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Item II. 1(a) of the provisional agenda*

ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR AFRICA

Twentieth session of the Commission/
Eleventh meeting of the Conference
of Ministers

Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
25-29 April 1985

Item II. 1(a) of the provisional agenda*

PROGRESS REPORT ON THE IMPLEMENTATION
OF THE LAGOS PLAN OF ACTION
BY THE ECA SECRETARIAT

*E/ECA/TPCW.6/1/Rev.1.
E/ECA/CM.11/1/Rev.1.

I. INTRODUCTION

1. In 1982, the Secretary-General of the Organization of African Unity and the Executive Secretary of the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa produced the first progress report 1/ on the implementation of the Lagos Plan of Action and the Final Act of Lagos. The report contained exclusively the activities undertaken by the two secretariats to assist member States and their inter-governmental organizations to implement the Plan and the Act. After discussing that report in 1983, the Heads of State and Government adopted resolution AHG/115(XIX) in which they requested the two secretariate to prepare the second progress report on the implementation of the Plan and the Act for submission to the Assembly in 1985 highlighting implementation by:

- (a) member States;
- (b) African and international organizations; and
- (c) OAU and ECA secretariats.

2. Similarly, in the guidelines for the agenda for its 21st Summit to be devoted mainly to economic matters, the Assembly in its resolution AHG/132(XX) reaffirmed the request contained in resolution AHG/115(XIX).

3. In accordance with the programme of work established by the two secretariats for the preparation of the required report, the two secretariats had planned to get the report ready for the last meeting of the experts of the Steering Committee in June 1985. Then, at its forty-first meeting in February-March 1985, the Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity decided to involve fully the ECA Conference of Ministers responsible for economic planning in Africa in the preparation for the twenty-first Assembly and urged the Conference to focus its deliberations at its eleventh meeting in April 1985 on the issues in the draft agenda for the 21st Summit and to recommend concrete measures to be taken including proposals for the follow-up and monitoring 2/.

4. In effect, that decision implies that as many of the documents on the topics coming before the 21st Summit as possible should be made available to the eleventh meeting of the Conference of Ministers responsible for economic development and planning. This is why the present papers on the implementation of the Lagos Plan of Action by ECA secretariat and three others also prepared by ECA secretariat - the first on the implementation of the Lagos Plan of Action by member States 3/,

1/ Progress Report of the Secretary-General of the Organization of African Unity and the Executive Secretary of the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa on the Implementation of the Lagos Plan of Action and the Final Act of Lagos (CM/1203(XXXIX); E/ECA/CM.9/1).

2/ Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity resolution CM/Res. 963(XLI).

3/ Implementation of the Lagos Plan of Action (E/ECA/CM.11/73).

the second on the implementation of the final Act of Lagos 1/ and the third on evaluation of the implementation of the Regional Food Plan for Africa (1978-1984) and Preliminary Assessment of the Food and Agricultural Aspects of the Lagos Plan of Action 2/ have been prepared for this meeting. Another document that is also relevant to the assessment of progress in the implementation of the Lagos Plata Plan of Action is "Progress Report on the Implementation of the Mar del Plata Plan of Action in Africa (1978-1984)" (E/ECA/CM.11/9 and corr.1).

5. However, all these bits and pieces do not give an overall picture of progress in the implementation of the Lagos Plan of Action and the Final Act of Lagos. The full picture can only be obtained when the other pieces - implementation of the LPA and the FAL by African and international organizations and the OAU secretariat become available. It is hoped that these pieces will become available soon so that when they are combined with those available to this meeting, a full report giving an overall picture of the implementation of the LPA and FAL at different levels and by different institutions concerned will be submitted to the Summit.

6. The medium through which ECA assists member States and their inter-governmental institutions in implementing the Lagos Plan of Action and the Final Act of Lagos is the biennial work programme and priorities which is normally submitted to the Conference of Ministers through its Technical Preparatory Committee of the Whole and on which performance report is also prepared for submission to the Conference of Ministers through its TEPCOW. Therefore, the information which follows in section II of this paper is on the implementation of the programme of work and priorities of the Commission for the biennia 1982-1983 and 1984-1985, the two biennia during which the philosophy underlying the Lagos Plan of Action and the Final Act of Lagos and the decisions and instructions of the Heads of State and Government therein have fully formed the basis of preparing the work programme and priorities of the Commission.

7. As it is, the instruments by which such programme of work and priorities are implemented are a series of codified final outputs namely, substantive servicing of intergovernmental meetings, including support of negotiations; reports to intergovernmental bodies; peace-keeping and humanitarian operations; technical publications, including sales publications, periodicals, computer print-out and tapes and ad hoc information services; public information services; technical assistance projects comprising services of experts and associate experts, the financing of individual or group training, such as regional or interregional seminars, workshops and study tours, and the provision of equipment; grants and fellowships; and other final output such as preparation of projects and the mobilization of funds for such projects. This report is prepared on the basis of these outputs.

8. Since the Conference of Ministers and hence TEPCOW examined in 1984 the performance report on the 1982-1983 biennium as part of the Biennial Report of the Executive Secretary 3/, the present report which covers 1982, 1983 and 1984 highlights the main findings of 1982 and 1983 and incorporates some of the information on 1984. More information on 1984 both in numerical and prose forms can be found in document E/ECA/CM.11/55 - Progress report on the implementation of the work programme and priorities for the biennium, 1984-1985.

1/ Implementation of the Final Act of Lagos (E/ECA/CM.11/70).

2/ Evaluation of the Implementation of the Regional Food Plan for Africa (E/ECA/CM.11/37).

3/ Economic Commission for Africa, Biennial Report of the Executive Secretary, 1982-1983.

II. SECTORAL ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN TO IMPLEMENT THE LAGOS PLAN OF ACTION

A. Food and Agriculture

9. During the period 1982-1984, activities of the ECA secretariat in the food and agriculture sector continued to centre on the implementation of the requirement of the food and agriculture chapter of the Lagos Plan of Action and the Final Act of Lagos.

10. In the sphere of agricultural policy, planning and programming, the following studies were undertaken:

(a) At the regional level, a paper on "Strategy for food security and food self-sufficiency in Africa" was presented at a conference on strategies for achieving food self-sufficiency, jointly organized by Co-operation for Development in Africa (CDA) and the ECA secretariat. The paper highlights the main obstacles to food security and food self-sufficiency in Africa and advises member countries to develop policies favourable to increased agricultural production and inter-State trade.

(b) As part of continuing efforts to keep the international community informed of the food situation in Africa, and at the request of the United Nations General Assembly, two reports, "Progress Report on the Implementation of the Regional Food Plan" and "The Situation of Food and Agriculture in Africa" were submitted for consideration by the ECA Conference of Ministers at its ninth meeting in April/May 1983.

(c) In addition, a report on the critical situation of food and agriculture in Africa, and a report on the evaluation of the implementation of the Regional Food Plan for Africa (1978-1984) and a preliminary Assessment of the Food and Agricultural Aspects of the Lagos Plan of Action have been prepared for the eleventh meeting of the Conference of Ministers.

(d) A paper on "Strategy for Southern Africa's Agriculture aimed at reversing the existing migrant labour systems - preliminary review" was submitted to the fourth meeting of the Southern African Labour Commission (SALC) in September 1983. It contains proposals on long-term strategies for minimizing migratory labour by, among other measures, creating good employment opportunities in the agricultural sector through labour-intensive rural development schemes. A report on "Alternative to Migratory Labour System in Supplier Countries of Southern Africa" has also been produced.

(e) In the forestry sector, two reports, one on "problems of forest conservation" and the other on "African timber trends and prospects, 1960-2000: General background" were published. Both reports identify basic constraints on the development of the sector and recommend remedial actions including those which must be taken to combat desertification and soil erosion.

(f) A report to the Conference of Ministers on measures for effective co-ordination of the forestry policies of intergovernmental and subregional institutions was also prepared for the eleventh meeting of the Ministers.

11. With respect to promotion of integrated rural development, improvement of agricultural institutions and services and expansion of food production, the following studies were prepared:

- (a) Three reports on "Alleviation of Rural Poverty" were prepared on Mozambique, Senegal and Zambia respectively. These reports analyse the principal indices of rural poverty such as equity in income distribution, nutritional standards, health conditions as well as housing and educational facilities and make proposals for improving the plight of the rural masses through well-articulated government policies and rural development programmes;
- (b) A report on "Feasibility study for establishing a subregional maize research centre for Eastern and Southern Africa" was produced and discussed by an expert consultative meeting held in Lusaka in September 1983. Preparations for setting up the centre are underway;
- (c) A report on "Feasibility study on multinational co-operation in seed production, multiplication and distribution of rice, beans and soya for the Great Lakes Countries" was produced and has been transmitted to the countries concerned;
- (d) In collaboration with the FAO, the Yaoundé MULPOC countries were assisted in the establishment of a subregional centre for a Current Agricultural Research Information System (CARIS);
- (e) With respect to livestock development, a report on a study on "problems of livestock research in Africa" was produced. The study highlights the main obstacles to livestock research such as killer diseases, shortage of skilled manpower, resource bottlenecks and drought conditions and suggests policy strategies which should be pursued at national and regional levels;
- (f) Two reports - one "major issues in the state of technology for food and agriculture in Africa" and the other on "international year for the mobilization of financial and technological resources for food and agriculture in Africa" were produced and submitted to the General Assembly at its thirty-eighth session in 1983.

12. The main thrust of the activities carried out in the areas of agricultural marketing, institutions, etc., has been on marketing improvements and the reduction of food losses. In this area, the following studies were prepared:

- (a) Two reports, one on "investigation of existing situation of post-harvest food losses in the Gisenyi MULPOC countries" and the other on "reducing food losses at storage points in Africa" were produced for use by African policy makers. These reports provide insights into the causes of food losses at the various stages in the marketing chain and spell out preventive measures such as improvement of marketing policies, institution management, research and extension services, training and post-harvest technologies as well as food waste reduction activities at national and subregional levels.

(b) To assist member States in building up their capacities to improve their marketing services and facilities, two reports, one on "requirements of marketing organizations in rural settlement" and the other on "co-operatives, credit, input supply and marketing measures for the removal of constraints in Africa" were produced. In addition, two reports - one on "agricultural price study: the Kenyan experience" and the other on "harmonization of pricing policies in West Africa" which investigate policy issues behind the determination of agricultural prices and the associated impediments to the efficient functioning of the marketing system were also published.

(c) For purposes of general information, a report on "The marketing of oilseeds, fats and oils, oilcakes and meals in Africa" was published for general distribution to policy makers. Another report on "enhancing Africa's capability in food processing" was also published.

(d) In order to assist in the strengthening of the role of indigenous entrepreneurs and of price systems in the development of food and agriculture two project documents - one on "Role of indigenous entrepreneurs in agricultural development" and the other on "Agricultural pricing and policy systems in Africa" have been prepared.

(e) In consonance with a request from FAO, a project document "Regional marketing and information centre for the Near East and North Africa" has also been prepared. Another project document on "Promotion of trade in livestock and cereals between African and the Near East" was also prepared.

(See E/ECA/CM.11/55 for information on 1984).

B. Industry

13. During the period 1982-1984, the following studies were prepared:

- (a) The Industrial Development Decade for Africa (concepts, objectives, priorities and approaches and activities during the preparatory phase, 1982-1984 (INR/PTA/CIC/1/1);
- (b) On-going projects and programmes: Bases for initiating industrial co-operation (INR/PTA/CIC/1/2);
- (c) Mechanism for Promotion of Industrial Development (INR/PTA/CIC/1/1);
- (d) Rationalization and Harmonization of Issues for Industrial Co-operation within the PTA countries (INR/PTA/CIC/1/4);
- (e) Feasibility of Creating Multinational Industrial Corporations (INR/PTA/CIC/1/1/1);
- (f) Guidelines, Procedures and Modalities on Negotiations, contracts and investment promotion of multinational industrial projects and enterprises (INR/PTA/CIC/1/1/2 (a); and
- (g) Strategy for collaboration with foreign investors (INR/PTA/CIC/1/1/2 (b)).

14. To assist member States in their task of promoting industrial co-operation, a report entitled "A study on guidelines, procedures and modalities on negotiations and investment promotion of multinational industrial projects and enterprises" was submitted to the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) as well as to the meetings of the Preferential Trade Area for Eastern and Southern African States (PTA) in November/December 1983.

15. Studies entitled "Annual review and appraisal of progress of African Industrial Development in selected key areas"; and "The progress made towards the implementation of the Programme for the Industrial Development Decade in Africa" were submitted to the seventh meeting of the Follow-up Committee and the seventh meeting of the Conference of African Ministers of Industry which was held from 19 to 28 March 1984.

16. In order to assist member States to accelerate the implementation of the Programme of IDDA through decisions on whether feasibility studies were justified or not, model prefeasibility studies and project profiles were prepared.

17. In the area of agro-based industries, project profiles were prepared on:

- (i) canning and preservation of fish and other sea foods;

- (ii) slaughter houses and meat processing;
- (iii) small-scale sugar processing; and
- (iv) industrial dehulling and milling of sorghum and millet.

These profiles were intended to provide member States with techno-economic information that they could use in identifying industrial possibilities in such areas.

18. In order to assist entrepreneurs in small-scale industries to improve their knowledge of viable projects, the secretariat produced in 1983 the first edition of the directory of project profiles on small-scale industries in Africa. The directory was expected to provide information and guidance to indigenous small-scale entrepreneurs interested in setting up industrial units with or without the help of extension services.

19. Other on-going studies include:

(a) ECA and Africa's Development, 1983-2008: The Challenge of Industrialization;

(b) Study on the role of locally incorporated manufacturing enterprises in implementing the programme for the Industrial Development Decade for Africa;

(c) Development of engineering industries in the West African subregion;

(d) Technical compendium on the milling, baking and utilization of composite flours; and

(e) Some aspects of the promotion of multi-purpose production of manufacturing engineering products in the African developing countries.

(See E/ECA/CM.11/55 for information on 1984).

C. Natural Resources

1. Mineral resources

20. In pursuance of the objectives of the Lagos Plan of Action, the ECA secretariat has concentrated its efforts on a wide range of ongoing projects. Advisory services were rendered to member States and their intergovernmental institutions to meet their various requests.

21. The secretariat continued to support and backstop the activities of the Eastern and Southern African Mineral Resources Development Centre at Dodoma and assisted member States of Central Africa to establish a similar centre in Brazzaville, the Congo. The possibility of establishing a similar centre in West Africa is also under investigation.

22. In all its activities concerned with minerals and raw materials, inventories of mineral resources in Africa, training in related geoscience and techniques, preservation of geological documentation, and up-dating of thematic maps of mineral commodities, the secretariat remained in continuous touch and closely co-operated with UNESCO, UNDP and the relevant ECA-sponsored regional institutions throughout Africa.

23. As part of the secretariat's efforts to highlight the importance of specific mineral and energy commodities in African development as well as to encourage member States to use resources available in the region, a regional workshop on the role of coal in accelerated African economic growth was organized in Addis Ababa from 11 to 14 July 1983 and was attended by delegates from African and non-African countries as well as by representatives from international organizations.

24. The meeting and the papers presented at the regional workshop highlighted the status of coal resources in African countries, the suitability of coal for power generation as against other fuel products, technological aspects of its mining, beneficiation and scope of its utilization in combustion, gasification and liquefaction. The lack of adequate infrastructure, the shortage of skilled and technically trained manpower, and the fact that there was no exchange of scientific and technological information between the African and industrialized countries as well as the inadequacy of capital for investment were emphasized.

25. A study tour to Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Mexico, and Peru for African specialists in mineral resources development was also organized from 4 to 31 October 1983. The study tour allowed an in-depth analysis of the considerable progress made in recent years by Latin American countries in integrated mineral resource development, increasing domestic and foreign contacts in this sector, establishing national institutions concerned with mineral resources development and mobilizing finance for investment in the mineral production sector and related industries.

2. Water resources

26. During the period under review, the secretariat assisted member States in the implementation of village and pastoral water supply programmes and in the exploration and utilization of underground water resources. A technical report on the subject was prepared, with guidelines on the procedures and methods to be used in assessing and realizing the potential for water resources development.

27. The secretariat, jointly with the World Meteorological Organization, implemented a regional project entitled "Planning and development of hydro-meteorological services in Africa". The ultimate goal was to assist member States to co-operate in developing their shared river/lake basins.

28. The secretariat also prepared a report entitled "Progress and prospects in the implementation of the Mar del Plata Action Plan in the African region" as an input into the Secretary-General's report on "Water resources: Progress in the implementation of the Mar del Plata Action Plan". The report highlighted achievements in the implementation of the programmes of the Drinking Water Supply and Sanitation Decade (1981-1990) and the problems encountered by countries in executing such programmes and their requirements for greater progress in this endeavour.

29. In continuation of the land and water resources survey for irrigation in Africa, a second-phase study in the field of water use for agriculture was carried out in Botswana, Mozambique, Somalia and the United Republic of Tanzania.

30. An exploratory mission was sent to the United Republic of Tanzania and Burundi in order to assist the countries of the Tanganyika/Kivu lakes basin to undertake jointly the development of the water resources of the basin in an integrated and multi-purpose manner. A workshop on the development and application of hydrological operational multi-purpose subprogramme was organized in collaboration with the World Meteorological Organization.

31. A report to the 11th Meeting of the Conference of Ministers on "The crisis and water development, conservation and utilization" was prepared in 1984.

3. Cartography and remote sensing

32. During the period under review, the secretariat provided assistance in the field of cartography to the Regional Centre for Services in Surveying, Mapping and Remote Sensing at Nairobi, Kenya and the Regional Centre for Training in Aerial Surveys at Ile-Ife in Nigeria. The centres were assisted to prepare project documents and in the scrutinization of their training programmes with a view to suggesting to them measures required for strengthening their capacities towards assisting member States to achieve the objectives of the Lagos Plan of Action and the Final Act of Lagos in the area of cartography.

33. The secretariat, in co-operation with the Government of the Arab Republic of Egypt convened and serviced the fifth United Nations Cartographic Conference for Africa held at Cairo, from 28 February to 7 March 1983. Among the important recommendations adopted were an appeal to all African countries to give the preparation of the hydrogeological map of Africa project their fullest support and to declare 1986 the "Year of Cartography in Africa".

34. The secretariat also carried out a number of activities related to the development of the use of remote sensing techniques in member States.

35. An interregional seminar on space applications was jointly organized and serviced by United Nations Headquarters, the ECA secretariat and the secretariat of the Economic Commission for Western Asia. The seminar examined ways of developing adequate national and regional institutions in order to derive more benefits from the applications of space technology. The secretariat hosted and serviced the fifth Conference of Plenipotentiaries of the African Remote Sensing Council in October 1983.

4. Resources of the sea

36. The secretariat prepared two reports to an intergovernmental group of experts one on "the survey of national capabilities for the exploration, exploitation and development of living and non-living resources" and the other on "review of national legislation in the light of the provisions of the convention on the Law of the Sea".

(See E/ECA/CM.11/55 for information on 1984).

D. Human resources development and utilization

1. Public administration and management

37. The following advisory services were rendered:

(a) A mission was undertaken to Swaziland and prepared a plan of action for the reorganization of management development within the public sector (June 1982);

(b) In December 1982, a mission was undertaken to the Gambia to advise on the reorganization of the Establishment of the Office of the Vice-President and on the establishment of the proposed Management Development Institute for the training of public officials;

(c) The mission to Senegal in December 1982 was to advise on the management services function in the public service; and to study the innovative approaches to the management of public enterprises developed in that country with a view to disseminating them to other member States;

(d) In the field of public enterprises and institutions, four advisory missions were also undertaken to Kenya, Swaziland, Lesotho and Guinea Bissau. Two other advisory missions to Malawi and Uganda were undertaken in 1984 to assist on public enterprise management and to review the curriculum and training programme of the Institute of Public Administration.

38. Workshops and conferences were also organized in the following areas:

(a) In January 1982, a subregional workshop on the impact of the structure and organization of government machinery on development efforts was organized in Abidjan for the Francophone African countries. Workshops on procurement and supplies management were organized for public officials in Swaziland, Lesotho and Togo;

(b) The secretariat organized six training workshops on the role of government in general management of development programmes and delivery of services;

(c) The secretariat of the Commission and that of OAU jointly organized in November 1982 a Conference on the role of public sector in national and regional development in the context of the Lagos Plan of Action. The Conference was intended to increase in the participants an awareness of the objectives of the Lagos Plan of Action and the responsibilities of the public sector in its implementation.

39. The following reports were prepared:

(a) Report to member States on the role of local government in national development;

(b) Report to member States on the organization and management of institutions for national development; and

(c) Report to member States on methods and mechanisms for promoting co-operation among African public enterprises.

2. Budgeting and financial management

40. The following training courses and a seminar were organized in this field:

(a) A national training course, which was on financial management and budgeting was conducted from 6 to 17 June 1983 for Swaziland middle-level government officials in Mbabane. Among the topics dealt with in the course were financial management functions, integrated planning, budgeting and control and cases in financial management and reporting systems;

(b) The seminar on fiscal incentives was jointly organized by the ECA secretariat and the German Foundation for International Development in Berlin and discussed the administration of tax incentives and other fiscal exemptions being granted by African countries in order to promote domestic and external private investment;

(c) The regional technical conference on the theme "organization, management and staffing of tax departments in African countries", was held in Kampala (Uganda) from 17 to 22 October 1983.

41. The report to African Governments "on the feasibility and operating efficiency of audit systems in the use of public resources" was completed in 1984.

3. Manpower planning, education, training and employment

42. Attention of the secretariat during the period under review was focussed on: the development of institutional machinery for manpower planning, development and utilization; staff development to man the machinery and operate manpower planning programmes effectively; and labour and employment surveys to build a data base for policy decisions on manpower planning and strategies;

43. In the area of education, labour, management and employment; the secretariat assisted member States to review their educational and training policies and programmes and make appropriate recommendations on how to make them more relevant to national socio-economic needs.

44. Studies on space utilization in six African universities were carried out with a view to examining the extent to which facilities and other resources could be maximized to cater for increased intake in such institutions for research, teaching and consultancy activities.

45. A technical publication entitled "Higher education and African development" was produced focussing on African development problems and how best education could respond to such problems.

46. National workshops on career planning, guidance and counselling were conducted in 16 African countries. Training workshops on human resources management systems development were also undertaken in seven African countries. Two other workshops for management educators and staff development officers were conducted in Kenya and Botswana.

47. With regard to grants and fellowships administration, efforts were focussed on mobilizing resources in cash and in-kind for training in such critical areas of need as technical, vocational, scientific, and management education within the African region. During 1982-1983, a total of 450 Africans benefited from the Commission's grants and fellowships.

(See E/ECA/CM.11/55 for information on 1984).

E. Science and technology

48. The following advisory services were rendered to Governments and intergovernmental institutions.

(a) During the period under review, assistance was given to the Government of the Republic of Togo in examining the requirements for the establishment of its proposed central machinery for promoting industrial and technology development in the country;

(b) Substantive support was also given to the African Regional Centre for Technology at Dakar and the African Regional Organization for Standardization (ARSO) in programme formulation and servicing of meetings and in the development of an information and documentation system.

49. The following meetings and workshops were held:

(a) In collaboration with the German Foundation for International Development (DSE), the secretariat organized an awareness - creation workshop on the activities of the metal working branch of the informal sector in African countries;

(b) In collaboration with the International Development Research Centre, the secretariat and the African Regional Centre for Technology organized a training workshop on science and technology policies for African experts in Liberia in order to train African experts on how to conduct science policy research and become more aware of the role of technology policy in national development. The needs of African States, as envisaged in the science and technology chapter of the Lagos Plan of Action, were stressed in the workshop;

(c) In collaboration with the Soviet Government, the secretariat organized, for 30 participants from different African countries, a seminar on the methodologies and the machineries for planning the science and technology component in national development plans;

(d) A study tour to India was organized for a group of African experts in the field of technologies for the rural area;

(e) The secretariat also organized a study tour to China for 9 African experts to see at first hand developments by the Chinese in the areas of biomass conversion, mini-hydro-power generation and solar energy.

50. The following studies were also undertaken:

(a) The ECA secretariat and the OAU secretariat jointly prepared in 1983 a paper entitled "A strategy for the technological transformation of African developing countries" for the African regional preparatory meetings for UNCTAD VI. The paper highlighted the concerns of Africa in questions having to do with the choice, acquisition and transfer of technology, with particular reference to the requirements for the implementation of the Lagos Plan of Action;

(b) The ECA secretariat and the OAU secretariat presented at the meeting in Brussels on Intra-ACP co-operation on the transfer of technology knowhow and technical assistance, a paper entitled "Africa's experience and proposals on a strategy for transfer of technology and for technical assistance". The paper enabled the African group to take a common stand on the issue.

(c) Finally, the ECA secretariat prepared in 1984 a report to the Inter-governmental Committee on Science and Technology for Development on a regional review of the implementation of the chapter on science and technology of the Lagos Plan of Action within the framework of the operational plan for implementing the Vienna Programme of Action on Science and Technology for Development.

(See E/ECA/CM.11/55 for information on 1984)

F. Transport and communications

51. During the period under review, attention was devoted to the implementation of the remaining parts of the programme for the first phase of the Decade 1978-1983 and the preparation of the programme for the second phase 1984-1988.

52. The following advisory services were rendered:

(a) Seven member States were assisted in the identification and preparation of multimodal transport projects;

(b) Sierra Leone was assisted in the reorganization of its Ministry of Transport and Communication with a view to making it more efficient;

(c) Advisory services were provided to 20 member States in the identification and formulation of air transport projects and the preparation of project profiles for the second phase of the Decade;

(d) Assistance was provided to the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) in the preparation of a study on a West African Airlines strategy;

(e) 16 member States were assisted in the identification and the formulation of railway projects as well as in the preparation of project profiles, for the second phase of the Decade;

(f) 22 member States were assisted in the identification and the formulation of road and road transport projects as well as in the preparation of project profiles, for inclusion in the programme for the second phase of the Decade;

(g) 20 member States were assisted in the identification and formulation of projects in the field of shipping for inclusion in the second phase of the Decade programme;

(h) With respect to port management, 20 African countries were assisted in the identification and the formulation of projects as well as in the preparation of project profiles for inclusion in the second phase programme of the Decade;

(i) 10 African countries were assisted in the identification and formulation of inland water transport projects as well as in the preparation of project profiles for inclusion in the second phase programme of the Decade;

(k) Assistance was provided to the Comoros in respect of programming of tourism and on tourism legislation;

53. The following studies, among others, were conducted:

(a) Reports on "development of transport and communications in the PTA" which highlighted the features of existing transport and communications network in the area, and on "harmonization of documentation, regulations and procedures concerning multimodal transport in the PTA area" which proposes measures for facilitating multimodal transport in the subregion were presented to the first meeting of the area which was held in Lusaka, Zambia in November 1982. Similarly, three reports on (a) the implementation of the Decade programme; (b) the status of transport in the PTA countries; and (c) the study of the transport system in the PTA area were presented to the third meeting held also in Lusaka in December 1983;

(b) For the different MULPOC meetings, reports on (a) projects report on the Lusaka-MULPOC countries in the context of the Decade Programme; (b) ECA activities in the field of ports in the Yaounde-MULPOC countries; (c) implementation of the Decade programme in the Niamey MULPOC area; and (d) on volume and type of sea trade, inventory capacities and port infrastructure of Tangiers-MULPOC member States.

54. The following documents were also prepared: (a) a progress report on the ECOWAS transport system study; (b) a note on fund raising for studies on rail links between Togo, the Niger, the Burkina Faso and Mali and for the railway line between Parakou and Niamey; (c) a report on assistance to the Trans-West-African Highway Network and its feeder road project; and (d) a report on the study on the co-ordination of the activities of national and multimodal airlinks in West Africa for the 1983 meeting of the Niamey MULPOC Council of Ministers.

55. For the Lusaka MULPOC meeting in 1983, a progress report on "ECA activities in the field of inland water transport", a progress report on "ECA activities in the field of ports"; and a progress report on "ECA activities in the field of roads and road transport" were prepared. A note on the establishment of the Central African Transport Co-ordinating Co-ncil was also prepared for the Yaounde MULPOC.

56. Documents examined by the African Ministers of Transport, Communications and Planning, apart from the report on the implementation of the first phase programme, were on the following: (a) Roads and road transport; (b) Railways and rail transport; (c) Marine transport; (d) Ports; (e) Air transport; (f) Inland water transport; (g) Multimodal transport; (h) Telecommunications; (i) Communications by Satellite; (j) Broadcasting; (k) Postal services; (l) Manpower training; and (m) the draft programme of the second phase of the Decade.

57. For the round table organized in Paris in June 1983, the following reports were prepared: (a) Structure of the African international transport system and its effects on African economies; (b) Lagos Plan of Action: Adaptation of African transport system to the objectives of the Plan, strategy and objectives of the Decade, particularly problems of Inter-State links and access to the sea of land-locked countries; (c) Evaluation of the implementation of the Programme of Phase I; (d) General presentation of and discussion on the Programme of Phase II; Modes of Transport: Objectives, Constraints and Profitability; (f) What must be done in Future: The link necessary between transport and new activities; (g) Exchange of views on the determination of priorities, justification and co-operation in the search of financing.

(See E/ECA/CM.11/55 for information on 1984).

G. Trade and finance

58. The following advisory services were rendered:

(a) A senior ECA staff member was seconded to the PTA secretariat to perform the function of Director of Trade, Money and Customs Division from May to December 1983;

(b) The secretariat continued also to render assistance to ECOWAS in its effort to harmonize the trade liberalization programmes of the various economic groupings in West Africa, namely the Communauté Economique de l'Afrique de l'Ouest (CEAO), the Mano River Union (MAU) and ECOWAS;

(c) The secretariat continued its assistance to MULPOCs with a view to supporting subregional economic co-operation;

(d) The secretariat provided assistance to individual national governments with a view to solving specific problems affecting their development (i.e. export financing and export financing insurance and guarantees, etc);

(e) Technical co-operation and advisory services were provided to selected member countries in issues relating to the role and operations of TNCs, the penetration and impact of TNCs on African economies, the flow of investment resources, national legislation on TNCs, techniques of negotiating with TNCs and African collective bargaining.

59. The following studies, among others, were conducted:

(a) A preliminary analysis entitled "The situation of Domestic Trade in Africa" showing the dynamics of domestic trade and related structures;

(b) A study on the "Establishment of Associations of Importers and Exporters of Fish and Fish Products" aimed at assisting African countries in the development and expansion of intra-African trade in fish and fish products;

(c) A study on the Establishment of Specialized Marketing Organizations in respect of Major Import and Export Commodities aimed at enhancing African purchasing power, diversify export markets for major commodities and thereby maximize foreign exchange earnings and savings;

(d) A study on "Existing and potential trade among African countries in food products".

60. The study examined the production, consumption, import and export of food crops (such as wheat, rice, maize and barley) and fruits and vegetables (such as oranges, bananas; apples, potatoes and onions) with a view to assisting African countries in the implementation of an integrated programme in the field of trade promotion, trade policy and marketing for the development and expansion of intra-African trade in food products, so as to ensure the self-sufficiency of the continent in those products as directed by the Lagos Plan of Action;

(e) A study on the "Identification of Products Based on the Processing of Domestically Available Materials for trade among African countries";

(f) In the field of commodity exchanges, a feasibility study on the "Establishment of an Agricultural Commodity Exchange for Eastern and Southern Africa";

(g) A study on "products of interest to African countries within the framework of the Generalized System of Trade Preferences among developing countries (GSTP)" aimed at assisting ECA member States in adapting appropriate negotiating strategies in the light of the GSTP analysis and comparing the advantages to be derived from GSTP with those they already enjoy under various other global systems of preferences;

(h) A study on "Payment arrangements between African countries and the Socialist Countries of Eastern Europe";

(i) An up-dated paper on "Transnational Corporations in Africa: Some Major Issues";

(j) In collaboration with the Organization of African Unity, the African Centre for Monetary Studies, the African Development Bank and the African Institute for Economic Development and Planning, a Technical Feasibility Study on the "Establishment of African Monetary Fund: Structure and Mechanism";

61. The following meetings and seminars were held, among others, during the period under review;

(a) In compliance with the directives of the Lagos Plan of Action to establish an African Federation of Chambers of Commerce, the ECA secretariat convened a meeting of the Presidents and Secretaries - General of African Chambers of Commerce in Harare, Zimbabwe from 26 to 31 May 1982;

(b) A training course on trade promotion and export market research for senior and middle level business executives and senior export promotion officials was held at Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, from 25 January to 6 February 1982;

(c) An intensive two-week seminar on Import Management in Addis Ababa from 21 February to 4 March 1983;

(d) In service training for six Namibian students of the Lusaka-based Institute for Namibia.

(See E/ECA/CM.11/55 for information on 1984).

H. Environment and development

62. During the period under review, the secretariat prepared a review paper on "Combating Desertification in Africa" (E/ECA/CM.8/21/Rev.1), which was presented at the eighth meeting of the ECA Conference of Ministers in 1982. The secretariat also formulated and implemented a joint inter-agency and bilaterally funded project - "Combating Desertification in Africa" with the co-operation of the United Nations system, the United States of America's Agency for International Development/Environment Training and Management Programme in Africa (USAID/ETMA), the Swedish International Development Agency (SIDA) and the Government of the Sudan.

63. A joint ECA/UNEP/UNESCO mission undertaken in 1982 to five African countries (Botswana, Lesotho, Mozambique, Zimbabwe and the United Republic of Tanzania) produced a technical mission report on the situation of drought and desertification control in the Kalahari Desert subregion (E/ECA/ENV/5). This report was ECA's contribution to the Regional Workshop on Combating Desertification in Africa, held at Khartoum, the Sudan, from 23 to 28 October 1982. The report of the workshop (E/ECA/ENV/7) recommended the need for assistance in programme and project formulation and national institution building, in developing supplementary livelihood systems and provision of alternatives to desertification control measures; and the need for manpower training and for financing and extension of meteorological network systems for combating desertification and drought.

64. To promote environmental assessment and management in the ECA region, the secretariat implemented ECA resolution 408 (XVI) of April 1981 to establish the Joint Intergovernmental Regional Committee on Human Settlements and Environment (IGRC/HUS/ENV) as a forum for discussing regional and subregional policies, activities, planning and strategies to solve problems identified for an environment programme in Africa.

65. In addition, the following papers and reports were prepared by the secretariat in 1983 and 1984:

(a) A paper, E/ECA/NERD/MRU/CWI/Inf.6 - "Environmental aspects of the production and utilization of coal in Africa" presented to the ECA workshop on the role of coal for accelerated African economic growth, held in Addis Ababa, from 11 to 15 July 1983;

(b) A report on environmental problems of underground water exploitation (E/ECA/ENV/9) prepared for the Tangiers MULPOC Officials' meeting;

(c) A report to the Yaoundé MULPOC Officials' meeting on Guidelines for developing national environmental capabilities for pollution control of basic industries;

(d) Report to the Intergovernmental Regional Committee on Human Settlements and Environment on Development of Guidelines for the establishment or improvement of national institutions to assess, monitor, and control environmental degradation in Africa, including the setting up of national standards;

(e) Report to the ECA Conference of Ministers on the state of the environment in Africa with special reference to desertification, deforestation, soil degradation, pollution and conservation of natural resources and energy;

(f) Report to the Joint Intergovernmental Regional Committee on Human Settlements and Environment on the review of national environment legislation and strategies for law enforcement and accession to international conventions and protocols in Africa region;

(g) Report to the Intergovernmental Regional Committee on Human Settlements and Environment on the development of an action plan in environmental education and training for manpower development and public awareness of environmental problems in Africa based on 1982-1983 programme activities;

(h) Report to the Joint Intergovernmental Regional Committee on Human Settlements and Environment on the development of environmental training for coastal area management, monitoring of marine pollution and the rate of depletion of marine resources in the exclusive economic zones in the West African Regional Seas countries.

(See E/ECA/CM.11/55 for information on 1984).

I. AFRICAN LEAST DEVELOPED COUNTRIES

66. During the period under review, assistance to the African least developed countries was provided by the secretariat in the following areas:

(a) In undertaking in-depth socio-economic surveys, in formulating national socio-economic development plans and policies, and in assisting in the preparation of round table conferences with donors;

(b) In detailed arrangements for the co-ordination, monitoring and review of the Substantial New Programme of Action.

67. The following studies were undertaken in 1982-1984:

(a) Surveys of the economic and social conditions in individual African least developed countries, 1981-1982, 1982-1983 and 1983-1984,

(b) Regional Evaluation and Assessment of the Implementation of the Substantial New Programme of Action in African least developed countries (1981-1984);

(c) The extent of industrial capacity under-utilization and its impact on industrial development in African least developed countries: Issues for consideration.

68. The following meetings were held:

(a) The secretariat serviced the second meeting of the conference of ministers of African least developed countries which took place in Tripoli, Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, from 26 to 27 April 1982;

(b) The secretariat also serviced the third meeting of the Conference of Ministers of African Least Developed Countries which was held in Addis Ababa, from 25 to 26 April 1983;

(c) The ECA secretariat was invited and participated in review meetings and round tables held during 1982-1984.

(See E/ECA/CM.11/55 for more information on 1984).

J. ENERGY

69. The following advisory services were rendered:

(a) Assistance was provided to Algeria, Angola, Benin, Burundi, Gabon, Rwanda, the Sudan, the United Republic of Cameroon, Zaire and the Economic Community of the Great Lakes Countries in the formulation of energy policies and/or programmes through missions to the countries and/or submission of reports containing appropriate recommendations to them;

(b) In the field of new and renewable sources of energy, the secretariat provided advisory services to Ethiopia, Gabon, Liberia, the Sudan and the United Republic of Cameroon on the development and utilisation of solar and biogas energy.

70. The following meetings were organized:

(a) The secretariat organized and serviced the meeting of the Ad Hoc Committee on the training of personnel held at Abidjan in 1982;

(b) From 21 August to 10 September 1983, the secretariat organized and serviced a seminar and study tour on biomass conversion, solar and mini-hydropower stations in China in which eight specialists from African countries took part;

(c) The secretariat also organized and serviced the inaugural meeting in 1982 and Executive Board meeting in 1983 on the establishment of the African Regional Centre for Solar Energy.

71. The following reports and maps were prepared:

(a) Two reports, one on the improvement in the utilization of electrical energy and equipment and the other on the survey of the possibilities for the manufacture on a multinational basis of electrical equipment suitable for use under African conditions were prepared and submitted to the requesting countries (i.e. Angola and Rwanda);

(b) A paper on status of energy resources in Africa was prepared in 1984;

(c) The primary energy map and electric energy map have been also printed in November 1984.

(See E/ECA/CM.11/55 for more information on 1984).

K. WOMEN AND DEVELOPMENT

72. The following advisory services were rendered:

(a) Advisory services were given on women's input to the national development plan in Togo in April 1982, and similar assistance was given to Senegal in June 1983;

(b) In implementation of the project on the role of women in alleviating the food crisis, missions were undertaken to the Burkina Faso and the Central African Republic.

73. The following studies, among others, were prepared and published:

(a) A technical document entitled "Les activités féminines génératives des revenus dans le monde rural: l'artisanat et les petits industries au Niger";

(b) Two technical publications on production and distribution were published: "Transformation et commercialisation des produits vivriers en Afrique and le rôle et les problèmes des femmes dans la commercialisation des produits vivriers en Afrique de l'Ouest";

(c) With respect to periodic publications, the African Women's Development Task Force: "Some case histories which are related to the activities of African Women Volunteers" was published.

74. The following seminars, workshops and study tours were conducted:

(a) A national workshop on project preparation and implementation in Zimbabwe from 5 to 16 July 1982;

(b) A study tour on Research and documentation functions of national machineries organized to Dakar and Abidjan from 20 September to 6 October 1982;

(c) A workshop on project preparation and implementation organized in Antananarivo (Madagascar) from 15 to 27 February 1982 for participants from Angola, the Comoros, Djibouti, Mozambique and Madagascar;

(d) In the area of training women in management and development planning, three courses held at the Eastern and Southern African Management Institute (ESAMI) in the academic year 1982-1983;

(e) A course on effective communication and training methods for female extension officers carried out in Kabwe, Zambia, from 1 June to 14 July 1982;

(f) A study tour/workshop conducted in Swaziland from 18 to 20 October 1982 for Women project managers and trainers in employment and income generating activities;

(g) A subregional seminar on the utilization of research by national machineries for the integration of women in development held in Harare, Zimbabwe from 5 to 16 July 1982.

(See E/ECA/CM.11/55 for information on 1984).

L. DEVELOPMENT PLANNING, STATISTICS AND POPULATION

1. Development planning

75. The following studies were undertaken:

(a) The "Survey of Economic and Social Conditions in Africa," 1982-1983 and 1983-1984;

(b) Report on the "design and applicability of socio-economic indicators in the African context: a preliminary report";

(c) Study of foreign exchange leakages in African countries;

(d) Report on measures for effective co-ordination of development activities between the public and private sectors;

(e) Report on the role of small and medium-scale businesses in the process of socio-economic transformation and development in Africa;

(f) On the occasion of the ECA Silver Jubilee in April 1983, a special study on the review of socio-economic conditions in Africa, 1958-1983 was prepared;

(g) In the framework of the ECA Silver Jubilee celebrations, a preliminary perspective study of the African region entitled "ECA and Africa's Development, 1982-2008 - A Perspective Preliminary Study" was prepared;

(h) Review and appraisal of economic performance of Africa, 1980-1985 in the light of the International Development Strategy and the Lagos Plan of Action;

(i) The balance of payment problems of African developing countries: A reassessment.

76. The following advisory services were rendered to member States:

(a) In the field of technical assistance in planning and projections, assistance missions were mounted to Guinea, Rwanda, Mauritius, Zimbabwe and the Comoros to help those countries in various aspects of planning and projections;

(b) Assistance was also given to the governments of Mauritius, Rwanda, Zimbabwe, the United Republic of Cameroon and Zaire in short-term forecasting.

(See E/ECA/CM.11/55 for information on 1984).

2. Statistics

77. Support was given to member States in the following areas:

(a) Advisory services in national accounts to African countries, especially the African Least Developed Countries and Newly Independent Countries have been maintained during the period under review, 1982-1984;

(b) Two advisory missions (to Niger and Uganda) were undertaken in respect of external trade statistics;

(c) The regional Advisory Services in Demographic Statistics continued to give technical support to projects in the region connected with population censuses, demographic surveys and expansion and improvement of civil registration and vital statistics systems. The advisory team undertook during 1982-1983 approximately 90 country missions.

78. The following meetings and workshops were held:

(a) A consultative meeting on the African Household Survey Capability Programme (AHSCP) held in Geneva in June 1982. The meeting discussed co-ordination of financial and technical assistance at the international level by the donor countries and agencies as well as the co-ordination of activities at the national level in implementing survey programmes;

(b) Two regional training workshops were held in Addis Ababa and Dakar respectively under the co-sponsorship of the Munich Centre for Advanced Training in applied statistics, UNIDO and ECA. The workshops reviewed the overall planning, co-ordination and direction of national census operations in the field.

(See E/ECA/CM.11/55 for information on 1984).

3. Population

79. The following advisory services were rendered among others, to member States:

(a) Assistance was provided to nine member States in the formulation and implementation of population policies and programmes and in the integration of population variables in development planning;

(b) The secretariat assisted the United Republic of Cameroon, the Ivory Coast, Mali and Lesotho in preparing and organizing national seminars on the role of population in socio-economic development;

(c) The secretariat in collaboration with regional training centres assisted member States in training their nationals;

(d) Four missions on training were undertaken by the secretariat - three to the United Republic of Tanzania and one to Ethiopia.

80. The following studies, among others, were conducted:

(a) A study was prepared on the impact of family planning programmes on African countries with respect to population, health and economic and social programmes;

(b) Two comparative studies to identify mortality levels, patterns and trends were undertaken; one covered Kenya, Malawi, the United Republic of Tanzania and Zambia in East Africa and the other covered the Gambia, Ghana, Liberia and Sierra Leone in West Africa. The first study on East African countries indicated that crude death rates were about 22 per 1000 in the 1960s and were still above 1980s and were still above 15 per 1000 during the 1970s, hence the decline was less than what had been predicted in the 1960s. The study showed that infant mortality at 150 per thousand live birth was still high while the life expectancy at birth was about 50 years. Mortality was found to be highest in Malawi and lowest in Kenya among the four countries covered in East Africa.

81. The study in West Africa indicated that mortality was lowest in Liberia and highest in Sierra Leone among the countries covered in this subregion.

(c) A study to identify the relationships between marriage and fertility and their changing patterns was completed on Kenya, Lesotho and Senegal. It highlighted the high incidence of early marriage in these countries and suggested that marital instability was on the increase;

(d) The study on regional and group variations in fertility and mortality and the influence of nomadism were reformulated and implemented for Mauritania alone;

(e) Life tables were constructed for Kenya, Malawi, the United Republic of Tanzania, the Gambia, Ghana, Liberia and Sierra Leone to ascertain the levels and patterns of mortality in those countries and to provide a single summary of the mortality situation for use in population projections and for purposes of other studies related to health and mortality;

(f) The secretariat completed a study to examine the levels, patterns, causes and consequences of urbanization in the various subregions of Africa. Future urbanization trends through the year 2000 were also reviewed;

(g) Another study on the implications of population growth for investment in education was carried out in order to demonstrate the implications of rapid population growth for investing in education in the ECA member States and thus provide additional reasons for African Governments to design policies and programmes to reduce the observed high population growth rates.

(See E/ECA/CM.11/55 for information on 1984).