's national development strategies since the 1980s had been to foster sustainable and broad-based economic growth and to alleviate poverty. The achievement of the national development plans required comprehensive economic reforms, in particular to maintain macroeconomic stability. The plans also focused on civil service reforms, human resources development, infrastructure and industrial development, increasing agricultural productivity, the empowerment of women, decentralization, and the promotion of human rights and the rule of law, as intermediate targets of the development plans; In terms of economic and social development Ethiopia was on track to achieve most of the MDGs. The country had done well in improving economic growth, human development, infrastructure development, institution building and the devolution of service delivery to local and State governments; and market forces alone were not sufficient to achieve the sustained economic growth in Ethiopia. There was need for appropriate government regulation. Government also had an important role in maintaining macroeconomic stability, investing in infrastructure and skills development, building institutions, and in guiding economic development through development planning and formulating and implementing sectoral policies.

203. The presentation by Ambassador Lazarous Kapambwe, President of the United Nations Economic and Social Council focused mainly on the role of ECOSOC in promoting development in Africa in the context of implementing development goals, including the MDGs. Among the objectives of ECOSOC was the strengthening of the development dimension of the United Nations' work in Africa; and mobilizing support of the international community for Africa's development. In this regard, it was emphasized that Africa's development was the sole responsibility of African countries themselves. However, globalization required effective collaboration of all African countries with the rest of the world; Africa's success in achieving poverty reduction and meeting the MDGs would depend largely on its human resources development, particu-

larly in the areas of health and education. In this regard, the substantive session of ECOSOC in 2011 would focus on the theme *"Implementing the Internationally Agreed Goals and Commitments in Regard to Education"*. The session is expected to address the following: (i) challenges regarding access to education particularly for the girl child; (ii) link the skills produced by the education systems to the needs of the economy; (iii) burden-sharing in education between Africa and developed countries to mitigate the impact of the brain drain; and the AUC-ECA Conference of Ministers was, therefore, called upon to address the following: (i) Strategies for developing Africa's human resources; (ii) Preparation for Africa's participation in upcoming international Conferences, including the global review of the MDGs framework and the WTO/Doha Round of trade negotiations; and (iii) domestic policies/solutions aimed at addressing socio-economic challenges in such areas as infrastructure, youth and employment, and poverty; and (iv) to shed light on strengthening global economic governance, among others.

204. In his presentation, Mr. Michel Barnier, EU Commissioner for Internal Market and Services, shared the EU experience in terms of economic development and governance. Peace and security were essential prerequisites for good governance and economic development. The impetus for European Integration came from the need to reverse the war trend that had prevailed in Europe for many centuries. Integration was initially based on the need to share production and management of key raw materials, such as coal and steel. Africa could learn from the European experience of integration, particularly in terms of enhancing intra-regional trade; and the recent global financial crisis had underlined the need for effective surveillance and strengthening national and trans-national regulatory mechanisms. In this regard, the EU was in the process of putting in place new rules aimed at improving the transparency of financial markets and the banking system. There is a need to establish a similar mechanism at the global level to govern world financial markets.

205. In his presentation, Mr. Supachai Panitchpakdi, Secretary-General of UNCTAD, stressed the importance of both the State and markets in economic development. He emphasized the need for African countries to be prudent in deciding on the appropriate mix of State intervention and market forces that would optimize their development. Markets are important for economic development and the State had a crucial role to play in strengthening their regulation and in sequencing

economic liberalization; The diversity of African countries means that there is no one-size-fits-all solution to addressing development challenges Hence, each country would have to design its own approach to development in accordance with local realities and specificities; and to achieve a developmental state requires establishing mechanisms that ensure transparency of government procurement, having a disciplined planning process, prioritizing and focusing investment on targeted sectors, especially with the view to improve productivity, developing supply capacity, promoting private sector development, and formulating and supporting implementation of sectoral policies such as in agriculture. UNCTAD is working in these areas in the context of its mandate to assist member States in promoting trade as a driver of economic growth.

206. During the discussion that took place after the presentations, there was a wide-ranging exchange of views and sharing of experiences among the delegations. The discussions, in which the attending Ministers, Deputy Ministers, Central Bank Governors and other experts took an active part, served to enrich the analyses of the substantive issues that had emerged from the panel session on governing development for economic transformation in Africa. The discussions highlighted the need to strike the required balance between the role of the State and that of the market in economic development. In that regard, it was observed that the issues paper on the theme of the Conference did not adequately capture that balance by placing more emphasis on the role of the State. The Conference recognized the critical role of the State in creating an enabling environment for private sector-led development, particularly in attracting foreign direct investment through introduction of tax incentives, among others.

207. The Conference also stressed the need for an enabling environment for women, youth, and non-governmental and civil society organizations to play an effective role in policy development. Of particular importance, the meeting emphasized the need to have an efficient bureaucracy which would be at the service of the economy. The discussions further noted that income inequalities in many African countries had adversely impacted African economies, resulting in deepening of poverty levels. In this regard, the Conference underscored the need for member States to adopt effective social protection schemes with mechanisms to reach the most vulnerable groups. In the same vein, the Conference underscored the need for strong institutions aimed

at addressing impediments to social and economic development, including tackling corruption.

Report from parallel panel discussions on key issues in Africa's development (agenda item 4)

208. The discussion on this item was organized around two parallel panels as follows:

Panel on green economy and global sustainability

209. Mr. Achim Steiner, Executive Director, United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) acted as moderator for this panel discussion. The following high-ranking officials participated as panelists: Mrs. Luisa Diogo, Member of Parliament, Former Prime Minister of Mozambique and Member of the UNSG Global Sustainability Panel; Mr. Henri Djombo, Minister of Environment, Republic of Congo; Ms. Sherry Ayittey, Minister of Environment, Science and Technology, Ghana; Mr. Sha Zukang, Under-Secretary General, United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs; Dr. Sheila Sisulu, Deputy Executive Director, World Food Programme; Mr. Sindiso Ndema Ngwenya, Secretary-General, Secretariat of the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA); Mr. Andris Piebalgs, European Union Commissioner for Development. The panelists were joined by the following senior officials as discussants: Mr. John N. Michuki, Minister for Environment and Mineral Resources, Kenya; Mr. Pedro Luís da Fonseca, Deputy Minister for Planning, Angola; and Mr. Mamburay Njie, Minister of Finance and Economic Affairs, the Gambia.

Panel on health financing in Africa: Challenges and way forward

210. The first phase of this panel discussion was moderated by Advocate Bience Gawanas, AU Commissioner for Social Development; and the second phase was moderated by Dr. Luis Gomes Sambo, Regional Director of WHO, Africa Region. The following high-ranking officials participated as panelists: William Samura Kamara, Minister of Finance and Economic Development, Sierra Leone; Mr. Essimi Menye Lazare, Minister of Finance, Cameroon; Mr. Modo Diagne Foda, Minister of Health, Senegal; Mr. Robert Joseph Mettle Nunoo, Deputy Minister of Health, Ghana; Mr. Michel Sidibe, Executive Director, Joint UN Programme on

HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS); Professor Babatunde Osotimehin, Executive Director, United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA). The panelists were joined by Mr. Ali Bourami, State Secretary, Minister of Planning and Statistics, Algeria as a discussant.

211. The panel discussion on the green economy identified best practices and policies for achieving the green economy in Africa. Green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication is one of the two themes of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20) to be held in 2012 in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. The panel discussions, therefore, provided an opportunity for African countries to discuss preparations and Africa's contribution to the Rio+20 process. Based on the contributions of the panelists and the subsequent plenary discussion, the following main points and recommendations emerged:

- a. There was clear evidence that the green economy offers viable new opportunities for growth. In view of challenges facing countries today and limits that models of growth and development pursued until now have shown in lifting the vast majority of people out of poverty, reducing economic, social and vulnerability and offering new pathways towards sustainable development, transitioning towards a green economy was no more a question of "whether or not", but "how";
- b. In Africa, several country experiences demonstrate that green economy-related initiatives are already underway, delivering considerable economic, social and environmental gains. These efforts need to continue as the experience of many countries in East Asia had shown that the benefits of a green economy was not only for the rich and industrialized countries;
- c. Africa had a large amount of untapped natural resources that could be exploited for economic growth and, thus, poverty eradication – and the green economy offered a framework for their sustainable use;
- d. Policies and institutions at national and regional level are needed to create and regulate markets conducive to the green economy. Green economy policies should also factor in its macroeconomic implications and the need to ensure equitable access for all, especially the poor, to new forms of technology;
- e. Green economy policies are cross-sectoral and need to be integrated in national development policies to enable their effective implementation.

- However, policymakers should be cautious about a “one size fits all” approach to the green economy, but rather adopt a tailored approach, taking into account regional and country specificities;
- f. Regional integration is key to successful implementation of the green economy agenda in Africa, through harmonized policies, laws, standards economies of scale and larger market opportunities;
 - g. Other key drivers of the green economy include technological innovation to increase research and development activities, coherence and continuity in policy and inter-sectoral development programmes and public-private partnership to attract investments;
 - h. Funding for the green economy is a critical factor, and the launch of a Green Fund at the Cancun Conference on climate change could be a first step in that direction. For Africa, the African Development Bank’s initiative for a Green Fund is commendable and should be made operational this year;
 - i. The green economy should not be used as a justification for trade protectionism, aid or debt conditionality or otherwise for limiting the development policy space of developing countries, particularly African countries;
 - j. There is a need for continuous dialogue and synergies at the regional level between the African Ministerial Conference on the Environment (AMCEN) and the Conference of African Ministers of Economy and Finance (CAMEF) in order to engage constructively in the articulation of African perspectives on the green economy and agree on trade-offs needed to make the transition to a green economy; and
212. The panel discussion on health financing focused on key policy issues related to improving the financing and delivery of health interventions in Africa, and examined innovative proposals and options for increasing investments in the health sector. The discussions also highlighted successful national and regional initiatives in health financing in Africa. The main points of the panel presentations can be summarized as follows:
- a. In general, African countries have made progress in scaling up relevant public health interventions and there had been increased political will towards health financing. Many countries have made efforts to increase national health expenditures. There is also a large amount of ODA dedicated to health. Per capita expenditure on health currently stood at \$14, ranging from 0.34 cents to \$314;
 - b. However, health expenditure per capita did not always translate into better health outcomes. Progress towards national and international health goals can be accelerated if proven and cost-effective public health interventions were scaled up;
 - c. Investments in health systems that work for the population are necessary. To that effect, the Harmonization for Health in Africa (HHA) had developed a reference tool for advocacy and dialogue to ensure efficient management of health resources and increased investment in the health sector;
 - d. Improving health in Africa is key to achieving long-term economic growth and development, which brings social and political benefits. Furthermore, healthier people lessen the burden on health care systems;
 - e. Four actions to improve investments in health should be pursued, namely the following: priority setting through evidence based planning and budgeting, improving demand for and utilization of health services, investing in health care delivery systems, and promoting cross-sectoral interventions, particularly in the environmental determinants of health such as clean water and sanitation; and
 - f. An additional \$21-36 per capita expenditure could save around 3.1 million lives, of which 90 per cent would be mothers and children. There is a need to create fiscal space to provide more financing to health, including increased efficiency in public spending. There is also a need for more ODA as agreed to at several G-8 and G-20 Summits.
213. During the general discussions that followed in the plenary, Ministers of Finance and Planning were joined by their counterparts, Ministers of Environment and other experts who participated as special guests. Among the main points of the discussion were the following:
- a. Country experiences exchanged during the Conference showed that the brunt of health care financing was still borne by individuals and poor households through out-of-pocket expenditures;
 - b. Health must fall among the top priorities of all governments in order to achieve sustainable development, including prioritizing investment in primary health care and preventive services in a more integrated way;
 - c. Health care financing in most African countries remained fragmented, calling for national multi-

- financing strategies with stronger institutional alignment and better coordination with partners. Additionally, a comprehensive engagement between the public and private sectors was needed to provide holistic health financing solutions;
- d. Explore innovative ways of raising additional funds and improving the efficiency of utilization of both domestic and external resources for the health sector;
 - e. Several innovative funding options exist. Governments can match funds to remittance income, as had been done in Latin America. Africa should also explore how to leverage FDI; only 1 per cent levy can constitute a reserve for combating HIV/AIDS at the regional level. Health trust funds are beginning to emerge in the region. A revolving fund is also an opportunity that can be pursued through AfDB; and taxation of products which are harmful to health, for example cigarettes, alcohol and polluting industries;
 - f. The restructuring of budgets for primary health care, disaggregating data to address inequalities and disparities, better involvement of civil society organizations, exploring and adopting new financing options and public-private partnerships, and expanding the coverage of community-based health insurance schemes were all possible avenues for improving health financing;
 - g. There was also a need to further explore social health insurance schemes by building on other countries' experiences in the region. This should go into a national health strategy that is owned by all;
 - h. A comprehensive approach to health financing strategies that identifies the roles and responsibilities of all stakeholders and use resources effectively was necessary. Relevant stakeholders, including parliamentarians must be involved in the process of planning, budgeting and prioritizing for health;
 - i. A sector wide approach facilitates and enhances coordination for financing. For example, addressing the housing deficit in urban areas can improve health and create more jobs;
 - j. African countries need to adopt a regional approach to collectively negotiate and access global health financing mechanisms. Also, a regional approach for procurement of essential medicines and drugs in bulk would be more cost-effective; and
 - k. Regional organizations like ECA and AUC could provide a forum for the exchange of best practices for developing health financing frameworks, including providing advisory and advocacy ser-

vices, knowledge sharing, and strengthening capacity in the area of health financing. In this regard, it was proposed that ECA, AU and the WHO-Harmonization for Health in Africa should jointly organize a special technical and ministerial session on health involving the Ministers of Health and the Ministers of Finance.

Leveraging opportunities for accelerated growth: Prospects and policies for the next decade (agenda item 5)

214. The discussion of this agenda item was led by a panel comprising of Mr. Cheick Sidi Diarra, United Nations Under-Secretary-General, Special Adviser on Africa; Mr. Mark Plant, Deputy Director, Africa Department, International Monetary Fund; Mr. Acha Leke, Partner, McKinsey and Co., South Africa; and Ms. Razia Khan, Regional Head of Research on Africa and Head of Macroeconomics, Standard Chartered Bank, UK. Mr. Maxwell Mkwezalamba, Commissioner for Economic Affairs, AU Commission moderated the discussion. The discussion focused on the opportunities to accelerate economic growth in Africa in the next decade. The aim was to promote a frank debate on addressing practical problems facing Africa's development, despite the strong growth in recent years.

215. In his brief remarks to open the discussion, Mr. Mkwezalamba noted that the theme of the Conference built on the recommendations of previous Conferences, and highlighted three issues related to inclusive growth and development in Africa which he expected the presentations to address: (i) opportunities for accelerating growth in Africa; (ii) challenges for accelerating Africa's economic growth; and (iii) key priorities for Africa's economic growth and development.

216. The first presentation by Mr. Cheikh Sidi Diarra, United Nations Under-Secretary-General and Special Adviser on Africa highlighted the following points:

- a. Underlined the relevance of the theme of the Conference at a moment when the continent was taking a new turn in its development to consolidate the achievements of the previous decade of the new century. These achievements include macro-economic stability, modest poverty reduction and progress towards some MDGs. However, Africa's growth remained fragile with considerable down-

- side risks to the continent's efforts for achieving economic transformation;
- b. Growth had been the result mainly of the policies implemented by African countries in the last decade which had started to bear fruits. However, there was no room for complacency as countries needed to consolidate macroeconomic reforms, strengthen state institutions and address vulnerability through strong safety nets to make growth inclusive;
 - c. Africa also needed to strengthen cooperation with countries like China, India or Brazil, as South-South cooperation could provide new opportunities for trade economic diversification to technology transfer for poverty reduction. Similarly, Africa should exploit opportunities in the area of agriculture, as the continent could be the bread basket of the world with 60 per cent of its arable land; industry and the services sector, including ICTs. In the same vein, efforts at regional integration should be enhanced to achieve economies of scale and larger markets; and
 - d. Notwithstanding these opportunities, Africa faces several challenges, including governance, lack of infrastructure, endemic diseases and climate change. Moreover, Africa accounted for 33 out of 54 LDCs in the world, and the 4th United Nations Conference of LDCs was convened in May 2011 in Istanbul, Turkey to draw attention to the specific needs of these countries.

217. The presentation by Mr. Mark Plant, Deputy Director, Africa Department at the IMF focused on three main points:

- a. The first point highlighted the current economic situation in sub-Saharan Africa. Most countries in the region had weathered the global crisis well and were poised for continued growth recovery, due to improved domestic policies prior to the crisis. However, the recent run-up in food and fuel prices posed a challenge;
- b. Three areas for public policy to leverage growth, namely (i) Responding to emerging challenges and opportunities, including a big push on MDGs; (ii) effective delivery of public goods, particularly social and physical infrastructure; and (iii) Raising national savings and investment levels, consistent with the critical need for job creation and higher personal income; and
- c. In light of these trends, the role of the IMF in Africa would be refocused on core measures that

were critical for stability, growth, and poverty reduction, using a more flexible approach to external debt and increased technical assistance delivery.

218. Mr. Acha Leke, Partner at McKenzie and Co, South Africa made the following points in his presentation, which drew from a recent publication by his firm to support invest decisions in Africa entitled - *"Lions on the Move"*:

- a. Growth in Africa was higher than in other regions of the world. Furthermore, this growth was based on multiple sectors, and not only on natural resources. Other assets for Africa were urbanization and macroeconomic stability. Despite these obvious advantages, potential investors were also concerned with the sustainability of Africa's growth and the prospects for the next decade;
- b. Research by Mckinsey and others showed that prospects for long-term growth were good, given the solidity of the four key drivers for Africa's recent economic performance: (i) commodity resources; (ii) international capital flow; (iii) consumer savings; and (iv) agricultural revolution; and
- c. For Africa to fully exploit its potential, the continent needed to first deal with two big issues, mainly (i) the rate of growth, which at 5 per cent was good but still not enough to achieve the MDGs; and (ii) growth in Africa was still not inclusive and policymakers had to address this issue. In this regard, African Government should play a much more proactive role in setting growth targets and strive to achieve them. Further, it is important to involve the private sector in development.

219. The presentation by Ms. Razia Khan, Regional Head of Research on Africa and Head of Macroeconomics at Standard Chartered Bank focused on the "super-cycle" of the global economy. In this cycle, many African countries were listed among the top 10 growing economies in the world before the crisis. Among the key points of Ms. Khan's presentation were the following:

- a. Given the shift in economic balance on the way, Africa was meant to increase its share of global GDP from 2 per cent to 5 per cent. However, the most pressing challenge for Africa was the need to achieve transformative growth. Africa needed structural reforms, which would go much beyond providing an enabling environment. To fund its development, the continent would have to mobi-

- lize its own financial resources, and access international financial markets; and
- b. Government policies must be strategic and address the needs of people. Secondly, government must nurture business environment that were more attractive to private enterprises. And finally, government needed to promote creating and enabling environment for private sector, which would include the development of domestic debt and financial sector.
220. During the general discussion that took place, the following points were made:
- a. Inclusive growth was important as the recent social unrest, which eventually led to the revolutions in North Africa illustrates. Indeed, it was stressed that recent developments on the continent had shown that political and social dimensions of development were just as important as the economic dimension;
 - b. The discussion also highlighted the relevance of economic growth policies. In this regard, two important issues needed to be addressed: (i) the relationship between investment and consumption; and (ii) the relationship between present and future generations. The discussion further highlighted Africa's immense potentials (young people, natural resources) which should be fully exploited for the benefit of the continent;
 - c. Some participants expressed concern that the process of globalization and economic liberalization had put Africa at a disadvantage and in an unfair competition with stronger economies. In this regard, policies were needed to address the fragility of some sectors. Participants also expressed concern that growth was not generating employment in Africa, and underscored the need for urgent action by Governments to identify the sources of growth, including sectors that would likely contribute most to growth in order to increase the job content of such sectors; and
 - d. The discussion further emphasized the need to prioritize the policy measures proposed by the panelists and strengthen national ownership around them. In addition, it was suggested that recent events in North Africa be reflected in the McKenzie report, as the report tended to focus on sub-Saharan Africa.

Launch of the Economic Report on Africa, 2011 (agenda item 6)

221. Under this agenda item, a press event was organized to launch the 2011 edition of the Economic Report on Africa (ERA 2011), an annual flagship publication of ECA, which is jointly published with the AU Commission. The 2011 edition of the report addresses the same theme as the theme of the Conference - *Governing Development in Africa: The Role of the State in Economic Transformation*. It also provides an analytical appraisal of economic performance of the continent for the past year and expert projections for the coming years.

222. Speaking at the launching of the report, the Director of the Economic Development and NEPAD Division of ECA, Mr. Emmanuel Nnadozie said the report examined the record of the state in promoting development in Africa, highlighted concrete success stories in Africa and elsewhere as well as recommended concrete actions for sustaining development and promoting economic transformation on the continent.

223. The report aims to provide evidence-based and policy-oriented framework for enhancing the role of the state in performing the key tasks necessary for economic transformation in Africa: planning of the development process and the formulation and implementation of relevant development plans and policies. The Conference welcomed the report as an important instrument for tracking Africa's economic performance and for addressing key development challenges.

Reports from panel discussions (agenda item 7)

224. The reports from the parallel two panel sessions were presented and discussed under this item. A detailed account of the discussion is reflected under agenda item 4 above.

Closed session on Alternative Resources for African Union Commission (agenda item 8)

225. A closed session was held under this item to discuss issues related to financing the work of the African Union Commission by its member States. The item was included on the agenda of the Conference in order to

find solutions to the precarious financial situation confronting the Commission in light of the possible reduction in its regular budget due to the recent crisis in some North African countries.

226. The AU Commissioner for Economic Affairs, Dr. Maxwell Mkwezalamba introduced the agenda item with a brief presentation, highlighting the two main sources of funding for the AU Commission, namely assessed contribution from member States and extrabudgetary support from development partners. He indicated that 75 per cent of the Commission's regular budget was funded by only five African countries, namely Libya, South Africa, Algeria, Tunisia and Egypt while some of the activities and projects, including peacekeeping operations, which account for 77 per cent of the total budget were financed by development partners. The Commissioner also appraised the Conference of the work already being undertaken by the Commission to identify alternative sources of funding and called on the Ministers to ensure adequate and sustainable funding for the Commission's activities and programmes.

227. The Conference acknowledged the need for adequate and sustainable funding for the AU Commission, including the ongoing efforts being made in this regard, and encourage the Chairperson of the Commission to set-up High Level Panel on Alternative Funding Sources for the African Union in line with Executive Council Decision of February 2011.

Follow-up to the decisions and outcomes of the 2010 Session of the Joint Conference of Ministers (agenda item 9)

228. A representative of the secretariat introduced this item, which is contained in document E/ECA/COE/30/15, AU/CAMEF/EXP/15(VI), and summarized the activities undertaken by the ECA secretariat and the AU Commission as a follow-up to the major

decisions and outcomes of the 2010 Conference of Ministers. He highlighted progress made by the two institutions on implementing the resolution on regional integration, including the development of the Plan of Action for Regional Integration which will be considered for adoption by the Ministers responsible for regional integration later this year. Other notable developments in the area of regional integration included the establishment of a common market and customs union in some regional economic communities (RECs). For example, the East African Community (EAC) had attained the status of common market; and the Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS) was making progress towards reaching the stage of customs union before the end of the year.

229. With regard to the African Monetary Fund, it was reported that the basic text governing the overall mandate and operations of the Fund had already been developed. However, detailed protocol was still being prepared by experts and sent to member States in due course. Reference was also made to the efforts currently underway in harmonizing statistics, in collaboration with the African Development Bank. The secretariat also appraised the Conference of the efforts being made by the two institutions in assisting member States in accelerating progress towards the attainment of MDGs through the preparation of policy briefs.

230. In the area of climate change, the secretariat highlighted the successful organization of the seventh edition of the African Development Forum (ADF), which was on the theme of climate change and sustainable development in Africa. The event resulted in a consensus on how Africa could best tackle the challenge of climate change while seizing the opportunities it presents. In addition, the AU *Declaration on Land Issues and Challenges in Africa* was launched during the period under review with the support of AUC and ECA.

231. The Conference took note of the report provided by the secretariat.

Consideration of the report and major recommendations of the meeting of the Committee of Experts of the Joint Annual Meetings of the AU Conference of Ministers of Economy and Finance and ECA Conference of Ministers of Finance, Planning and Economic Development (agenda item 10)

232. Under this agenda item, the Chairperson of the meeting of the Committee of Experts presented the report of the Committee together with 11 draft resolutions recommended for consideration and adoption by the Conference, as contained in document *E/ECA/CM/44/2-AU/CAMEF/MIN/Rpt(VI)*. The Chairperson indicated that the report contained the summary of the main discussions and major recommendations covering the issues on the agenda of the Committee's meeting, including the theme of the Conference. The Committee had considered and made recommendations on the following issues on the agenda of its meeting: Overview of economic and social developments in Africa; assessment of progress on regional integration in Africa; review of progress towards achieving the MDGs in Africa and African Common Position on MDGs; and report on the outcomes of major United Nations and African Union conferences and summits, including the 2010 Joint Annual Meetings of the AU and ECA. The Committee had also considered and made recommendations on a number of important statutory issues related to the work of the AU Commission and the ECA, including the statutes and annexes of the proposed African Monetary Fund.

233. On the statutes and annexes of the proposed African Monetary Fund, the Committee had recommended that further consultations be undertaken among experts, and the outcome be brought before the Conference for a decision. The Chairperson of the Committee then invited the Conference to consider and adopt the report together with the 11 draft resolutions annexed to it, as the outcome of the deliberations of the Committee of Experts.

234. The Conference took note of the report and commended the Committee for its work. It proceeded to adopt the report of the meeting of the Committee of Experts without observations or comments. The full

report, as originally adopted by the Committee is attached to the present report as *Annex I*.

235. The Conference went further to consider separately, the 11 draft resolutions annexed to the report. The draft resolutions covered the following issues which were discussed by the Committee: Governing Development in Africa: (1) The role of the State in economic transformation; (2) Millennium Development Goals; (3) Enhancing United Nations support towards accelerating the implementation of the Ten-Year Capacity-Building Programme for the African Union and the programme of the New Partnership for Africa's Development; (4) Implementation of the African Charter on Statistics and the Strategy for the Harmonization of Statistics in Africa; (5) African risk capacity: A Pan-African disaster risk pool; (6) Climate change and sustainable development in Africa; (7) Health financing in Africa; (8) Illicit financial flows; (9) Enhancing science and technology for development in Africa; (10) Proposed programme of work and priorities of ECA for the biennium 2012- 2013; and (11) African Institute for Economic Development and Planning (IDEP).

236. In considering the draft resolutions, several delegations made a number of comments, observations and proposed amendments. The Minister of Environment of the Republic of Congo, Mr. Henri Djombo, on behalf of his country's delegation proposed that the draft resolution on climate change and sustainable development be amended to include a reference to the forthcoming UN Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20) and the need for Africa's effective participation. The amendment was reviewed and endorsed by the Conference.

237. The Conference went on to adopt the 11 draft resolutions in light of its own comments, observations and amendments. The resolutions, as amended, are contained in Annex I of the present report.

238. Following the adoption of the resolutions, the AU Commissioner for Economic Affairs, Dr. Maxwell Mkwezalamba reopened discussions on the statutes and annexes of the proposed African Monetary Fund with the aim of getting the Conference to reach a decision on the matter. However, some delegations objected to having the discussions reopened on procedural grounds. The delegation of Egypt objected on the grounds that a wider consultations among delegations was needed before any further discussions on the matter. In addition, he said the substantive comments made on the

draft statutes by the delegation of Egypt also needed to be responded to by the AU Commission. In light of the objections, the Conference requested the AU Commission to undertake further consultations with member States as well as with legal experts to review the documents thoroughly in light of comments provided by member States. The Conference agreed to reflect this decision in the final Ministerial Statement.

Consideration and adoption of the draft Ministerial Statement and draft resolutions (agenda item 11)

239. Under this agenda item, the Conference considered the draft Ministerial Statement for adoption. The draft statement was introduced by the Rapporteur of the Conference. The Rapporteur read out the draft ministerial statement in full, which includes a preamble with one main section on the theme of the Conference and nine sub-sections on various related issues and actions discussed by the Conference to address the challenge of governing development for economic transformation in Africa as follows: Promoting inclusive public policies for growth and development; harmonize and improve the quality of statistics in Africa; mobilizing financial resources for Africa's development; increase support to African Least Developed Countries (LDCs) in overcoming their special challenges; deepening regional integration; combating illicit financial flows; increasing resources for health financing; addressing the impact of climate change; enhancing support to NEPAD implementation, including APRM; supporting the implementation of the Comprehensive African Agricultural Development Programme (CAADP); investing in science and technology for development; supporting ECA subregional offices (SROs); and mobilizing additional support for a further enhancement of the role of the repositioned IDEP. The Ministerial Statement also contained a vote of thanks.

240. The Ministers commended the Rapporteur and the secretariat for the clarity and comprehensiveness of the draft Ministerial Statement and considered it in detail. A number of delegations made general comments and observations on various sections of the draft Statement, and highlighted specific issues discussed by the Conference which the secretariat was requested to take into consideration in finalizing the draft statement. These included the need for further work and consultations on establishment of the proposed African Monetary Fund and the issue regarding identifying alternative

funding sources for the African Union Commission. The secretariat was also requested to include a short paragraph in the statement recognizing the presence and active participation of Ministers of Health and Ministers of Environment at this year's Conference.

241. The Conference of Ministers unanimously adopted the draft Ministerial Statement in the light of the above observations and proposed amendments. The amended version of the Statement is attached to this report as part of Annex I.

Any other business (agenda item 12)

242. No proposals were received under this agenda item.

Closing of the Conference (agenda item 13)

243. In his closing remarks, Mr. Abdoulie Janneh, United Nations Under-Secretary-General and Executive Secretary of ECA thanked the Ministers of Environment and Health, who were invited as special guests to the Conference. He expressed his deepest gratitude to Prime Minister Meles Zenawi of Ethiopia who delivered a keynote address at the opening of the Conference. He also thanked the Government and people of Ethiopia for the hospitality and support during the Conference. He commended all the speakers and participants for their valuable contribution to the discussions and for making the Conference a success.

244. The Executive Secretary noted that this was the best attended Conference of Ministers in recent years. He further noted that the Conference dealt with a host of substantive contemporary and emerging issues on Africa's development agenda, and called on member States to join efforts in translating its outcomes, concrete initiatives and programmes for the accelerated growth and economic transformation of the continent. He underscored the key message from the debate on the theme of the Conference, which urged African countries to revive development planning and involve all stakeholders in the process. The Executive Secretary also underscored the important role that regional integration could play in accelerating economic growth and sustainable development. He indicated that the AU Commission and ECA would continue to work closely to support the efforts of member States through capac-

ity-building, institutional strengthening, and technical advisory service lines.

245. He concluded by thanking and commending two senior staff members of ECA who will soon be going on retirement, namely Mr. Zadi Urbain and Mr. Arif Farazi for their contribution to the Conference of Finance, Planning and Economic Development. He also thanked Dr. Maxwell Mkwelalamba, AU Commissioner for Economic Affairs, and Ms. Jennifer Kargbo, ECA Deputy Executive Secretary for their tremendous efforts in making the Conference a success.

246. In his closing remarks, Dr. Jean Ping, Chairperson of the African Union Commission thanked all the participants for their contribution during the deliberations of the Conference which led to the solid outcomes

achieved. He also thanked the Government and people of Ethiopia for their hospitality and the support provided in organizing the Conference.

247. On the theme of the Conference, Dr. Ping stressed the need for policymakers to strike a balance between the role of the state and that of the market in economic development. He said that the state had a critical role in formulating economic policies and creating a conducive environment for development. In this regard, Dr. Ping urged African countries to give particular attention to sectors such as health, education, agriculture, and energy. He also stressed the need for countries to explore innovative financing mechanisms in order to accelerate progress towards achieving their development objectives, including meeting the MDGs.

ANNEX I

Resolutions and Ministerial Statement Adopted by the Commission at its Forty-Fourth Session

A. Resolutions

879 (XLIV) Governing development in Africa: the role of the State in economic transformation”

The Conference of Ministers,

Recalling African Union decisions and instruments related to democracy, governance and development, including:

- The Constitutive Act of the African Union (2000),
- The African Union Convention on Preventing and Combating Corruption (2003),
- The African Charter on Democracy, Elections and Governance (2007),
- The African Public Service Charter (2011),
- The Declaration of the New Partnership for Africa's Development on Democracy, Political, Economic and Corporate Governance (2002) and
- The Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights on the Rights of Women in Africa,

Recognizing the need to rethink the role of the State in economic diversification and the structural transformation of African economies,

Noting the five critical ingredients in creating a developmental State, namely good leadership, bureaucratic professionalism, a vibrant private sector, an engaging civil society and transformative policies derived from popular public participation,

Inspired by the successful lessons learned from developmental States in other regions, both in their aspirations and economic performance and in the reassertion of the legitimate role of the State in effectively managing development,

Noting the threats to growth and development posed by natural and man-made disasters,

1. Urges African governments to promote a developmental State that will:

- i. Transform its political system to a developmental one;
- ii. Restructure the economy to ensure sustained diversification of the production and export base;
- iii. Restructure its bureaucratic incentives away from rent-seeking towards facilitative, pro-growth and pro-poor allocation of resources;
- iv. Promote democracy, political participation and transparency to inform the new developmental approach taken by the State; and
- v. Commit to continue pursuing business friendly environment.

2. Calls upon African governments to formulate and implement inclusive social and economic policies and strategies aimed at addressing social concerns such as widespread poverty and massive youth unemployment, while mainstreaming gender issues in governing development and economic transformation, as well as addressing the needs of vulnerable groups such as refugees, internally displaced persons, youth, the aged, the disabled and children;

3. Appeals to African countries to strengthen public fiscal governance, fiscal and budgetary transparency and accountability, institution building, balanced reforms and capacity building initiatives and autonomy in reform choices as necessary prerequisites for building a developmental State;

4. Calls upon African governments to enhance domestic resource mobilization by improving efficiency in the use of public resources, improving fiscal policies, strengthening tax administration, increasing account-

ability, addressing tax evasion, fraud and avoidance and minimizing fiscal leakages due to unfavourable contracting terms in the extractive industries;

5. Calls upon African countries to introduce measures to safeguard the continuity of developmental policies in order to prevent reversals resulting from changes in government;

6. Urges the African Union Commission, the Economic Commission for Africa and regional economic communities to conduct further research and generate a body of knowledge on the role of the State, the private sector, civil society and other stakeholders in economic transformation;

7. Invites African countries to adopt development strategies and industrial policies anchored in strategic planning for structural transformation, inclusive growth and sustainable development;

8. Requests the Economic Commission for Africa and the African Institute for Economic Development and Planning to provide technical support in building the capacity of member States in formulating, implementing and evaluating their policies and development plans and strategies;

9. Encourages African countries to strengthen institutions responsible for long-term development planning and strategy setting;

10. Requests the African Union Commission, the Economic Commission for Africa and regional economic communities to assist in developing capacity needed for realizing the developmental State in Africa;

11. Urges African countries to strengthen institutions responsible for disaster mitigation, preparedness, response and recovery.

880 (XLIV) Millennium Development Goals

The Conference of Ministers,

Recalling the decisions of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the African Union requesting the African Union Commission, in collaboration with the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa and the African Development Bank, to submit to the

Assembly annual status reports and related statistics on Africa's progress towards attainment of the Millennium Development Goals,

Also recalling United Nations General Assembly resolution 64/184, inviting the United Nations regional commissions to hold regional consultations during the first half of 2010 to provide inputs to the preparations for the September 2010 United Nations High-Level Plenary Meeting on the Millennium Development Goals and *inviting* the regional commissions to consider initiatives to support the High-Level Plenary Meeting and its preparatory process,

Recognizing the progress being made by the continent towards attaining the targets set out in the Millennium Development Goals,

Conscious of the challenges that still remain in efforts to attain all the Millennium Development Goals by 2015,

Commending the efforts that the African Union Commission, the Economic Commission for Africa and the African Development Bank are making to provide African countries with a continental strategy on the Millennium Development Goals in order to coordinate, standardize and harmonize statistical activities and create harmonized databases at the subnational, national and continental levels within the framework of the Strategy for the Harmonization of Statistics in Africa,

1. Takes note of the draft report on the Progress in Achieving the Millennium Development Goals in Africa 2011 (E/ECA/COE/30/9-AU/CAMEF/EXP/9(VI)) and recommends its adoption by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government in July 2011;

2. Calls upon African countries to mainstream Millennium Development Goals into their national development plans and strategies, implement MDG Acceleration Frameworks, set up monitoring and evaluation mechanisms and share the annual Millennium Development Goals reports with legislative bodies, civil society and the private sector;

3. Calls upon African countries to use the acceleration framework to speed up the implementation process of the MDGs;

4. Urges African countries to strengthen their statistical systems and institutions in order to produce reliable

and timely statistics for the monitoring of the Millennium Development Goals in Africa;

5. Calls upon national, subregional and regional legislative bodies and civil-society organizations to use the findings of evaluations of Millennium Development Goals to support government efforts to accelerate the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals and strengthen action toward Millennium Development Goals which Africa continues to perform poorly;

6. Requests the African Union Commission, the Economic Commission for Africa and the African Development Bank to formulate and implement a special programme to support African countries in achieving the Millennium Development Goals where the least progress is being made;

7. Further requests the African Union Commission, the Economic Commission for Africa and the African Development Bank to support the efforts of African countries to promote dialogue between government and key stakeholders and foster human and social development through social protection programmes and policies;

8. Calls upon African countries to design appropriate mechanisms for mobilizing domestic resources to finance programmes and initiatives in support of the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals;

9. Calls upon development partners to fulfil their commitments and deliver development financing in a timely and sustainable manner.

881 (XLIV) Enhancing United Nations support towards accelerating the implementation of the Ten-Year Capacity-Building Programme for the African Union and the programme of the New Partnership for Africa's Development

The Conference of Ministers,

Recalling Economic and Social Council resolution 1998/46 on holding regular inter-agency meetings in each region to improve coordination among United Nations system organizations,

Further recalling General Assembly resolution 57/7 of 4 November 2002, calling for United Nations system organizations to coordinate their activities in support of the New Partnership for Africa's Development to ensure maximum results and to align their activities in Africa with the priorities of the Partnership,

Recalling further the declaration on "Enhancing UN-AU Cooperation: Framework for the Ten-Year Capacity-Building Programme for the AU", signed in November 2006 by the United Nations Secretary-General and the Chairperson of the African Union Commission,

Mindful of the challenges that still remain in efforts to coordinate United Nations system support to the African Union and its New Partnership for African Development programme,

Recognizing the achievements of the secretariat of the Regional Coordination Mechanism jointly provided by the African Union Commission and the Economic Commission for Africa and the increased leadership and ownership of the mechanism by the African Union Commission,

Welcoming ongoing efforts by the Economic Commission for Africa to strengthen Africa's subregional integration agenda through its five subregional offices, which have led to closer and more effective relationships with the regional economic communities and the member States through the development and implementation of multi-year programmes of assistance to the regional economic communities,

Noting with appreciation the efforts of the Economic Commission for Africa to enhance the coherence and coordination of United Nations support to regional economic communities through the establishment of subregional coordination mechanisms,

1. Calls upon the Economic Commission for Africa and the African Union Commission to ensure that support to the Ten-Year Capacity-Building Programme for the African Union from the United Nations and other partners is within the framework of the Regional Coordination Mechanism and the subregional coordination mechanisms;

2. Calls upon United Nations agencies, the African Union Commission and the African Development Bank to immediately develop a comprehensive work

programme for the Ten-Year Capacity-Building Programme and to mobilize the required resources for its implementation;

3. Calls upon the United Nations system and the African Union to further strengthen the secretariat of the Regional Coordination Mechanism in view of its expanded mandate;

4. Calls for further support to subregional offices in order to accelerate the regional integration process and help member States and regional economic communities better tackle emerging development challenges.

882 (XLIV) Implementation of the African Charter on Statistics and the Strategy for the Harmonization of Statistics in Africa

The Conference of Ministers,

Considering the importance of statistical information for the formulation, monitoring and evaluation of development programmes and policies and the economic and political integration of Africa,

Noting the progress made by pan-African institutions like the African Development Bank, the African Union Commission and the Economic Commission for Africa in developing strategies aimed at supporting the African regional integration agenda, as well as the ongoing work to map existing statistical initiatives and programmes onto the Strategy for the Harmonization of Statistics in Africa,

Welcoming the adoption of the Strategy by the Assembly of African Heads of State and Government - a strategy that provides a framework for coordinating the development of harmonized statistics on the continent,

Recognizing the need to speed up the implementation of ongoing and future activities under the African Charter on Statistics and the Strategy for the Harmonization of Statistics in Africa,

Signature and ratification of the African Charter on Statistics

1. Invites all African Union member States which have yet to sign and ratify the Charter to make every effort to do so within a period of one year to enable it to enter into force;

2. Requests member States, regional economic communities, the African Union Commission, the Economic Commission for Africa, the African Development Bank and other members of the African Statistical System to implement the peer review mechanism of national statistical systems and to ensure that all countries are covered within five years;

Strategy for the harmonization of statistics in Africa

3. Requests member States, regional economic communities, the African Union Commission, the Economic Commission for Africa and the African Development Bank to take the necessary steps towards the implementation of all initiatives contained in the Strategy, and further develop other strategies in emerging areas such as gender statistics;

4. Invites development partners to support the implementation of the Strategy for the Harmonization of Statistics in Africa;

African strategy for the implementation of the 2008 System of National Accounts

5. Requests that the African Group on National Accounts should be transformed into a permanent working group on national accounts just like the Inter-secretariat Working Group on National Accounts;

6. Requests that the System of National Accounts 2008 should be retained as the theme for African Statistics Day 2011;

Plan of action on civil registration and vital statistics systems in Africa

7. Takes note of the progress made to improve civil registration and vital statistics systems in Africa and to support the process as an important pillar of the Strategy for the Harmonization of Statistics in Africa;

8. Requests the African Union Commission to institutionalize the Conference of African Ministers Responsible for Civil Registration and Vital Statistics as a standing regional platform to meet biannually for discussion and evaluation of political and policy issues related to civil registration and vital statistics in Africa;

Statistical training programme for Africa

9. Requests all countries to strengthen statistical training programmes in their national strategies for the development of statistics;

10. Calls on all countries to support the Statistical Training Programme for Africa and the African Strategy to Improve Agriculture and Rural Statistics;

Labour Market Information System in Africa

11. Urges the African Union Commission to pursue the implementation of its project for the harmonization and coordination of labour market information systems;

12. Calls upon member States to allocate adequate resources to building a viable labour market information system to complement resources that will be mobilized from development partners;

Developing the AfricalInfo database

13. Calls upon the African Union Commission, the Economic Commission for Africa, the African Development Bank and the United Nations Children's Fund to strengthen their collaboration for the operationalization of the AfricalInfo initiative to ensure that it has a continental dimension, and produce a plan for its implementation;

Sixth African Symposium on Statistical Development

14. Calls on all African countries to conduct their population and housing censuses by 2014;

15. Invites countries to establish close links between civil registration services and national statistics offices in a bid to make good use of civil status information to improve social and demographic statistics;

16. Calls on countries to contribute to making a success of the round of symposiums on civil registration and vital statistics.

883 (XLIV) African risk capacity: a Pan-African disaster risk pool

The Conference of Ministers,

Recognizing the vulnerability of food-insecure populations as well as national economies to weather shocks, the effects of which may be exacerbated by climate change,

Recalling the resolution for the Establishment of the Joint Africa-Arab Fund for Disaster Response (Assembly/Africa-Arab/Res.2 (II)) adopted at the Second Africa-Arab Summit in Sirte, Libyan-Arab Jamahiriya on October 10, 2010 to establish a fund for disaster response, the Statutes, objectives and modalities of which are to be defined by the AUC and the league of Arab States,

Acknowledging that the current system of ad hoc unpredictable funding for disaster response causes the depletion of critical assets and the reallocation of government resources from planned investment in times of crisis, slowing economic growth and creating significant setbacks to development,

Recognizing the decision taken by the Third Joint African Union Conference of Ministers of Economy and Finance and ECA Conference of African Ministers of Finance, Planning and Economic Development, held in Lilongwe, Malawi, in March 2010 (EX.CL/596(XVII)), to "support efforts towards enhancing national and regional capacities to mitigate exposure to disaster risk through institutionalizing effective financial and other instruments such as strategic grain reserves, budgeted contingency funds as well as through sharing risk across regions",

1. Welcomes the African Union Commission's proposal to work towards the establishment of African Risk Capacity, an African-owned pan-African disaster risk pooling facility that would provide contingency funds to participating African Union member States in the event of extreme weather shocks and appreciates the Commission's leadership in exploring the feasibility and design of such a facility, that would complement and not duplicate existing structures and initiatives;

2. Supports the proposed consultation to be held with African Union member States in South Africa in early May 2011, where the findings to date will be

shared and discussed, and the results of which will inform the Commission's report to the Executive Council at the June 2011 African Union Summit, to be held in Malabo, Equatorial Guinea;

3. Invites African Union member States to support the Commission's efforts through contributions to the design phase of the Risk Capacity project;

4. Endorses the interactive process in question and commits to providing support to the above-mentioned discussions at the country and regional levels.

884 (XLIV) Climate change and sustainable development in Africa

The Conference of Ministers,

Noting that the impacts of climate change have far-reaching implications for Africa's growth, social, human and economic development, environmental sustainability, peace and security, and for sustainable development as a whole, and that the negative impacts are particularly high for least developed countries, coastal countries, small island developing States and the poor, mostly women and children,

Recognizing that climate change can severely undermine progress towards achieving sustainable development, including the targets set out in the Millennium Development Goals, or, alternatively, can provide the opportunity to pursue a sustainable development path, including the transition to a green economy, and that sound policy choices will be critical to avoid or mitigate such impacts,

Appreciating the contribution of the Seventh African Development Forum, held in October 2010 on the theme "Acting on climate change for sustainable development in Africa", in mobilizing high-level multi-stakeholder engagement on the climate change challenge in Africa,

Welcoming the launch at the Seventh African Development Forum of the Climate for Development in Africa (ClimDev-Africa) programme by the African Union Commission, the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa and the African Development Bank, as well as the progress made in operationalizing the programme,

Mindful of the major implications for Africa of the outcomes of the upcoming seventeenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, to be held in Durban, South Africa, towards the end of 2011, especially as regards agreement on the second commitment period under the Kyoto Protocol,

Recalling the decision of the General Assembly to hold the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development in Brazil in 2012 (Rio + 20), and *noting* its objectives, namely: to secure renewed political commitment for sustainable development, and to assess progress to date and the remaining gaps in the implementation of the outcomes of the major summit on sustainable development and to address new and emerging challenges,

Welcoming the establishment of a regional preparatory process involving ECA, AUC, AfDB, RECs, UNEP, UNDP, and other UN agencies to adequately support African countries in their collective preparations for the Conference,

1. Commits to effectively mainstream climate change concerns into development policies, strategies and programmes in Africa, so as to support the development and implementation of climate change adaptation and mitigation programmes that leverage opportunities in technology transfer, as well as existing and future climate change financing options, such as the Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation Plus programme and the Clean Development Mechanism;

2. Requests Africa's development partners to increase their support to the Programme of the Great Green Wall and the Climate for Development in Africa programme and its three implementation entities, namely the Africa Climate Policy Centre, the ClimDev-Africa Special Fund and the Climate Change and Desertification Unit, and in this context expresses appreciation to the Governments of Norway, Sweden and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, which generously supported the programme;

3. Calls upon member States to establish economic, regulatory and legislative mechanisms to enable transitioning to green economy development paths and engage in the Rio +20 preparatory process in order to effectively participate in the 2012 UNFCCC;

4. Calls upon the African Union Commission, the Economic Commission for Africa and the African Development Bank to continue working diligently towards ensuring that the ClimDev-Africa programme benefits African countries and regional economic communities, and enhances Africa's capacity and capability to meet the continent's developmental challenges arising from climate change;

5. Further calls upon the African Union Commission, the Economic Commission for Africa, the African Development Bank, the United Nations Environment Programme and other partners to sustain their support to the African climate change negotiators and policy-makers in order to ensure that Africa continues to participate effectively in the international climate change negotiations;

6. Encourages the Economic Commission for Africa and the African Centre for Meteorological Applications for Development to deepen their cooperation, in particular by effectively operationalizing the Memorandum of Understanding signed between the two institutions during the Seventh African Development Forum in October 2010.

885 (XLIV) Health financing in Africa

The Conference of Ministers,

Mindful of the 2000 Millennium Declaration and the Abuja Declaration on Health Financing in Africa adopted by the Summit of Heads of State of the African Union,

Recalling the 2010 Summit of Heads of State of the African Union Declaration on Maternal, Infant and Child Health and Development in Africa, which restated the commitment to provide sustainable financing by increasing the overall health resources envelope,

Welcoming the findings of the 10-year review of progress in the implementation of the Abuja Declaration on Health Financing in Africa and the attainment of the health targets set out in the Millennium Development Goals,

Mindful of the challenges that still remain in efforts to address the health outcomes of the most vulnerable, including children and young people, and attain all of the Millennium Development Goals, especially those

that have seen the least progress, notably maternal health,

Recognizing that investing in health is crucial to economic growth and poverty alleviation, as recognized by African heads of State in the Declaration on Health as a Foundation for Development,

Noting that an equity-focused approach to and investments in the social determinants of health contribute to better health outcomes,

Taking note of the progress made by member States in improving health financing since the adoption of the Abuja Declaration, and *recognizing* the need for continued improvement of resources for health,

Welcoming efforts made to find solutions to the challenges posed by health financing,

1. Calls on member States to improve health investment, including efficiency and effectiveness, through integrated evidence-based planning and budgeting, risk pooling and performance-based financing;

2. Invites member States, regional institutions and development partners to mobilize additional resources through innovative mechanisms including debt relief, public-private partnerships and taxation on items such as harmful products;

3. Urges regional institutions and development partners to improve coordination and harmonization of support for national health priorities to deliver better health for African populations, especially the most vulnerable groups;

4. Invites member States to enhance governance and accountability mechanisms in the management of health resources;

5. Requests member States to develop the traditional medicine sector as a viable cost containment and complementary strategy, and to bridge the gap between access and health needs;

6. Urges member States with excess capacity of human resources in the health sector to deploy some to countries emerging from conflict and disaster, based on bilateral agreements;

7. Encourages ministers of Finance and Health to partner in the implementation of strategies, linking with other sectors to realize intersectoral synergies;
8. Calls on member States to work towards meeting by 2015 the Abuja Declaration on Health Financing in Africa adopted by the Summit of Heads of States of the African Union;
9. Urges member States with the support of development partners to share best practices and knowledge through South-South cooperation;
10. Calls on development partners to fulfill their financial commitments, and programme their resources in a timely manner in support of national processes and budgets;
11. Encourages to commit to partner with ministries of health and other relevant stakeholders to deliver improved health outcomes.

886 (XLIV) Illicit financial flows

The Conference of Ministers,

Recognizing the importance of cooperation at the national, regional and international levels in combating illicit financial flows,

Underlining the growing need for accountable and transparent systems of governance as best practices in combating illicit financial flows,

Realizing that the enactment of appropriate legislation, effective oversight, accountability and financial control in a transparent manner are significant actions that governments in Africa should take in order to reduce and eventually eliminate illicit financial outflows,

1. Adopts the following actions to combat illicit financial flows:
 - a. Determine the nature and patterns of illicit financial flows;
 - b. Determine the level of illicit financial flows;
 - c. Assess the complex and long-term implications of illicit financial flows for development;
 - d. Sensitize African governments, citizens and international development partners as to the scale of illicit financial flows and their adverse

effect on development, and also mobilize political support and sensitization of putting in place rules and regulations which are necessary to combat illicit financial outflows;

- e. Increase collaboration and cooperation among African Union member States, regional economic communities and international partners in an effort to reduce illicit financial outflows;
 - f. Tackle illicit financial flows from Africa by establishing a specific institution or agency such as a high-level panel on illicit financial flows and equipping it to deal with the problem effectively;
2. Encourages member States to mainstream the actions identified above into their policy, legal and regulatory frameworks and instruments;
 3. Requests the African Union Commission and the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa to play an integral supportive role in implementing the actions identified above.

887 (XLIV) Enhancing science and technology for development in Africa

The Conference of Ministers,

Recalling its resolution 856 (XLI) of 2 April 2008 on strengthening research and development and innovation for Africa's socio-economic development,

Considering the Addis Ababa Declaration on Science, Technology and Scientific Research for Development, as espoused in the New Partnership for Africa's Development and its Science and Technology Consolidated Plan of Action, adopted by the African Union Conference of Ministers of Science and Technology in 2006 in decision EC/CL/Dec.254 VIII,

Noting with appreciation the significant outcomes and initiatives launched as a result of the first and second Science with Africa conferences, held in March 2008 and June 2010 respectively, and organized by the Economic Commission for Africa, the African Union Commission and their partners,

Recognizing the key initiatives launched since the second Science with Africa Conference on the theme "Science, innovation and entrepreneurship", leading to:

- a. The creation of the African Science, Technology and Innovation Endowment Fund to assist scientists, innovators and inventors to commercialize their research and inventions;
- b. The African Network for Drugs and Diagnostics Innovation, which supports innovation in Africa's fledgling pharmaceutical industries and promotes innovation in drug discovery and manufacture;
- c. The African Science to Business Challenge, which is to promote commercialization of the findings of researchers, particularly young African scientists;
- d. The African Technology Development and Transfer Network as a platform for stimulating innovative business development in Africa; and
- e. The African Innovation Framework to guide countries in developing national innovation systems.

Mindful of the critical role science, technology and innovation can play in accelerating Africa's economic development and transformation agenda, as well as fostering greater regional integration, while addressing the continent's pressing development needs and challenges,

Noting with appreciation the leadership of the Economic Commission for Africa in the launch of pivotal initiatives in support of linking science, technology and innovation to business development,

1. Commends the leadership of the Economic Commission for Africa and the African Union Commission in sustaining the Science with Africa Conference, which has become the leading forum for interactions between scientists, policymakers and the private sector;
2. Requests the Economic Commission for Africa and the African Union Commission to continue their support for the effective implementation of those pioneering initiatives;
3. Invites African governments and the private sector to support the aforementioned pan-African initiatives and to contribute to the African Science, Technology and Innovation Endowment Fund in support of African innovators and inventors, particularly women innovators;
4. Calls on African countries to strengthen their intellectual property regimes to harness innovation in

the deployment of science and technology, including the protection of national indigenous knowledge and bio-assets that have to be patented as sources of wealth creation;

5. Urges development partners to provide the necessary support to ensure the continued implementation of the outcomes of the Science with Africa Conference.

888 (XLIV) Proposed programme of work and priorities for the biennium 2012-2013

The Conference of Ministers,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 41/213 of 19 December 1986 and subsequent relevant resolutions on programme planning,

Recalling further resolution 844 (XXXIX) of 15 May 2006 of the Conference of African Ministers of Finance, Planning and Economic Development on repositioning the Economic Commission for Africa to respond better to Africa's priorities,

Recalling also resolution 873 (XLIII) of 30 March 2010 adopted by the Conference of African Ministers of Finance, Planning and Economic Development, which endorsed the proposed strategic framework/biennial programme plan for the period 2012-2013,

Noting with appreciation the continued efforts of the Economic Commission for Africa to consolidate the gains resulting from its repositioning by scaling up its action towards achieving greater effectiveness and impact in programme delivery,

Expressing its appreciation to the secretariats of the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa, the African Union Commission and the African Development Bank for having strengthened their partnership and collaboration towards greater synergy, impact and avoidance of duplication of efforts,

Welcoming the systematic use of results-based management approaches in programme design and implementation,

Having examined the proposed programme of work and priorities for the biennium 2012-2013 contained in document E/ECA/COE/30/18,

1. **Endorses** the proposed work programme and priorities for the biennium 2012-2013;
2. **Requests** the Executive Secretary of the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa to ensure that commensurate resources are provided for effective implementation of the proposed programme of work for the period 2012-2013;
3. **Urges** the United Nations Secretary-General to continue his efforts to ensure that Africa retains highest priorities on the United Nations development agenda in order to enable African countries to meet the Millennium Development Goals and other development challenges;
4. **Calls** for enhanced use of results-based management approaches for better accountability and impact in programme delivery.

B. Ministerial Statement

1. We, African Ministers of Finance, Planning and Economic Development, met in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, on 28 and 29 March 2011 for the Fourth Joint Annual Meetings of the African Union (AU) Conference of Ministers of Economy and Finance and the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) Conference of African Ministers of Finance, Planning and Economic Development.
2. We acknowledge the presence and active participation of the Ministers of Health and Ministers of Environment in our deliberations.
3. We deliberated on the theme of governing development in Africa. It is a theme that is both timely and pertinent, especially in view of the effort of our countries to promote structural economic transformation, scale up our integration endeavours, and achieve the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and other social development objectives.
4. We note that Africa's growth recovery in the aftermath of the global crisis has been swift and strong compared to previous downturns, thanks, among other factors, to stimulus packages, including countercyclical fiscal and monetary policies and sound macroeconomic measures adopted by many African countries. How-

ever, we are concerned that as in previous years, Africa's average growth rate, still heavily dependent on primary commodity production and exports, remains volatile and low relative to its potential, and did not promote robust employment or significantly reduce poverty.

5. We note that, with only four years remaining to the MDGs target date, a significant number of African countries will not achieve most of the targets at the current rate of progress. While acknowledging progress made in education, gender empowerment, HIV/AIDS and debt sustainability targets, poverty reduction, health-related MDGs and environmental sustainability remain areas of concern. We note that the resumption of economic growth offers us a new opportunity to harness our development effort, accelerate progress towards the MDGs, pursue people-centred policies for sustainable development, expand social protection, and explore innovative financial mechanisms.

Governing development in Africa—the role of the State in economic transformation

6. We note that following the stagnation of the previous two decades, Africa has sustained relatively high growth rates since the turn of the twenty-first century, averaging more than 5 per cent per year. While this improved performance was widely shared across countries, it did not result in significant creation of employment or a sufficiently equitable distribution of benefits. The persistence of primary commodity dependence and limited economic transformation are not the result of lack of efforts by governments. However, previous experience with a range of alternative government-led and market-driven development approaches need to be improved in order to redress these structural problems.
7. We acknowledge that market mechanisms alone are not sufficient for rapid economic transformation and that governments have a central role to play in helping overcome problems of market failure related to information, coordination and externalities.
8. We underscore the need to rethink the role of the State in Africa's economic transformation and development and call for the construction of African developmental States that use the market as an instrument for governing development and promoting structural transformation in the context of a democratic, inclusive and comprehensive national development framework.

We acknowledge that the role of the State in governing development and achieving economic transformation in Africa entails the planning, formulation and implementation of appropriate development plans and policies.

9. We recognize that a developmental State must have the political will and the capacity to articulate and implement expansionary, transformative and distributive economic and social development policies derived from democratically-organized public deliberations and not manipulated by technocratic and socio-political elites.

10. We also recognize that these efforts must involve the characterization of an effective developmental State in the African context and must be based on an understanding of country-specific political, economic, social, cultural and environmental realities. They should also take into consideration the historical record on the role of the State as well as best practices and lessons from Africa and other regions on the challenges of building a capable and dynamic developmental State.

11. We note that the developmental State has a crucial role to play in harnessing regional integration to promote economic and social development. We underscore the need for African developmental States to put in place strong regional and continental integration institutions with appropriate mechanisms to coordinate, implement, and monitor integration policies and programmes and enforce compliance by member States to agreed common goals and programmes.

12. Cognizant of the important role of effective and engaged leadership in a revamped vision and agenda of democratic developmental governance, **we commit to:**

- a. **Taking a direct and active role** in ongoing efforts at rebuilding local, national, subregional and regional capacities for development thinking and planning, economic management and policy coordination and the related long-term prospective studies, with a view to expanding the productive base of our economies, reinforcing industrial policy, strengthening their growth and achieving sustainable development;
- b. **Promoting inclusive public policy processes** that will ensure active citizen participation and inclusion in local, national, subregional and regional development processes;
- c. **Deepening the ongoing mobilization of additional support among African member States,**

the United Nations system and international development partners for the consolidation of the role of the repositioned African Institute for Economic Development and Planning (IDEP) in building and renewing capacity for economic management and development planning in Africa. We note with satisfaction the increased support extended to IDEP by member States and development partners and call on the United Nations to increase its annual grant to the Institute;

- d. **Supporting ongoing efforts to harmonize and improve the quality of statistical information.** We call upon the African Development Bank, the African Union Commission (AUC) and ECA to continue ongoing efforts to develop strategies and programmes under the Strategy for the Harmonization of Statistics in Africa. We commend the countries that have signed and ratified the African Charter on Statistics, and invite the remaining countries to make every effort to do so within a year. We call on partners to provide technical and financial support to countries to implement various strategies;
- e. **Mobilizing financial resources** to meet Africa's huge investment, especially through domestic savings, including pension funds and deposit insurance and innovative fund generating mechanisms, as well as strengthening financial institutions and banking and financial services in both urban and rural areas. Taxation being the main domestic financial resource, we commit to expanding the tax base by establishing schemes to bring the informal sector into the tax net through the promotion of indirect taxation. We will strive to minimize all bottlenecks in tax administration and increase domestic savings;
- f. **Identifying alternative funding sources for the African Union:** We acknowledge the necessity of ensuring adequate and sustainable funding for the African Union's activities and programmes and note the work undertaken so far by the African Union Commission to identify alternative funding sources. We encourage the African Union Commission to set-up the High-Level Panel on Alternative Funding Sources for the African Union in line with Executive Council Decision EX.CL/DEC 643(XVIII) of January/February 2011;
- g. **Establishing the African Monetary Fund:** We take note of the work in progress to establish an African Monetary Fund (AMF). However, substantive work with regard to the AMF's mandate, governance-related issues and operational aspects

needs to be completed. In that regard, we call on the African Union Commission to consult with member States to build on the work already done and to have the draft AMF statutes and annexes finalized by a group of experts. We look forward to the completion of such work before the end of the year;

- h. Advocating the cause of African least developed countries (LDCs)** with particular reference to the mobilization of resources for their development and the building of institutions that could assist them to overcome their special development constraints;
- i. Deepening regional integration.** We commend the achievements recorded by the regional economic communities (RECs) to date, and will continue to include regional integration provisions in our national planning frameworks and effectively further the implementation of integration programmes and activities;
- j. Combating illicit financial flows** from Africa by addressing the scale and magnitude of such flows into and from Africa and their impact on the development process. We call on recipient countries to take effective oversight and regulatory action to address this problem by effectively and rapidly implementing the resolution on this topic adopted by this meeting;
- k. Addressing the impact of climate change.** We will play our part to spearhead the transition to a green economy in Africa, inter alia, by supporting the necessary systemic and institutional transformations to ensure that green economies contribute to sustainable development and poverty reduction objectives, including improving welfare and the quality of life of Africa's citizens. We call on all development partners to accompany Africa in this journey;
- l. Increasing resources for health financing and strengthening dialogue and partnership** with ministries of health to ensure better understanding of health needs, budgeting and planning requirements and improved use of resources for health system strengthening. In addition to providing government support, we also commit to exploring other strategies for funding health care, including health insurance, risk-pooling public-private partnerships and leveraging opportunities and existing commitments;
- m. Supporting the Mutual Review of Development Effectiveness (MRDE)** in Africa. Having taken note of the 2010 MRDE report, we call on ECA and the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development to consider producing more frequent annual updates or reviews on specific issues, in response to specific requirements;
- n. Supporting the African Peer Review Mechanism (APRM),** as an Africa-driven process designed to institutionalize the practice of good governance on the continent, particularly in the current context unfolding in various parts of Africa. We thus enjoin AUC and ECA to ensure that the APRM plays a leading and significant role in the evolving African governance architecture, and we encourage member States that have not acceded to do so;
- o. Encouraging ongoing United Nations system support to the African Union and its New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD)** in the context of the Regional Coordination Mechanism for Africa (RCM-Africa) and the subregional coordination mechanisms to strengthen AU/United Nations cooperation at the regional and subregional levels. We call for strengthening RCM-Africa through the provision of human and financial resources and operationalization of subregional coordination mechanisms, as a formal link between the United Nations and the RECs, the optimal implementation of the subregional multi-year programmes and the effective implementation of the Ten-Year Capacity-Building Programme of the AU;
- p. Supporting investment in science and technology.** We commend the ongoing efforts by the AUC and ECA in sustaining the Science with Africa Conference. We request member States, RECs, the AUC, ECA and development partners to support the Africa Science Technology and Innovation Endowment Fund, the African Technology Development and Transfer Network and the African Network for Drugs and Diagnostic Innovations as platforms for stimulating innovative business development in Africa and facilitating regional integration through research and development collaboration, industrial alliances and open innovation;
- q. Implementing the Comprehensive African Agricultural Development Programme (CAADP).** We commend the 26 member States that have now signed compacts committing to the four pillars of the CAADP. We commit to putting in place country-appropriate mechanisms to ensure that budget allocations in the sector are spent towards the CAADP pillars, in order to increase agricultural production, productivity and risk manage-

ment, thereby, improving food and nutrition security. We support the development of commodity value chains and platforms; commit to ensuring monitoring and evaluation for associated public expenditure reviews and reiterate our commitment to accelerating CAADP implementation across the continent; and

- r. **Supporting ECA subregional offices (SROs).** We salute ECA's ongoing efforts to strengthen the subregional component of its regional integration agenda through the five SROs and the implementation of multi-year programmes of assistance to RECs. We call for further support to SROs in order to accelerate the regional integration process and help member States and RECs to better tackle emerging development challenges. We also welcome ECA's efforts to enhance the coherence and coordination of United Nations support to RECs through the establishment of subregional coordination mechanisms.

Vote of thanks

13. We thank the Government of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia for hosting the Conference and for the excellent facilities made available to us. We also thank the people of Ethiopia for their generosity and warm hospitality. We especially thank His Excellency Prime Minister Meles Zenawi for his inspiring key note address and for gracing the occasion with his presence.

14. Finally, we are grateful to AUC and ECA for successfully convening the Fourth Joint Annual Meeting of the AU Conference of Ministers of Economy and Finance and ECA Conference of African Ministers of Finance, Planning and Economic Development.

ANNEX II

Report of the thirtieth meeting of the Committee of Experts of the ECA Conference of African Ministers of Finance, Planning and Economic Development

Introduction

1. The meeting of the Committee of Experts of the fourth joint Annual Meetings of the AU Conference of Ministers of Economy and Finance and ECA Conference of African Ministers of Finance, Planning and Economic Development was held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia from 24 to 27 March 2011. Opening remarks were made by Dr. Winford Masanjala, Director of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance, Malawi on behalf of the Secretary to the Treasury and Chair of the outgoing Bureau of the Committee of Experts of the Conference. The opening statements were also made by H.E. Dr. Maxwell Mkwezalamba, Commissioner for Economic Affairs, African Union Commission and H.E. Mr. Abdoulie Janneh, Under-Secretary-General and Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa.

A. Attendance

2. The meeting was attended by representatives of the following member States: Algeria, Angola, Benin, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Comoros, Democratic Republic of Congo, Djibouti, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea; Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gabon, The Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Niger, Nigeria, Republic of Congo, Rwanda, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Somalia, South Africa, Sudan, Swaziland, Tanzania, Togo, Tunisia, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

3. The following United Nations bodies and specialized agencies were also represented: Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA), Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO);

International Labour Organisation (ILO), International Maritime Organization (IMO), International Telecommunication Union (ITU), Office of Special Advisor for Africa (OSAA), Regional Commissions New York Office (RCNYO), United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP); United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), United Nations High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR), The United Nations Office of High Commissioner for Human Rights (UNOHCHR), United Nations Office to the Africa Union (UNOAU), World Food Programme (WFP), World Health Organization (WHO), Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS), and the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN Women).

4. Observers from the following member States of the United Nations were present: Belgium, Denmark, France, Germany, Japan, Russian Federation, Spain and United Arab Emirates. Observers were also present from the Vatican.

5. Observers were present from the following organizations: Action Aid International (AAI); Africa Business Group, African Center of Meteorological Application for Development (ACMAD); African Forum and Network on Debt and Development (AFRODAD), Africa Humanitarian Action, African Health Economics and Policy Association (AfHeA), African Capacity Building Foundation (ACBF); African Development Bank (AfDB), African Peer Review Mechanism (APRM), African Public Health Alliance (APHA), Arab Bank for Development in Africa (BADEA), African Regional Organization of International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC – Africa), Bank of Central African States (BEAC), Central Bank of West African States (BCEAO), Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, Con-

sortium of Christian Relief and Development Associations (CCRDA), Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA), Coalition for Dialogue on Africa (CODA), Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA), Development Finance International; Envisioning Ethiopia; European Commission (EU), Economic Community of Central African State (ECCAS), Fahamu Networks for Social Justice, African Women Solidarity (FAS), Gavi Alliance, Global Fund, Global Business Coalition, Institute for Social Studies (ISS), The Horn Economic and Social Policy Institute (HESPI), International Monetary Fund (IMF), International Organization of Employers (IOE), Uniting the trade unions in Africa (ITUC-Africa), Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), Johns Hopkins CCP, League of Arab States (LAS), Marie Stopes International, McKinsey and Co., Mo Ibrahim Foundation, New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD), Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), One Laptop per Child, Organisation internationale de la francophonie (OIF), Oxfam International (OXFAM), Pan-African Employers' Confederation, Princess of Africa Foundation, Reality of Aid Africa, Roll Back Malaria Partnership (RBM), Save the Children International, Southern African Development Community (SADC), Standard Chartered Bank, United States Agency for International Development (USAID), U.S. Mission to the African Union, West African Economic and Monetary Union (UEMOA), World Bank (WB) and World Vision.

B. Adoption of the Agenda and Election of the Bureau

6. The following agenda was adopted by the Committee:

1. Opening of the meeting
2. Election of the Bureau
3. Adoption of the draft agenda and programme of work
4. Overview of recent economic and social developments in Africa
5. Assessment of progress on regional integration in Africa
6. Review of progress towards the Millennium Development Goals and African Common Position on MDGs

7. Follow-up to the outcomes of major United Nations and African Union conferences and summits, including the 2010 Joint Annual Meetings of the AU and ECA
 - Review of progress in the implementation of the Monterrey Consensus on Financing for Development
 - Report on Mutual Review of Development Effectiveness
 - Annual review of progress of United Nations support to the African Union and its NEPAD programme: Report of the 11th Regional Coordination Mechanism of United Nations agencies working in Africa
 - Climate change and development in Africa
 - Ten-year review of progress in the implementation of the Abuja Declaration on Health Financing in Africa
 - Follow-up on the implementation of the African Charter on Statistics
 - Follow-up report on the implementation of the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP)
 - Report on Science and Technology for Africa's Development
8. Presentation and discussion on the issues paper on the theme of the Conference: *Governing Development in Africa*
9. Statutory issues
 - *ECA Annual Report, 2011*
 - *Proposed ECA programme of work and priorities for the biennium 2012-2013*
 - *Progress report on the work of the United Nations African Institute for Economic Development and Planning (IDEP)*
 - *Statutes and Annexes of the African Monetary Fund*
 - *Report on follow-up to the decisions and recommendations of the 2010 Joint Annual Meetings of the AUC and ECA*
 - *Information note on upcoming major conferences of the AU Commission and ECA*
10. Any other business
11. Consideration and adoption of the draft report of the Committee of Experts and draft resolutions
12. Closing of the meeting

Election of the Bureau

7. The following Officers were unanimously elected by the Committee to form the new

Bureau:

Chairperson:	Guinea
First Vice-Chairperson:	Rwanda
Second Vice-Chairperson:	Central African Republic
Third Vice-Chairperson:	Mauritania
Rapporteur:	Malawi

C. Account of the Proceedings

Opening Addresses

8. Dr. Winford Masanjala, Director of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance, Republic of Malawi, on behalf of the Secretary to the Treasury and Chair of the outgoing Bureau of the Committee of Experts, welcomed participants to the meeting. He noted that the theme of the 2011 meeting, "Governing Development in Africa", was one of the critical issues that required continuous attention, if African countries were to sustain the implementation of their respective development programmes. Despite the continent's notable economic growth performance in recent years, growth rates in many countries had remained below the level required to achieve the MDGs. Moreover, growth had not been accompanied by a comparable reduction in poverty levels, neither had it created enough jobs.

9. He highlighted the key points contained in the outcomes of the Lilongwe meeting as well as some achievements during Malawi's term as chair of the Bureau tenure, including the formulation of a draft Social Protection Plan for the Informal Economy and Rural Workers (SPIREWORK); and an Experts Group meeting on the Informal and Rural Economy. Progress was also highlighted in such areas as climate change, statistics, regional integration, establishment of African financial decisions and the efforts to reposition the African Institute for Economic Development and Planning (IDEP).

10. On the theme of the Conference, he said that the role of the State in development, particularly in developing countries could not be overstated. The theme of this year's Conference was, therefore, crucial for African countries, calling on them to rethink the role of the State in the continent's economic transformation and development. The central role of the State in the economic success of the Asian tigers and some Latin American countries reinforced the call for a more effective role for the State in governing Africa's development. He invited the meeting to give particular attention to the role of the State in African development so as to identify an appropriate set of interventions to enhance the role of the State and other stakeholders in performing the key tasks necessary for economic transformation in Africa.

11. In his opening statement, Dr. Maxwell Mkwezalamba, Commissioner for Economic Affairs of the African Union Commission (AUC) delivered a statement on behalf of the Commission's Chairperson, His Excellency Dr. Jean Ping. He commended the efforts made by the AUC and ECA in jointly organizing the Annual Meetings with resounding success.

12. Dr. Mkwezalamba recalled that the theme of the conference had been agreed at the Lilongwe meeting in March 2010, based on the fact that the economic growth witnessed by most African countries over the last decade had not translated into a reduction in poverty and a higher standard of living for all citizens. Therefore, the role of the State in governing development, particularly in economic and social transformation, had to be reviewed. It was important to learn from the experiences of the "Asian Tigers" and some successful African and Latin American countries, to define the role of the State in governing Africa's development. The meeting should critically examine the role and functions of the State in economic management and transformation as well as the nature and extent of the effort in an African setting. Indeed, the success of the developmental State would depend on the inclusion of other stakeholders such as the private sector and the civil society,

13. In reviewing other items on the agenda of the meeting, he stressed the important role that regional integration could play in Africa's development, poverty reduction and attainment of the MDGs. In this regard, he noted that the Minimum Integration Program developed by the AUC, in collaboration with the Regional Economic Communities (RECs) were critical in moving the African integration agenda forward. He observed that the 2011 Report on Assessing Pro-

gress towards the Millennium Development Goals in Africa showed that Africa was making progress towards the MDGs, albeit at a slow pace. In that respect, the developmental state would have a large role to play in ensuring accelerated progress and commensurate gains in poverty reduction and wealth creation for the African people from economic growth. [The Commissioner also stressed the need for agreement on alternative sources of financing for the African Union to enable it meet the growing challenges.

14. In conclusion, the Commissioner stressed the fact that the deliberations of the meeting would have a significant bearing on Africa's efforts towards reducing poverty and inequality, creating employment and promoting sustainable development. To that end, it was important to clearly define the role of the State in governing development in the African context.

15. In his opening statement, Mr. Abdoulie Jannah, United Nations Under-Secretary-General and Executive Secretary of ECA, welcomed participants to the meeting and thanked and expressed his gratitude to the Government of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia for their support of the work of ECA and AU Commission. He said that the importance of the joint annual meetings of the ECA and AU Conference of Ministers as a forum for dialogue and consensus building on important development issues was further recognized by the Kampala Summit of the African Union held last July.

16. The Executive Secretary reviewed Africa's economic and social performance over the past year and indicated that the prospects for improved economic performance in Africa in 2011 remained favourable. In 2010, Africa grew by 4.5 per cent on average, up from 2.3 figures different from those in para. 22 percent in 2009 and would most likely maintain a steady growth of about 5 percent in 2011. This relatively strong performance was bolstered by a good showing in the agriculture and natural resources sectors, the rebound of tourism and the use of countercyclical policies in some countries. However, although the projected growth rates for 2011 were higher than those attained in 2009 and 2010, they were generally lower than pre-crisis rates and subject to several risks and uncertainties. He expressed concern that Africa's relatively strong growth performance did not translate into poverty reduction as it would require meaningful job creation, especially for the youth. He noted in particular that the high unemployment in many African countries coupled with rising oil and food

prices, as well as the effects of climate change had the potential to undermine social stability and economic growth, as recently observed in several countries.

17. Turning to the theme of the Conference, the Executive Secretary noted that the theme of this year's Conference would put the issue of development back on the governance agenda in Africa. So far, there had been a vast improvement in the discourse and attitudes to accountability, democracy, human rights and the rule of law in Africa. However, there should be similar commitment to restoring economic growth and development as central concerns of politics and policy making in Africa. Secondly, the meeting would provide an opportunity to address sectoral and cross cutting issues like trade and industrial policies, and the gender, social and environmental policies encapsulated in the MDGs. Above all, the theme of the Conference will allow for more focused discussions on the dynamics of the relationship between an effective developmental state and other stakeholders such as the private sector and civil society. The Executive Secretary also stressed the need for a clear vision of development and coherent, consistent and coordinated planning frameworks. He observed that several African countries had already embarked on that course of action and ECA had been working with them to build up planning capacities, especially through the instrumentality of a repositioned African Institute for Economic Development and Planning (IDEP), which required additional resources to deepen its work in that vital area.

18. On the issue of governance of development, he noted that there was a need to consider the regional dimension of development as well as international trends. While paying attention to national processes, African states should also incorporate regional and trans-boundary cooperation into policymaking. Regional integration and the provision of first-rate infrastructure were imperative if Africa was to overcome the limitations of small national economies. International trends also impacted on the governance of development in Africa, noticeably through global negotiations such as those on trade and climate change. The world was moving towards the "green economy" and Africa faced the challenge of balancing its desire for fast growth along conventional lines with the need to adapt to climate change and develop along more environmentally sustainable lines.

19. In conclusion, the Executive Secretary reviewed the achievement of the ECA secretariat in 2010 and stressed that partnerships was a key aspect of the Com-

mission's work during the year. To that end, he informed the meeting that the AU/AfDB/ECA Joint Secretariat Support Office (JSSO) had already been established, while collaboration with multilateral and bilateral development partners continued to be strengthened. He further stated ECA remained committed to working with the AU Commission, the African Development Bank, the RECs and all the member States towards the realisation of Africa's development agenda and vision in various programmatic areas.

**Overview of recent economic and social developments in Africa
[Agenda item 4] (E/ECA/COE/30/2,
AU/CAMEF/EXP/2(VI))**

20. The secretariat presented a document entitled "*Overview of economic and social conditions in Africa in 2010*". The presentation highlighted two key messages. First, developments in the global economy in 2010 had overall positive implications for African countries, although the direction and magnitude of the impact varied across countries and sub-regions. Second, Africa sustained and strengthened economic recovery in the aftermath of the recent global economic and financial crisis, but growth remained below the level necessary to reduce poverty and achieve the MDGs.

21. Global GDP growth rate increased from -2.1 per cent in 2009 to 3.6 per cent in 2010 and Africa's GDP growth increased from 2.4 per cent to 4.7 per cent over the same period. The economic recovery in Africa in 2010 was driven mainly by higher commodity prices, increased domestic demand in many African countries, increased foreign direct investments in extractive industries, the recovery in tourism sector and improved continued good macroeconomic management. Current account and fiscal account balances deteriorated slightly but remained generally sustainable in most African countries. Inflationary pressure subdued due to adequate agricultural supply, excess production capacities and strengthened currencies in some countries.

22. On the social development front, it was noted that despite notable improvements on some indicators such as education and gender parity, overall progress towards achieving most of the MDGs remain slow. The continent's inability to translate economic growth into meaningful job creation and hence poverty reduction is attributable to the narrow production base and the low level of economic transformation besides high inequal-

ity and inadequate budget allocations to social targets in some countries.

23. In the ensuing discussion, participants emphasized the need for the overview to provide a sectoral breakdown of the sources and determinants of growth in Africa. The meeting expressed concern that despite an economic rebound, Africa still faced the difficult task of economic transformation to reduce dependence on commodity production and exports. The continent's economic growth remains highly vulnerable to external shocks especially volatility in commodity demand and prices. In this regard, the meeting underscored the need for Africa to broaden its production base and undertake necessary structural and institutional reforms needed to build infrastructure, enhance regional integration, and promote the role of the private sector in the development process.

24. The meeting expressed concern at the high rate of poverty and unemployment particularly among the youth despite recent high growth in many African countries and underscored the need for appropriate strategies and policies. The discussion further underscored the imperative for social development to be an integral part of growth and development policies in Africa and that social cohesion is critical for Africa to consolidate and promote its development agenda.

25. Based on the discussion the following specific recommendations were made:

- a. To curb volatility stemming from international macroeconomic fluctuations and mitigate the impact of external shocks, there is need for significant and meaningful economic diversification and transformation.
- b. Although macroeconomic management remains prudent, macroeconomic balances of African countries need to be kept within sustainable and growth enhancing levels.
- c. Need for policies to address the structural constraints of infrastructure deficit, rigid regulatory framework and weak regional integration.
- d. Effective policies are required to promote shared growth and employment creation in order to improve living standards, particularly mainstreaming gender and youth concerns in development planning and national budgets.
- e. Analysis of growth factors should include a breakdown of the sources and key determinants of growth as these varied from one country to another.

Assessment of progress on regional integration in Africa [Agenda item 5] (E/ECA/COE/30/10/Rev.1, AU/CAMEF/EXP/10 (VI)/REV.1)

26. The Secretariat made a presentation based on the report entitled, *Overview of Progress Towards Regional and Continental Integration in Africa*. The presentation highlighted the progress being made by the Regional Economic Communities (RECs) in the implementation of the Abuja Treaty establishing the African Economic Community. The East African Community (EAC) is the only REC to have reached the stage of the Common Market. Others were either at the stage of Free Trade Area or slowly moving towards the Customs Union. The presentation identified a number of challenges which continued to impede progress towards regional integration in Africa. These include inadequate mainstreaming of regional agreements in national development policies, strategies and budgetary allocations; non-implementation of protocols on free movement of peoples and right of establishment; and inadequate financing of integration programmes and projects. Among the initiatives taken by the African Union to address these challenges where the establishment of the African Investment Bank, the African Central Bank, the African Monetary Fund, the Minimum Integration Programme, the Plan of Action for industrial development in Africa and the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP).

27. In the ensuing discussion, many participants emphasized the importance of regional integration in Africa and called upon member States to reaffirm their commitment to the integration process. In this regard, the meeting underscored the need for peace, security and stability as well as the need to facilitate the free movement of peoples and factors of production. The meeting also underscored the need to pay attention to the risks posed by youth unemployment and gender inequalities in integration policies, programmes and projects, so that the specific needs and niches for women and youth as important social groups are taken into account.

28. The discussion on the issue of financing for regional integration underscored the need for the rapid operationalization of appropriate self-financing mechanisms and the Integration Fund so that integration programmes and projects could be effectively implemented, bearing in mind some concerns expressed that tax-based

mechanisms could have possible negative impact for some member States.

29. With regard to mainstreaming regional integration at the national level, the Committee suggested that this could be achieved by embedding regional integration into national constitutions as a means of assuring sustained national commitment and support for the process. The meeting also underscored the need to popularize the regional integration agenda amongst the general public so that civil society would be encouraged to play an active role in the process. In a similar vein, it was suggested that member States should establish a network of experts at national level to look into all AU objectives and decisions in order to help catalyze and accelerate progress in achieving regional integration.

30. The Committee also deliberated on the issue of multiple memberships to the RECs which had contributed to the slow progress of regional integration. It was observed that a number of pan-African institutions were dealing with regional integration issues and member States were often over stretched in contributing financial resources to these institutions. In this regard, the Committee emphasized the need to rationalize the number of institutions dealing with regional integration in order to avoid duplication of efforts and waste of resources. Furthermore, the Committee urged Member States that hold multiple membership of RECs to take decisive actions on their memberships, as multiple memberships curtail progress in the formation of customs unions.

31. The Committee also noted the reluctance of some member States to relinquish their sovereignty to supra-national bodies, a major obstacle to the attainment of Continental integration. In this connection, the ongoing debate on the proposed Union Government was cited as an example of the reluctance of member States to support it mainly due to fear that they will lose their sovereignty. The Committee, however, concluded that the issue of sovereignty needed to be taken up at the highest level of Heads of State and Government.

32. There was some discussion on the targets with respect to agriculture, health and education. In this regard, it was noted that there were obvious advantages and benefits to be gained from setting targets but it was also important to consider what it would imply for budget allocation given that countries had different priorities competing for limited resources.

Recommendations

- a. Urge AUC to accelerate the adoption of appropriate self-financing mechanisms and the operationalization of the Integration Fund to buttress Africa's regional integration agenda.
- b. Encourage member States to continue their efforts through a range of actions including the establishment of national network of experts, to mainstream regional integration decisions and commitments in national development plans, strategies and budgetary allocations.
- c. Urge the RECs, the AUC, member States, regional and continental organizations as well as development partners to mainstream gender and youth concerns in regional integration programmes and projects and support mechanisms.
- d. Request Member States, which did not do so, to include Provisions of regional integration in their national development plans as well as in their national legislations through constitutional backing.
- e. Request Member States to accelerate removing obstacles on free movement of persons, goods, capital and services across the continent.
- f. The issue of regional integration including the recommendations made, should be submitted to the AU Summit of Heads of State and Government for their consideration and endorsement, since it is of constitutional importance.

Review of progress towards the Millennium Development Goals and African Common Position on MDGs [Agenda item 6] (E/ECA/COE/30/9, AU/CAMEF/EXP/9(VI))

33. The secretariat made a presentation based on the report entitled, *Progress in Achieving the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs in Africa, 2011)*. The presentation highlighted areas where significant progress had been achieved in 2010, such as primary education, women's empowerment, debt sustainability and access to treatment for HIV/AIDS. On the other hand, slow progress had been made in the areas of poverty reduction, health-related MDGs and environmental sustainability. Overall, the majority of African countries were not on track to achieve most of the MDG targets by 2015. The

recovery from the recent economic and financial crisis provided opportunities for Africa to harness accelerated economic growth for achieving the MDGs.

34. The Secretariat suggested that social protection should be considered a policy option in accelerating progress towards the MDGs, and that certain social protection instruments had proved to have a strong effect on poverty reduction, especially when they had been institutionalized. There were huge interregional and intraregional differences in achieving the MDGs, as well as problems of data. Lastly, the need for development partners to reduce fragmentation and focus efforts on MDG-related priorities was highlighted.

35. The general discussion that followed highlighted the main policy options and strategies that needed to be pursued by African countries to speed up progress towards the MDGs.

36. A key theme was that economic growth had not contributed to poverty reduction or the achievement of other key MDGs. Many participants expressed concern that, although economic growth seemed encouraging, it did not create adequate jobs and poverty levels remained high. Furthermore, it was mentioned that sources of economic growth in many countries lay largely in extractive sectors, which were capital-intensive, did not create adequate employment and did not reduce poverty.

37. Several participants mentioned that certain statistical data were not available or that data presented did not reflect the national situation. The example of absolute poverty was cited, together with the fact that the MDG indicator on poverty might not accurately capture the reality on the ground. It was also mentioned that the lack of data made it difficult to assess progress.

38. There was also concern that MDG indicators and targets might not be relevant in assessing social development. For example, primary school enrolment did not capture the reality of education quality. Many participants raised the question of the appropriateness of indicators, suggesting that the indicators should go beyond those in the Millennium Declaration.

39. Concerning regional integration and the sharing of best practices in pursuing the MDGs, it was emphasized that regional integration could contribute to poverty reduction only if it was anchored in peace and political stability. The link between intra-African partnerships and strengthening efforts to achieve the MDGs were

also raised. The linkages between environmental sustainability, poverty reduction and health-related MDGs was emphasized. Participants noted that the environmental targets of the MDGs were often neglected, and that environmental programmes were poorly funded. There was a need to integrate the MDGs into national development plans and to prioritize them in economic and social policies. The question was raised of whether ODA should be targeted towards achieving the MDGs directly through social sectors or via productive sectors. Youth unemployment was also identified as one of the major concerns which could adversely impact on peace, security and political stability.

Recommendations

40. The following policy recommendations were made:

- a. Emphasis should be placed on creating economic dynamism through macroeconomic stability, forging the right political linkage between democracy, economic development and the MDGs, improving access to finance for small and medium-sized enterprises and addressing infrastructural deficits.
- b. Countries should prioritize the MDGs and mainstream them into national development plans and strategies through active participation by civil society and the private sector, and implement the MDGs through an acceleration framework. Appropriate accountability mechanisms should also be established.
- c. ECA and AUC should elaborate a special programme to ensure achievement of the MDGs in Africa, divided into two phases – one between the present and 2012 and the second between 2012 and 2015.
- d. There should be a mechanism for dialogue between government, the private sector and civil society for economic transformation, job creation, good governance and aid transparency.
- e. While development partners should honour their commitments and deliver ODA in a timely and sustainable manner, member States should strive to achieve the MDGs.
- f. Given the paucity of statistical data available in the countries, national statistical systems should be strengthened and indicators for measuring progress in the achievement of the MDGs improved.
- g. Request member States to provide additional financial resources for the three MDGs (poverty eradication, health related areas and environmen-

tal sustainability) where limited progress has been achieved.

Follow-up to the outcomes of major United Nations and African Union conferences and summits, including the 2010 Joint Annual Meetings of the AU and ECA [Agenda item 7] (E/ECA/COE/30/15, AU/CAMEF/EXP/15(VI))

i. Monterrey Consensus on Financing for Development (E/ECA/COE/30/11, AU/CAMEF/EXP/11(VI))

41. The secretariat made a presentation based on the report entitled, *Implementation of the Monterrey Consensus on Financing for Development*. He noted that substantial progress had been made in the area of debt relief and official development assistance (ODA), but that performance in domestic resource mobilization, foreign capital inflows and international trade had been disappointing. In the area of domestic resource mobilization, a slight increase had been observed in gross domestic savings. Government revenues, which constituted the main domestic financial resource for African governments, had been held back by a shallow tax base, an unbalanced tax mix and poor tax administration. International financial flows, in particular inflows of FDI and remittances, had diminished as a result of the recent economic crisis. ODA, on the other hand, had shown an increase, but legitimate concerns had been raised over the sustainability of aid flows. Africa's, merchandise exports had contracted drastically owing to the sharp decline in both the prices and the volume of Africa's key primary exports. The key issue was lack of diversification in terms of structure and destination. The growing trade between Africa and the rest of the South provided an opportunity for Africa to diversify its exports in terms of destinations, but not yet in structure. Debt sustainability had generally improved, but there were concerns about the stalemate in the Doha Round of trade negotiations and the lack of inter-institutional coordination to ensure a stable international financial system for development.

Discussion

42. In the ensuing discussion, the Committee commended the secretariat for the comprehensive and insightful presentation. The Committee noted a significant gap between government revenues and investment requirements in Africa and the need for more domestic resources in the face of declining external finance. It was noted that, in general, domestic revenues were also experiencing declining trends due to a narrow tax base, ineffective tax administration and a lack of transparency, fairness and uniformity. The Committee also raised concerns about decreasing FDI inflows to Africa owing to the financial crisis, but also as a result of the discovery of more attractive destinations. However, that situation could constitute an opportunity for African governments to explore new avenues for mobilizing resources internally. The presenter concurred with the Committee and further stressed the lack of fiscal legitimacy and its negative impact on capacity-building.

Recommendations:

- a. The improvement of the macroeconomic framework, the development of capital markets and the establishment of an efficient fiscal policy, particularly through better management of public finance.
- b. Broadening of the tax base to bring more actors into the tax system, and strengthening of tax administration, in particular with respect to extractive industries.
- c. Prioritization of the effective utilization of available resources, considering Africa's limited resources and huge financial needs.
- d. The setting up of mechanisms to formalize the informal sector, given the important role of the sector and its potential contribution to domestic resource mobilization.
- e. Efforts to improve the efficiency of the financial system in generating and allocating funds.
- f. A reorientation of FDI towards diversified and higher-value-added sectors.

ii. Mutual Review of Development Effectiveness

43. The Secretariat presented the 2010 Mutual Review of Development Effectiveness (MRDE) in Africa report, jointly prepared by the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) and the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) as a mutual accountability process. The presentation

highlighted the main objectives, findings, and recommendations of the report. It was noted that NEPAD Heads of State and Government Orientation Committee (NEPAD HSGOC) at its 23rd Summit held in July this year in Kampala, Uganda had endorsed main lines of the executive summary of the report. At its summit, the NEPAD HSGOC also called upon the two institutions to continue with the Mutual Review process and mandated that the Mutual Review process should serve as the main mutual accountability mechanism for monitoring and assessing the delivery on commitments made by both African countries and their development partners related to the African economic development agenda.

44. Key priorities identified by the report are: (a) African governments - to continue with the agenda for political and economic reform set out in NEPAD's founding statement; to intensify efforts to promote regional economic integration, and collective regional action on key political issues; and to increase domestic revenue mobilization, and to ensure that this is directed effectively towards meeting the MDGs. (b) development partners - to continue efforts to tackle issues such as tax havens, transfer pricing, and illicit capital flows; to take action to open markets further, and in particular to inject political will and momentum, and to deliver their existing commitments to increase the volume and improve the effectiveness of development assistance. (c) International community - to agree on ambitious and binding targets for the reduction of emissions; to agree on ways to increase the volume and improve the effectiveness of climate change finance to Africa; and to respond positively to Africa's claim for stronger representation in discussions on wider systemic issues, and in international institutions.

45. In the discussions that followed the presentation, the Committee welcomed the MRDE report in highlighting key future priorities for African countries and development partners. In particular, the Committee noted that the report gave due prominence to the seriousness of illicit financial outflows which deny African countries of significant resources for development. In view of the serious consequences of illicit financial flows in African countries, the Committee proposed that a resolution be drafted for adoption by the Conference of Ministers to help address the problem more effectively. The resolution should recommend the measures and mechanisms to ascertain the nature and extent of the problem of illicit financial flows, the types of regional and continental institutions and agencies that need to

be set up to tackle the problem in an effective manner, and the role of ECA and AUC in capacitating the institutions and agencies.

iii. United Nations support to the African Union and its NEPAD programme: Report of the 11th Regional Coordination Mechanism of United Nations agencies working in Africa (E/ECA/COE/30/16)

46. The secretariat made a presentation based on the report entitled, United Nations support to the African Union and its NEPAD programme, March 2010-March 2011. Annual review of progress in United Nations support to the African Union and its NEPAD programme: report on the eleventh meeting of the Regional Coordination Mechanism (RCM) of United Nations agencies working in Africa

47. The secretariat made a presentation under this agenda item, describing the structure and operations of the RCM and the highlights of its eleventh meeting.

48. The RCM was jointly operated by AUC and ECA. Its purpose was to improve the coordination and coherence of support from the United Nations system to the African Union and its NEPAD programme at the regional and subregional levels. The Mechanism was operationalized through nine thematic clusters which had been established in accordance with Africa's development priorities.

49. The RCM had recorded several achievements in the reporting period, including a successful review of the Ten-Year Capacity-Building Programme for the AU, which had been the subject of a declaration on cooperation between the United Nations and the AU aimed at enhancing the capacity of the AU to act as an effective partner of the United Nations in addressing Africa's development challenges.

50. The presenter enumerated key recommendations made by the RCM at its eleventh meeting and underscored progress made in their implementation. A comprehensive work plan for building the capacity of AUC, the NEPAD Agency and the regional economic communities was being developed. In addition, modalities for operationalizing a Subregional Coordination Mechanism for Eastern and Southern Africa were being finalized.

51. The presenter urged member States to contribute ideas on how to build the capacity of African regional institutions, particularly AUC, the NEPAD Agency and the regional economic communities.

52. The Conference took note of the recommendation.

iv. Climate change and development in Africa (E/ECA/COE/30/12, AU/CAMEF/EXP/12(VI))

53. Under this agenda item, the secretariat made a presentation on a "*Report on the outcome of the sixteenth Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and its implications for Africa*" (E/ECA/COE/30/12, AU/CAMEF/EXP/12(VI)). The report provided information on three main issues: the international climate change negotiations, key elements of the Cancun agreements and their implications for Africa, and an update on the ClimDev-Africa programme. The report highlighted key developments in the international negotiations on climate change, outlining the elements that had emerged from the Cancun climate change conference held in December 2010. Elements relevant to Africa included adaptation, mitigation in developing countries, finance for climate change, technology transfer and the programme for Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation (REDD+). The centre would also help African negotiators to prepare for the next session of the Conference of the Parties, to be held in Durban, South Africa, in December 2011. Africa needed to take a proactive stance, explore financing options in advance of the conference, and negotiate the details of the future international architecture, including the Clean Development Mechanisms, to maximize benefits for the continent.

Discussion

54. In the ensuing discussion, the Committee reiterated that, while Africa bore least responsibility for greenhouse gas emissions, it was the continent most affected by its impacts. It underscored the need for adaptation funds to be made more accessible to Africa. It emphasized that climate change impacts were both national and regional concerns. National initiatives to enable better understanding of the impacts of climate change, such as Egypt's efforts to map climate change impacts on its northern coast, could be useful in informing decision-making at all levels. The Committee commended the partnership approach promoted by ClimDev-Africa,

and stressed the need to further strengthen partnerships at all levels, so as to secure concrete results and deal effectively with the climate change challenge.

55. In that regard, the Committee noted with satisfaction the partnership forged between ECA and ACMAD through the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding which testified to the progress being made by ACMAD in addressing climate issues.

Recommendations

- a. African ministers responsible for finance should engage proactively in international forums on climate change to keep up the momentum, and should focus efforts on ensuring Africa's fast and easy access to financial resources, particularly for adaptation, including through the operationalization of the Green Climate Fund.
- b. ClimDev-Africa and its ACPC should continue to pursue strategic partnerships, thereby leveraging competitive advantages, to widen and deepen activities to achieve concrete results in climate change adaptation and mitigation in the region.
- c. ECA and ACMAD should be encouraged to undertake joint technical studies in climate change-related sectors and review and propose measures for strengthening cooperation between the two institutions.

v. Ten-year review of progress in the implementation of the Abuja Declaration on Health Financing in Africa (E/ECA/COE/30/..., AU/CAMEF/EXP/....(VI))

56. The secretariat made a presentation based on the report entitled, *Information Note: 10 Years After the "Abuja Commitment" to allocate 15% of national budgets to Health*. The Secretariat through the presentation informed the Committee that only six countries in Africa met the Abuja Declaration on the health financing target of dedicating 15% or more of total government expenditure on health. Even those countries that had met the target still performed poorly on at least one of the related MDGs indicators. In view of the low per capita health spending and a low percentage of total government expenditure spent on health, there remained several challenges in the area of health in Africa. These include severe shortfall in human resources for health, and low access to services by the most vulnerable. It was further reported that health service delivery infrastructure remains weak, coordination of donor funds was

still poor, donor funds may not address national health priorities, and private expenditure comprised the largest proportion of the health spending.

57. Several corrective measures had been identified in the health sector, such as mobilization of additional resources for health by leveraging the private sector and exploring new tax regimes to finance health priorities; strengthen risk pooling to develop and strengthen health insurance schemes; spending resources more efficiently, including improving donor coordination and implementation of performance-based financing; strengthen the governance of the health sector, including improvement of public financial management and increase oversight to health financing; strengthen evidence-base and leverage resources across health programmes and initiatives, and encourage CSO participation. Appropriate prioritization of health sector to garner investment; management and governance of health resources; operationalization of monitoring and follow-up mechanisms were also identified as some of the key challenges. The presentation concluded by equating the health of people to human capital development and the consequent government expenditure on the health sector as an investment in economic and social development.

58. In the ensuing discussion, several issues were flagged by the Committee, including: concerning accuracy of data and indicators; need to distinguish between government contributions and external health funding in calculating the indicators; importance of experience sharing on achievement of Abuja target; governance and management of health resources and expenditures; suitable working conditions for the health workers; proliferation of unqualified staff; proper storage of drugs; and resource mobilization for the sector. Similarly, other delegates argued in favour of efficiency and transparency of financial flows to health in equitable and sustainable manner and to consider the sector allocations in line with national priorities and budget processes. Some considered that absorption capacity of financial resources in certain countries may be low, leading to inappropriate utilization of available funding. Therefore appropriate capacity assessment was necessary. In conclusion, it transpired that the target percentage allocation alone for health sector was not an efficient planning tool, and addressing the underlying issues required combination of adequate investment in health coupled with a proportionate investment in the social determinants of health. The following recommendation emerged from the deliberations:

- a. Strengthen the evidence generation and promote the use of evidence for health policy planning. More specifically, conduct research on:
 - Scientific, economic and political justification of the recommended target;
 - Alternative financing of health;
 - Health Administration and efficiency;
 - Mobilize more resources; strengthen risk pooling; and spend resources more efficiently.
- b. Strengthen governance of the health sector through linking budget allocations to outcomes and quality of service; improve financial management; and adequately engage CSOs for oversight.
- c. (c) Institute machinery for promoting the broader introduction of health insurance for vulnerable groups.
- d. (d) Member states and donors should increase financial resources for health sector issues (health workers, drugs, infrastructures etc.) and improve efficiency and effectiveness within the framework of the Paris declaration on aid effectiveness and the Accra Agenda for Action
- e. (e) Decentralize health services to improve access to health care; including disbursement of funds to health committees at the community level to effectively manage the resources
- f. (f) Adopt innovative financing through public private partnerships; health insurance contribution based on income; tax leverage, among others, taking into consideration that the majority of people are engaged in the informal economy.
- g. (g) Explore alternative ways to achieve macroeconomic stability and demand for relaxation of conditionalities.
- h. (h) Strengthen social protection systems targeting vulnerable population groups through exemptions from cost sharing, and provide free hospital care.

vi. Follow-up on the implementation of the African Charter on Statistics (E/ECA/COE/30/13, AU/CAMEF/EXP/13(VI))

59. The secretariat made a presentation entitled "Implementation *Status of the Conference Resolution on the African Charter on Statistics*". It was reported that since the adoption of the African Charter on Statistics in 2009, only 20 countries had signed the Charter and still fewer had ratified it. The Committee was informed about the adoption of the Strategy for the Harmonization of Statistics in Africa by heads of State and Government in Kampala in 2010, as well as the drafting of an African Strategy for the Implementation of the

2008 System of National Accounts. In addition, various sectoral strategies had been developed for the effective implementation of the Strategy for the Harmonization of Statistics. They included: (a) an African Implementation Plan of the Global Strategy for Improving Agricultural and Rural Statistics; (b) an International Comparison Programme for Africa; (c) Improving Civil Registration and Vital Statistics Systems in Africa; (d) Improving MDGs Monitoring and Reporting; (e) African PHC programme; (f) Africa Infrastructure Knowledge Programme; (g) Statistical Training Programme for Africa; (h) Labour Market Information Systems; and (i) Development of Action Plan on AfricaInfo.

Discussion

60. During the ensuing discussion, participants commended the efforts of ECA, AUC and their partners in implementing the Charter as an overall framework to strengthen Africa's statistical capability, noting that the Charter was very ambitious and encompassed all statistical aspects. However, they noted with concern that only a few countries had signed and ratified the Charter. Member States were urged to fulfill their commitment to sign and ratify the Charter by 2012, and AUC was requested to implement it through an incremental process on the basis of key priorities such as MDG indicators.

61. In the ensuing discussions the Committee also took note of the quality constraints on data on MDG indicators (such as the prevailing status of poverty), as a result of which the true progress towards MDGs was not being assessed adequately.

Recommendations:

- All member States that have not yet signed and ratified the Charter should do so to make it enter into force as soon as possible, in view of its importance to statisticians, planners, decision-makers and other stakeholders.
- ECA, AUC and their partners should develop a data validation process for the MDG indicators and develop a regional statistical programme for the MDG indicators.
- Countries and partners should strengthen their statistical capabilities, especially for the MDG indicators.

vii. Follow-up report on the implementation of the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP) (E/ECA/COE/30/14, AU/CAMEF/EXP/14(VI))

62. The secretariat made a presentation based on the report entitled, *Status of CAADP Implementation and the MDGs*. Under this agenda item, the Secretariat introduced a “Draft working paper for the Ministers of Finance Meeting on March 2011: Follow-up report on the implementation of the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP)”. The paper provided an overview of the implementation of CAADP, which had been established in 2003 to make a significant contribution to the achievement of the first and, in part, the seventh Millennium Development Goals. The presenters noted that 26 countries had signed compacts committing to the continent-wide priorities for investment and action in agriculture outlined in the CAADP framework. Eight countries had reached or surpassed a 10 per cent budgetary allocation, while nine were in the 5-10 per cent range. Despite all those efforts, the annual growth rate in agricultural GDP in sub-Saharan Africa remained below the target of 6 per cent. However, CAADP had given the aid effectiveness agenda an added impetus in the agricultural sector and had developed instruments for more structured and integrated action, such as the Global Agriculture Food Security Programme Trust Fund and the Multi-Donor Trust Fund. AUC was working towards establishing an African-owned contingency funding facility (African Risk Capacity, ARC) for sovereign risk that would provide participating governments with immediate cash in the event of an extreme drought. Moreover, WFP modelling results showed climatic diversity across Africa creating a powerful portfolio effect of 50 per cent, further reducing the contingency funding requirement for drought by half. If African countries were to pool their drought risk, the pool’s capital requirement would be half the sum involved if each country created its own reserve – making Pan-African solidarity in the creation of a disaster risk pool a cost-effective financing mechanism in support of African food security.

63. In the ensuing discussion, the Committee agreed that there was indeed slow implementation of CAADP, attributed to limited involvement by non-State actors in the CAADP process, thereby compromising progress in the country round-table processes. It was also noted that there was limited capacity in strategic institutions at the national and regional levels to accelerate CAADP implementation in all member States owing to limited

budgets and high demand on CAADP support institutions, especially those which facilitate the development and technical review of investment plans. The Committee advocated the validation and endorsement of a Mutual Accountability Framework to monitor commitments made by stakeholders. Some delegates stressed that member States should accelerate work towards the committed allocation of 10 per cent of national budgets to the agricultural sector. The Committee acknowledged that for most member States, economic growth was linked to the agricultural sector, which implied the necessity to invest in agriculture in order to achieve broad-based economic growth with a positive impact on employment. There was a suggestion to use the Kenya Women Enterprise Fund for Agriculture as a best practice to be shared and scaled up among African countries.

64. The Committee discussed the possibility of ensuring that the absorptive capacity of each sector should be linked to its performance before budget allocation, in order to enhance the impact on the most vulnerable people. Moreover, there was a need to enhance coordination and alignment among all stakeholders so as to increase efficiency in the utilization of allocated resources. The Committee welcomed the idea of ARC because Africa remained reliant on international assistance when hit by disasters. ARC would help develop the capacities of member States to deal with natural disasters. The Committee urged the organizers of the upcoming Experts’ Meeting on the ARC’s Financial and Institutional Design Study in early May in South Africa to cultivate political buy-in through the endorsement of the Ministerial Conference.

Recommendations:

- a. Member States should put in place mechanisms to ensure that budget allocations are spent towards the CAADP pillars in order to increase food production, productivity, access to food and risk management and, in turn, improve food and nutrition security. In the process, particular attention should focus on the role of women and youth in all CAADP pillars.
- b. Member States should increase resource mobilization efforts to undertake actions towards establishing strong mechanisms for monitoring and reporting progress towards achieving the CAADP objectives. In this regard, member States should ensure better governance in terms of managing allocated resources.

- c. Member States should consider the creation of a Rapid Stand-by Force for risk management to deal with natural disasters on the continent.
- d. While recognizing the expenditure targets set out in the various declarations on health services and agriculture, it was proposed that policy priorities of individual member states should inform the level of finance allocated in each sector.
- e. Innovative mechanisms, including public-private partnerships, for financing investment in agriculture, such as research, infrastructure and statistical data, should be explored.
- f. The Ministerial Conference should consider a resolution to support ARC and endorse the upcoming Experts' Meeting.

viii. Report on Science and Technology for Africa's Development (E/ECA/COE/30/19, AU/CAMEF/EXP/19(VI))

65. The secretariat made a presentation based on the report entitled, *Promoting Science, Technology and Innovation for Development in Africa*. The secretariat presented the document E/ECA/COE/30/19 entitled "*Promoting Science, Technology and Innovation for Development in Africa: Follow-up report on the implementation of Science with Africa Conference*". The presentation discussed the key challenges in promoting Science, Technology and Innovation (STI) for development in Africa; the gaps in moving from science to business, steps in unleashing innovation and entrepreneurship, and the ECA and AUC role in this regard. It went on to highlight the main objectives of the Conference, the main outcomes and recommended actions, for which implementation will be coordinated under the UN Regional Coordination Mechanism (RCM) by ECA, and the African Union Commission (AUC).

66. During the discussions that followed, the Committee commended efforts by AUC and ECA in sustaining the Science with Africa Conference as a foremost forum for promoting the importance of science, technology and innovation in improving the quality of life, creating employment, industrial development and regional integration in Africa. In addition the Committee acknowledged that human capital is the key to scientific capacity and called upon African countries to adopt strategies and measures to better integrate science education at all levels. It also noted the need to harness the indigenous scientific potential and that of the Diaspora through adequate enabling environment. The Committee also noted that ECA and AUC are implementing busi-

ness development efforts and science and technology programs through financing and regional innovation platforms. The Committee further welcomed the establishment of Pan-African initiatives such as: the Africa Science Technology and Innovation Endowment Fund (ASTIEF); the African Technology development and Transfer Network; and the African Network for Drugs and Diagnostic Innovations as platforms for stimulating innovative business development in Africa and facilitating regional integrations through R&D collaborations, industrial alliances and open innovation. Of particular importance was the formulation and implementation of African Innovation strategy for job creation, local innovation promotion, market competitiveness and wealth creation;

Recommendations:

- a. ECA and AUC should urge each African government to have a national Intellectual Property (IP) policy and system that take into account local indigenous knowledge, national science, innovation systems and economic development plans;
- b. ECA and AUC to support the development of African Indigenous knowledge technology repository and ensure that these technologies are patented;
- c. ECA and AUC to support women innovation programs and mainstreaming gender in science, technology and innovation systems in Africa

Presentation and discussion on the issues paper on the theme of the Conference: Governing Development in Africa [Agenda item 8] (E/ECA/COE/30/03, AU/CAMEF/EXP/3(VI))

67. The secretariat presented the Issues Paper on the theme of the Conference "**Governing Development in Africa.**" The presenter briefly reviewed progress made by African countries and identified major challenges to the continent's economic and social development in terms of governing development and promoting economic transformation. In this regard, there was a need to rethink the role of the State in promoting economic development in Africa by addressing three key questions, namely: why do we need to rethink the role of the State in development in Africa? What should be the role of the State in Africa's development? And how can the

developmental State i.e fostered to emerge and how do we hold it accountable?

68. Regarding the first question, that Africa's high growth in the last decade had not translated into meaningful reduction of poverty and social development. It had remained below the level necessary for achieving the MDGs and not been inclusive enough to lift millions out of poverty. African economies remained characterized by high levels of volatility and lack of meaningful economic transformation. The lack of structural transformation and the pervasive market failures suggested the need to launch a new debate on the role of the State in governing development on the continent. Economic transformation in the majority of African countries had been limited because of ineffectiveness of national strategies, both State-led and market-based; distortion of incentives for economic diversification and transformation associated with natural resource abundance; the adverse effects of the environment, climate change and demography; the ideology of minimal State intervention that had weakened the capacity of the State and the bureaucracy to govern development; the abandonment of development planning; high inequality and the inability of the market to address information, coordination and externality problems or boost productive capacity and infrastructure to generate economic take-off.

69. With respect to the second question, the State must take the lead in promoting development in African countries by providing a clear development vision, coordinating change through a planning process, managing distributional conflicts, mitigating investment risks and information problems, and promoting regional integration to overcome the limitations of small, fragmented economies, among other measures, and address restrictions imposed by international economic arrangements and partnerships. There was strong and ample evidence that today's advanced economies relied on government intervention to ignite and facilitate both their take-off and catch-up processes.

70. Regarding the question of how the developmental State could emerge in Africa, there was a need to understand the characteristics of an effective developmental State and the role of key stakeholders in its construction and operationalization. The developmental State must have the political will and legitimacy to lead; strong and functional institutions; a competent, professional, and neutral bureaucracy; and facilitate institutionalized engagement of key societal actors (private sector, civil

society etc) through democratic deliberations on development policy and strategy. It should be transparent and accountable and able to avoid the pitfalls of State intervention.

71. In the ensuing discussion, participants generally agreed that structural transformation was important for Africa's sustainable development and that the State had a key facilitating role to play in that regard. However, they noted that most African States lacked the capacity to be facilitators of development and required to undertake certain reforms to effectively play that role. Political, social, judicial and public finance reforms were among those that required urgent attention. It was agreed that strong institutions were essential to formulate and manage the implementation of the vision of a developmental State.

72. The meeting underscored the role of the State in maintaining macroeconomic stability, investing in infrastructure facilities and human development, protecting property rights, enforcing contracts promoting private investment, including FDI and promoting social cohesion. In order to play this facilitative role, the efficiency and effectiveness of the public sector needed to be improved. In addition, developmental imperatives had to emphasize gender mainstreaming as well as protection of human rights of vulnerable groups such as refugees, internally-displaced people, children and the elderly. Governing development in Africa also had to emphasize the quality of leadership as well as the curbing of corruption and rent seeking, which required attitudinal change. The meeting noted that the recent events in North Africa highlighted the importance of the social and political dimensions of development to peace and security.

73. The Committee underscored the important role of the State in stimulating public investment. In that regard, the development of capital and financial markets, widening of the tax base, and increased domestic savings, were highlighted as ways to mobilise domestic resources to fund national development plans. Resources of the African diaspora, including remittances, were also possible sources of finance for Africa's development.

74. Noting that social reforms were as important as economic reforms, the Committee and highlighted the need for better targeting of social programmes and upgrading of skills as possible intervention areas. Decentralization of State functions was also one strategy for taking service provision closer to the people. It was

particularly stressed, in this regard, that building a capable State able to deliver on the needs of its people was critical to achieving an effective developmental State in Africa. It was further noted that one of the pillars of a capable State was good public financial management. The meeting also underscored the fact that the devolution and decentralization of power and resources within countries could allow governments to get closer, be more responsive and accountable to their citizens, as well as to increase the scope for citizens to influence policy priorities and to participate in their implementation.

75. The Committee noted that most African countries lacked the capacity to manage economic transformation, including capacity to design, implement, monitor and evaluate their implementation. A contributing factor to the weak capacity of African States was the brain drain from the public to private sector as well as from the African public sector to developed or emerging countries. In that regard, the Committee underscored the need to explore the use of institutions on the continent such as IDEP in building the capacity of the public sector in Africa.

76. In the context of development planning, the Committee underscored the need for African countries to formulate strategic plans that clearly articulate their development vision, and noted that the State had a critical role to play in developing the requisite human, institutional and technical capacities to support the formulation, planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of development plans. The Committee also identified several key areas where the State could and must play a role in promoting economic development, including infrastructure, health, and education, good governance, and macroeconomic policymaking.

Recommendations

77. Based on the above discussions and conclusions, participants made the following recommendations:

- a. African countries should develop long-term strategic plans (25-30 years) that clearly articulate their development vision;
- b. Member States should mainstream gender issues and strengthen gender equality as well as protect human rights, especially the rights of vulnerable groups such as refugees, internally displaced persons, youth, the aged, the disabled and children in the promotion of the State's role in governing development and economic transformation;
- c. Economic and political reforms including macro-economic policies should be carried out simultaneously with a view to addressing public demands such as freedom, dignity and social justice, which are key-components of a sustainable development process. Democracy, political participation, and transparency need to inform the new developmental approach taken by the State;
- d. AUC and ECA should cooperate with a number of African states with a view to reform their legal frameworks which could eventually be introduced more widely across the continent following evaluation and the learning of necessary lessons;
- e. Africa's regional organizations should work together in articulating a long term vision for the continent's development;
- f. Member States should strengthen public financial governance to ensure better fiscal and budget transparency; accountability, institution building, balance reforms and capacity building initiatives, and autonomy in reform choices;
- g. Member States should strengthen their ministries responsible for planning for better implementation of their national development plans;
- h. Member States should strengthen necessary checks and balances to prevent corruption;
- i.
- j. ECA/IDEP should conduct further research on the role of the State, private sector, civil society, and development partners in economic transformation;
- k. ECA/IDEP should strengthen capacity-building programmes to prepare government officials to play an effective role in economic transformation. They should also strengthen capacity-building programmes to prepare government officials to play an effective role in economic transformation;
- l. Member States should strengthen their capacities in the following areas that are critical to the goals of self-reliance and stability embedded in the concept of the development State: (i) early warning and preparedness; (ii) vulnerability analysis; (iii) emergency response; and (iv) targeted safety nets to protect livelihoods and conserve natural and economic assets;
- m. The developmental State should transform: (i) its political system from rent-seeking to developmental; (ii) structure of production towards production that is domestically sound and ensures value for money for its exports, and (iii) restructure its public sector from rent-seeking towards facilitative, and pro-growth and pro-poor allocation of

- resources(iv) actively promote public-private partnerships and private investment;
- n. Member States should adopt more coherent policies to eliminate discrepancies between development planning and financial planning processes.

Statutory issues [Agenda item 9]

i. ECA Annual Report, 2011

78. Under this agenda item, the secretariat presented the *ECA Annual Report, 2011* (E/ECA/COE/30/17) highlighting the main achievements during the period between April 2010 and March 2011. The ECA representative provided a summary of the annual report in three parts: (a) major programme activities and achievements; (b) issues arising from the meetings of the subsidiary bodies of the Commission, including the Inter-governmental Committees of Experts of the sub-regional offices; and (c) improving administrative and programme management processes.

79. The presentation highlighted the major activities and achievements of the ECA secretariat under the ten substantive subprogrammes which made up the programme structure approved in the Strategic Framework for the 2010-2011 biennium. The subprogrammes had addressed themes that were broadly consistent with the major development challenges confronting African countries, as follows: macroeconomic analysis, finance and economic development; food security and sustainable development; governance and public administration; information and science and technology for development; trade, economic cooperation and regional integration; gender and women in development; supporting subregional activities for development; development planning and administration; statistics; and social development. Other programmes included the United Nations support to the African Union and its New Partnership for Africa's Development; the United Nations Regular Programme of Technical Cooperation; and the United Nations Development Account.

80. The Committee's attention was also drawn to several important flagship publications, including the 2011 Economic Report on Africa, the report on Assessing Regional Integration in Africa, the 2010 Africa MDGs Report (jointly prepared by ECA, AU, AfDB and UNDP), the Report on the Mutual Review of Development Effectiveness, jointly prepared by ECA and OECD, and the second Joint African Statistical Year-

book. ECA has also organized a number of key regional and international conferences, workshops and seminars, including the ADF-VII, the fifth African Economic Conference, the first Conference of African Ministers Responsible for Civil Registration (August 2010), the eleventh session of the Regional Coordination Mechanism (November 2010) and preparations for the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development to be held in June 2012 in Rio. A number of expert group meetings had also been organized as part of the ECA peer review mechanism to improve the quality and relevance of its knowledge resources. Technical assistance had been provided to member States on a wide range of issues.

81. All five ECA subregional offices had recorded concrete achievements in the implementation of the multi-year programmes of cooperation with their corresponding regional economic communities, addressing such issues as the Millennium Development Goals, gender, governance, trade, regional integration, statistics, information and communication technology and science and technology.

82. In the discussion that followed, the Committee commended the ECA secretariat for its achievements during the year. It made recommendations for improving future editions of the report. Some delegations underscored the need to include the challenges faced by the ECA secretariat in implementing its programme of work and conducting an appropriate evaluation. In response to an observation made by the representative of Namibia, the secretariat expressed regret at the omission by the report of the meeting of the Intergovernmental Committee of Experts of the Subregional Office for Southern Africa hosted by the Government of Namibia and promised to issue an addendum after the meeting.

ii. Proposed ECA work programme and priorities for the biennium 2012-2013 (E/ECA/COE/30/18)

83. Under this agenda item, the secretariat introduced the "Proposed programme of work and priorities for the biennium 2012-2013" (E/ECA/COE/30/18). The proposed programme of work and priorities is based on the approved Strategic Framework of ECA.

84. The programme was structured around 10 subprogrammes, covering the following areas: macroeconomic analysis, finance and economic development; food security and sustainable development; governance

and public administration; information and science and technology for development; trade, economic cooperation and regional integration; gender and women in development; subregional activities for development; development planning and administration; statistics; and social development. It had been prepared in line with the principles of results-based-management (RBM), and would continue to be anchored around the two key pillars of the ECA repositioning, namely promoting regional integration and helping Africa to meet its special needs, including the MDGs.

85. In the discussion that followed, the Committee commended the secretariat on preparing a programme of work guided by the principles of results-based management. However, the Committee observed that the issues of regional integration, capacity-building in the area of statistics and governance in relation to new political developments on the continent should be featured more prominently. It also suggested that the contents and titles of some subprogrammes should be amended.

86. The Committee was informed that capacity-building in Statistics, regional integration and governance had already been taken into account. It was also indicated that additional support to member States in building capacity in these areas would be made available using resources from the Regular Programme of Technical Cooperation (RPTC). Regarding the focus and suggested renaming of some subprogrammes, the Committee was reminded that the programme of work had been prepared in accordance with the 2012-2013 Strategic Framework and already approved by the member States. The proposed changes in the programme structure could be considered within the context of the next Strategic Framework.

87. The Committee took note of the presentation and the document in light of the above comments.

iii. Progress report on the work of the United Nations African Institute for Economic Development and Planning (IDEP) (E/ECA/COE/30/20)

88. The secretariat made a presentation based on the report entitled, *African Institute for Economic Development and Planning to the 2011 session of the Conference of Ministers*. The secretariat introduced a progress report on the work of the United Nations African Institute for Economic Development and Planning (IDEP). The Institute had continued with the reform plan agreed and

the repositioning process endorsed at the previous Conference of Ministers, including: revamping of its management; renewal of its portfolio of programmes and activities; implementation of a new institutional strategic plan; full reintegration of the institute's work into ECA programmes; reinforcement of the programmatic relationship between IDEP and the African Union Commission; expansion of the Institute's partnerships in the five subregions; strengthening and building of partnerships; and renovation of training facilities and capacity development. Accordingly, substantive training activities, policy research work and policy dialogue initiatives had been undertaken during the past year, and the Institute had substantially restored its standing and strategic role in Africa.

89. The Committee took note of the significant progress made by IDEP in 2010 and commended the management for efforts to increase the Institute's grant from \$1 million in 2009 to \$6 million in 2010. Several participants praised the efforts made by IDEP, while the South African delegate expressed his country's willingness to regularize its support to the Institute. Other delegates suggested that IDEP should focus its research and training programme on a few areas. The secretariat welcomed the suggestions and assured the Committee that focus areas had been developed in line with the principles of Delivering as One.

iv. Statutes and Annexes of the African Monetary Fund (AU/CAMEF/EXP/23(VI))

90. The Committee was informed that the draft Statutes and Annexes were tabled before the 4th Joint Conference for information purposes only. However, some delegations registered their interest to continue consultations on enriching and tightening the draft statutes and annexes and stated that this interest will be pursued further at the joint ministerial level as requested by the extra-ordinary CAMEF held in Yaoundé in December 2010.

v. Report on follow-up to the decisions and recommendations of the 2010 Joint Annual Meetings of the AUC and ECA (E/ECA/COE/30/15, AU/CAMEF/EXP/15(VI))

91. The secretariat introduced a report entitled "Follow-up to the decisions and recommendations of the third joint annual meetings of the AU Conference of Ministers of Economy and Finance and ECA Conference of African Ministers of Finance, Planning and

Economic Development” (E/ECA/COE/30/15, AU/CAMEF/EXP/15(VI)) on progress made in implementing the resolutions adopted by the 2010 Conference of Ministers. It further provided an overview of the major activities undertaken by the two institutions and highlighted progress on implementing the Brussels Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries (LDCs), addressing the impact of climate change, realizing the vision of a food-secure Africa and combating illicit financial flows.

92. The secretariat also reported on preparations for the Fourth United Nations Conference on LDCs, to be held in May 2011, including the articulation of a common African position. It further highlighted progress in the implementation of Africa’s integration agenda; capacity-building and policy development in trade, infrastructure and natural resource development; the preparation of the fourth report on Assessing Regional Integration in Africa (ARIA-IV); the submission of the African Common Position on the MDGs to the High-Level Plenary Meeting on MDGs in September 2010 and the organization of the Seventh African Development Forum (ADF-VII) on the theme “Acting on climate change for sustainable development in Africa”, held in October 2010. The Committee was also briefed on the preparations for the thirteenth session of the African Ministerial Conference on the Environment (AMCEN-13).

93. The AUC and ECA, in partnership with FAO and UNIDO, made significant progress in preparing and implementing an effective programme of work on developing regionally integrated value chains of strategic food and agricultural commodities in the COMESA and ECOWAS subregions. ECA also developed and widely disseminated to all stakeholders the Framework and Guidelines on Land Policy in Africa and the Declaration of African Heads of State on Land. The Committee was also briefed on key activities aimed at combating the impact of illicit financial outflows on the social and economic development of the continent.

94. In the ensuing discussion, the Committee welcomed the efforts and progress made by the two institutions and strongly urged them to work more closely to respond to the decisions and recommendations of the joint annual meetings in order to fully exploit the complementarities between the two institutions.

vi. Information note on upcoming major conferences of the AU Commission and ECA

95. The secretariat introduced document E/ECA/COE/30/Inf/5 and AU/CAMEF/EXP/Info.5(VI) to inform the member States in advance about the main events which AUC and the ECA planned to organize between April and the end of 2011.

96. The note was designed so as to bring to the Committee’s attention only the meetings requiring large-scale participation by member States. Hence the meetings for the small groups of experts and specialized workshops and internal meetings in the two Commissions were not included. The meetings on the list were included on a thematic basis in order to give the experts a glimpse of the joint activities during the rest of the year at the regional and subregional levels. A more detailed calendar, in the four languages, would soon be available on the ECA and AU websites. The dates of the meetings were indicative, and at the appropriate time letters of invitation would be sent to the member States to confirm the exact dates and solicit their participation.

97. In the discussion that followed, some delegates suggested that in view of the importance of governance in North Africa currently and the fact that only two meetings in English had been scheduled for governance and public administration, additional meetings should be scheduled in other languages of that subregion. The secretariat explained that even though the two Commissions supported the holding of additional meetings in other subregions and outside Addis Ababa, the additional-costs involved necessitated holding a good proportion of those meetings at headquarters.

98. The Committee suggested that coordination and integration of the activities of the two institutions should be further synergized in order to enhance the effectiveness of the two institutions, since the participants targeted were the same.

Any other business [Agenda item 10]

99. Under this agenda item, the Chairperson invited delegates to raise any other related issues, if any.

100. The Committee suggested ECA and AUC take ownership of past consensus formulated in international and regional meetings relating to the promotion of the economic and social development such as (i)

Dakar Declaration 2006 and (ii) Declaration of Nouakchott.

101. The Committee encouraged the two institutions to ensure that conferences and meetings organized are held in the official languages of the two institutions.

102. The Chairperson commended all the delegates for their inputs.

Consideration and adoption of the draft report of the Committee of Experts and draft resolutions [Agenda item 11]

103. Under this agenda item, the Committee considered the draft report of its meeting (as contained in the document E/ECA/COE/30/L30/L, AU/CAMEF/EXP/Draft (VI), together with 12 draft resolutions for consideration and adoption by the fourth Joint Annual Meeting of the AU Conference of Ministers of Economy and Finance and ECA Conference of African Ministers of Finance, Planning and Economic Development. Several delegations made comments and proposed amendments to the report. After constructive discussions by

participants, the Committee adopted the present report together with 11 out of the 12 draft resolutions submitted to the Committee. The draft resolutions, as amended by the Committee are attached to the present report for consideration by the fourth session of the Conference of Ministers.

Closure of the meeting [Agenda item 12]

104. On behalf of the AUC and ECA, Mrs. Jennifer Kargbo, Deputy Executive Secretary, of the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa expressed her satisfaction with the deliberations and commended the participants for their contributions to the discussions. She expressed her appreciation for the constructive spirit of the debate on challenging issues. She thanked the Chairperson and the Bureau for leading the meeting to a successful conclusion.

105. After thanking all participants for their support, the depth of the debate and their commitment, the Chairperson of the Bureau of the Committee of Experts thanked ECA and AUC for a productive meeting. He then declared the meeting closed.