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CO-OPERATION BETWEEN THE UNITED NATIONS AND THE ORGANIZATION
OF AFRICAN UNITYReport of the Secretary-General

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* A/39/150.

I. INTRODUCTION

1. On 28 October 1983, the General Assembly adopted resolution 38/5 on co-operation between the United Nations and the Organization of African Unity, parts of which read as follows:

"The General Assembly,

"...

"6. Approves the relevant decisions, recommendations, proposals and arrangements contained in the conclusions of the meeting between representatives of the General Secretariat of the Organization of African Unity and the secretariats of the United Nations and other organizations of the United Nations system, held at Addis Ababa from 21 to 23 April 1983;

"7. Requests the Secretary-General of the United Nations to implement the relevant decisions, recommendations and proposals contained in the conclusions of the Addis Ababa meeting;

"8. Calls upon the competent organizations and bodies of the United Nations system to give urgent consideration to the various recommendations and proposals contained in the conclusions of the Addis Ababa meeting, with the objective of enhancing co-operation between the United Nations system and the Organization of African Unity;

"...

"12. Reaffirms the determination of the United Nations to work closely with the Organization of African Unity towards the establishment of the new international economic order in accordance with the resolutions adopted by the General Assembly and, in that regard, to take full account of the Lagos Plan of Action for the Implementation of the Monrovia Strategy for the Economic Development of Africa in the implementation of the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade;

"...

"19. Further requests the Secretary-General to continue to take the necessary measures to strengthen co-operation at the political, economic, cultural and administrative levels between the United Nations and the Organization of African Unity in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly, particularly with regard to the provision of assistance to the victims of colonialism and apartheid in southern Africa, ...

"...

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"25. Urges the specialized agencies and other organizations concerned within the United Nations system to continue and to expand their co-operation with the Organization of African Unity and, through it, their assistance to the liberation movements recognized by that organization;

"..."

II. CONSULTATIONS AND EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION

2. The current Chairman of the Organization of African Unity, (OAU), Mengistu Haile Mariam, Head of State of Ethiopia, sent a message to the General Assembly at its thirty-eighth session, in which he reviewed the main social, economic and political problems facing the continent. In the message, which was delivered by the Foreign Minister of Ethiopia on 13 October 1983, attention was drawn to the serious economic crisis in Africa and to the need for increased international assistance. The Chairman called for a speedy settlement of the question of Namibia and the elimination of apartheid, and invited the United Nations to support OAU in the search for solutions to the problems of Chad, Western Sahara, the Comorian Island of Mayotte, the Malagasy islands, and the Chagos archipelago. The message also emphasized the need for sustained assistance to help Africa to cope with its refugee problems (A/38/PV.27).

3. During the period under review, the Secretary-General met with the Secretary-General ad interim of OAU on several occasions, to discuss matters of mutual concern to the two organizations.

4. At the invitation of their respective heads of State, the Secretary-General visited eight African countries of the Sahel region, which was severely affected by drought in January and February of 1984, to gain first-hand knowledge of the economic and social situation in those countries. During his visits, he held talks with heads of State and senior officials of the Governments concerned.

5. At the meeting of the OAU Council of Ministers in February and March 1984, the Special Representative of the Secretary-General delivered a message on behalf of the Secretary-General on the current economic crisis in Africa.

6. In response to an invitation from the OAU Secretary-General, a United Nations Secretariat team visited Addis Ababa from 19 to 23 September 1983 to assist the OAU secretariat in preparatory arrangements for the third session of the OAU Implementation Committee on Western Sahara. The United Nations team was led by the Under-Secretary-General for Special Political Questions. It met with the current Chairman of OAU on 21 September.

7. In co-operation with OAU, and pursuant to General Assembly resolution 38/120 of 16 December 1983, the Secretary-General organized at Geneva in July 1984 the Second International Conference on Assistance to Refugees in Africa. The Conference was attended by the Secretary-General, the representative of the current OAU Chairman, and the Secretary-General ad interim of OAU. It was addressed by the Secretary-General, by the representative of the current OAU Chairman, as well as by

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many countries and organizations which participated in the meeting. The Second Conference is the subject of a separate report of the Secretary-General to the General Assembly (A/39/402).

8. At the regional level, co-operation between the two organizations on day-to-day matters continues to be facilitated through regular contacts between the executive offices of OAU in New York and Geneva and the United Nations programmes and agencies. The OAU executive secretariats have ready access to the various departments of the United Nations system and attend various United Nations meetings and conferences as observer. These arrangements have been most productive in identifying areas of common concern, in facilitating solutions to problems between the two organizations and in enabling the views of OAU to be fully known within the United Nations system.

III. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE 1983 MEETING BETWEEN THE OAU GENERAL SECRETARIAT AND THE SECRETARIATS OF THE ORGANIZATIONS WITHIN THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM

9. During the discussions which took place at the meeting between the representatives of the OAU General Secretariat and the secretariats of the organizations within the United Nations system, held at Addis Ababa from 21 to 23 April 1983, a number of proposals were agreed upon (A/38/307 and Add.1). These proposals envisaged action by various agencies and organizations of the United Nations system, in some cases in co-operation with the OAU secretariat.

10. The proposed meeting in March 1984 between the United Nations system and the OAU did not take place because of unforeseen developments, and has been postponed sine die.

11. The sections following contain a summary of developments relating to matters arising from the 1983 meeting and cover such items as the Lagos Plan of Action for the Implementation of the Monrovia Strategy for the Economic Development of Africa (A/S-11/14, annex I), the use of water resources, the development of human resources, the role of media and literacy in development, the Industrial Development Decade for Africa, the African refugee situation, natural disasters and assistance to national liberation movements.

A. Progress report on the implementation of the Lagos Plan of Action

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)

12. Ever since its adoption in 1980, the Lagos Plan of Action has constituted the guiding framework for all FAO's activities in Africa. FAO has gone to considerable lengths to ensure not only that its total programme in Africa makes a significant contribution to the overall effort called for by the Plan of Action in the promotion of agricultural production, food self-sufficiency, food security, and rural development, but also that its individual activities in the African region respond to specific recommendations of the Lagos Plan of Action.

13. For several years, Africa has been the principal regional priority of FAO, as is evident from the allocation of the organization's resources. During the biennium 1982-1983, about 35 per cent of all region-specific expenditures from the regular programme of FAO and about 40 per cent from extrabudgetary resources were for the exclusive benefit of Africa. For the biennium 1984-1985, these percentages will be even higher. The Africa region accounts for only about 12 per cent of the total population of the developing world.

14. FAO's wide-ranging activities in Africa cover the following areas: assessment, planning, management and development of natural resources; improvement of farming systems; crop and animal protection and improvement; prevention of food losses; development of animal feed resources; dairy and meat development; agricultural engineering; development of agro-based and food industries; rural energy development; education, training and extension; research and research development; agrarian reform; rural institutions; marketing and credit; nutrition assessment and planning; food quality control; statistics and statistical development; food information and early warning systems; policy analysis and planning; commodity policies and trade; food security; fisheries development and utilization.

15. Other FAO activities in Africa within the framework of the Lagos Plan of Action include mobilization of investment resources, study of land and genetic resources, plant protection, rinderpest and animal trypanosomiasis control, food security and forestry.

16. With funding from its regular budget and extrabudgetary resources, and in response to the express request of the authorities concerned, FAO provides to African Governments and intergovernmental organizations technical expertise, equipment and varied training in all the fields listed above. In appraising requests by African authorities for FAO's assistance, the utmost care is taken to determine the conformity of the requests with the objectives and recommendations of the Lagos Plan of Action.

17. Many of the leading themes of the Plan of Action relating to food, agriculture and rural development are the subject of FAO's "special action programmes". The programmes particularly stress concern about the prevention of food losses, fertilizer promotion and supply, food security, plant protection, seed improvement and development, shifting cultivation, dairy and meat development, control of African animal trypanosomiasis, agricultural credit, management of arid and semi-arid rangelands, development and management of fisheries in exclusive economic zones, aquacultural development, local community forestry development, and follow-up of the World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development, held at Rome from 12 to 20 July 1979 (see A/34/485, annex).

18. Moreover, when they are not exclusively concerned with Africa (as, for example, the action programme for the control of African animal trypanosomiasis), these programmes generally operate with a distinct focus on the region. Thus, of the 60 policy formulation and project identification missions carried out so far under the Food Security Assistance Scheme (FSAS), 40 have been to African countries, and 75 per cent (some \$US 33 million) of all extrabudgetary funds

mobilized under FSAS has been allocated to food security projects in Africa. As at the end of 1983, 20 food security projects had been completed under the FSAS in African countries, and 31 projects (with a total value of \$26.5 million) were in operation in 16 African countries. Similarly, of the \$21 million contributed to the FAO Fertilizer Programme in 1982-1983, 64 per cent was allocated for activities in Africa; in 1983, the Programme provided assistance to 12 African countries. As at the end of 1983, surveys to determine plant protection requirements had been carried out in 23 countries under the FAO/UNDP Action Programme for Improved Plant Protection; all except one of the countries were in Africa.

Universal Postal Union (UPU)

19. As regards the postal development programme under the Lagos Plan of Action, UPU has sent to the secretariat of the Pan-African Postal Union (PAPU), OAU's specialized agency for matters relating to postal services, as well as to the secretariat of OAU, the document entitled "Projects for modernizing the postal services within the framework of the Lagos Plan of Action for the Economic Development of Africa (1980-2000)".

20. This document, a preliminary draft, includes specific activities and a timetable for their implementation, particularly with regard to the Plan's priority areas relating to the postal services. OAU and PAPU have been asked to let UPU have their comments on the content of the programmes and on the projects proposed in that document.

21. On the basis of the comments made and any changes which OAU, PAPU and African postal administrations, other regional organizations and the Restricted Postal Unions might propose, the International Bureau of UPU will draw up a programme of action and projects for implementation through the efforts of the countries and groups of countries concerned and the technical or financial assistance to be provided on a supplementary basis by the international community.

B. Co-operation in dealing with conservation, development and utilization of water resources in Africa

United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)

22. UNEP has been involved in various projects in Africa in the field of water resources (integrated water supply): a demonstration project in Swaziland; a workshop on integrated management and planning in the lake basin area, Kenya; a water quality and environmental impact model of the Upper Nile basin; and an integrated irrigation demonstration in the Sudan. These projects are addressed to generating guidance for integrated environmental management of water resources in Africa. UNEP will need the support of the OAU in the promotion of integrated approaches to water resources management in Africa based, inter alia, on the findings of these projects.

C. Co-operation and co-ordination activities and programmes
in the field of human resources development

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)

23. Almost all of FAO's field projects in Africa have components for in-service training, group training or fellowships. In addition, a large number of projects have training as the sole or dominant activity, or are concerned with strengthening capabilities for agricultural education and training. The Organization's regular programme also contains a sizeable proportion of training activities, such as workshops or seminars. In all cases, the training provided corresponds to priorities explicitly stated by the concerned recipient Governments or intergovernmental organizations; they participate fully in the design of the activities and must approve them before they can be initiated.

24. Following a decision of the Twelfth FAO Regional Conference for Africa, FAO is collaborating with all countries of the Africa region in a major study to assess trained manpower requirements and training institutions for agricultural and rural development in the region. The results of this assessment will be presented in three documents:

A Directory of Training Institutions in Africa. This directory will be put at the disposal of Member countries. It is hoped that it will be used for TCDC activities in the region in the field of agricultural education and training.

Assessment of Trained Manpower Requirements. This study will give an indication of the needs of the region regarding trained personnel in agricultural and rural development.

An Assessment of FAO's Activities in the Field of Agricultural Education and Training in Africa. In this context, the Organization will also prepare an action plan for strengthening training institutions and assisting Member Countries in building up their human resources in this field.

D. Progress report on contributions of United Nations organizations to
the Programme for the Industrial Development Decade for Africa

United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO)

25. During the meeting of the secretariats at Addis Ababa in 1983, UNIDO had been assigned a lead role in collaboration with the OAU and the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) for the Industrial Development Decade for Africa.

26. Pursuant to the conclusions of that meeting as well as to General Assembly resolution 38/5 on co-operation between the United Nations and the OAU, UNIDO held consultations with OAU and ECA within the framework of the OAU/ECA/UNIDO Joint Committee, as well as with a number of United Nations agencies.

27. The consultations were aimed at initiating action on the implementation of the decisions concerning: the popularization of the decade; the adoption of the concept of "core" industries as well as the preparation and implementation of "core" industrial projects; the development of manpower and technological capabilities for the implementation of the programme for the Decade and core industrial projects, and the mobilization and optimization of both local and external financial resources for the programme, especially for the implementation of core industrial projects.

28. At the meeting of secretariats, and in General Assembly resolution 38/5, organizations of the United Nations system were called on to contribute to the implementation of the Decade programme and to accord high priority to those decisions.

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)

29. FAO is collaborating with UNIDO in the establishment and the development of farm machinery manufacture in Africa. FAO has participated in several UNIDO consultation meetings which took place at Addis Ababa and Cairo. Projects for the manufacture and application of animal draught equipment have been undertaken in five countries. FAO, through its Panel of Experts on Farm Mechanization, deals with subjects which are relevant to the agricultural engineering field in Africa, such as spare parts supply and management, small farmers' mechanization, multi-farm use of equipment and reduced tillage. Assistance is also being provided to Governments in Africa on the formulation of farm mechanization policies.

30. Upgrading of traditional technologies has been retained by the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination's (ACC) Task Force on Science and Technology for Development. A Joint Ad Hoc Working Group on Improvement of Traditional Technologies is being set up in FAO. Although this is a programme of global scope, it has particular relevance to Africa.

31. There is an adequate potential for the development of hides, skins and animal by-product resources in Africa to sustain a number of export-oriented small-scale industries, and FAO is actively involved in developing that potential.

32. Technical assistance is being given to individual countries in the region through projects in food processing with specific attention to village and medium-scale technologies.

33. The activities of the FAO/ECA Regional Forestry Industries Advisory Group (FIAG), based at Addis Ababa, provide the main thrust of FAO's contribution to the development of forestry industries in Africa. A study was carried out in 1983 to assess the extent and nature of export opportunities of wooden furniture to the Middle East Gulf States. FAO is assisting in studies currently under way with a view to establishing a forestry industries training school within the Southern Africa Development Co-operation Conference (SADCC) countries.

E. Development of a concerted approach in dealing with the
African refugee situation and natural disasters

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)

34. FAO has played an active role in the technical preparations for the Second International Conference on Assistance to Refugees in Africa, held at Geneva in July 1984. From July to December 1983, an FAO consultant participated on a full-time basis in the work of the Multi-Agency Technical Team, which was set up to assist Governments in identifying proposals for submission to the Conference. Furthermore, with its technical co-operation programme and other regular budget funding, FAO is assisting the Governments concerned in formulating and preparing full draft documents for all the 40 projects identified in the fields of agriculture and rural development. FAO has also taken part in all inter-agency consultations that have been convened in relation to the Conference.

United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)

35. UNEP, together with the OAU, ECA, the United Nations Sudano-Sahelian Office, (UNSO), UNESCO, WMO and FAO, co-sponsored the Scientific Round Table on Climate and Drought in Africa held at Addis Ababa from 20 to 23 February 1984. The meeting was attended by 23 African States affected by drought to various extents in the recent past. The meeting facilitated the exchange of experience among countries on drought and their methods of management, and resulted in the adoption of a draft Plan of Action to combat the impacts of drought in Africa.

36. The Plan, inter alia, envisages that OAU and the concerned United Nations bodies and organizations will form a regional inter-agency working group on drought in Africa to monitor the progress of implementation of the Plan of Action, co-ordinate inter-agency drought-related activities, strengthen inter-agency collaboration, and develop common strategies and integrated approach to deal with drought problems. The Plan of Action was adopted at the Conference of Ministers of ECA in April 1984.

37. As regards co-operation in the control of desertification, two points may be noted:

(a) In future sessions of the consultative group for desertification control, UNEP would be ready to have OAU participation with a view to obtaining a more active involvement in mobilizing funds for anti-desertification control projects in African countries;

(b) While UNEP would welcome participation of OAU in the inter-agency working group on desertification, there appears to be a technical problem related to the constitution of the working group which needs to be clearly resolved since the working group was formed as a United Nations inter-agency body by General Assembly resolution 32/172 of 19 December 1977.

Economic Commission for Africa (ECA)

38. At the meeting of the General Secretariat of OAU and the secretariats of the United Nations system, held at Addis Ababa on 21 and 22 April 1983, ECA was requested to convene an ECA/OAU/UNDRO meeting to "consider arrangements for the prevention of and preparedness for natural disasters in African countries and to map out a global strategy for disaster prevention and preparedness in Africa."

39. In compliance with that decision, ECA organized - in co-operation with OAU and the United Nations Disaster Relief Organization (UNDRO) - the Regional Meeting on Natural Disaster Prevention and Preparedness in Africa, which took place at Addis Ababa on 24 and 25 February 1984. A full report of the meeting is contained in document E/ECA/CM.10/31 of 25 February 1984.

40. The meeting was attended by experts from States members of the Economic Commission for Africa, observer States, United Nations as well as intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations. The objective was to assess the current situation as related to natural disasters and hazards in Africa and to consider measures that could be taken to control, prevent and/or prepare for natural hazards in Africa.

41. A working paper prepared by UNDRO, ECA and OAU, dealt with four major natural hazards namely, tropical cyclones, floods, volcanic eruptions and earthquakes. The paper did not deal with problems relating to drought mitigation in Africa as that subject had been discussed in detail at an earlier meeting at Addis Ababa in February 1984 by the Scientific Round Table (para. 35 above).

42. During the debate which followed the presentation of the paper, the representatives of 13 African Governments told the meeting of their countries' experiences in the field of natural disasters. The representatives of UNEP and UNESCO also gave the meeting an overview of their organizations' activities in the field of natural disaster assessment and prevention.

43. The meeting after its deliberations proposed recommendations for activities that could be carried out at the international, regional and national level. The recommendations dealt mainly with matters relating to institution development and the strengthening of regional co-operation for disaster preparedness. Special mention was made of the fact that full use should be made of existing institutions and that new ones should be created only where no alternatives exist.

44. In addition to action at the international and regional level the meeting recommended that all African countries in disaster-prone areas should undertake a series of actions at the national level which would cover hazard assessment, disaster prevention, disaster preparedness, public education and information, and research and training.

The World Food Programme (WFP)

45. WFP has set up an operational task force of its own for Africa to address urgent food aid requests and speed up deliveries. Consistent with this effort,

in 1983 WFP has committed more than \$125 million to meet the most urgent requests received from the Governments of the African countries alone and has handled, on behalf of bilateral donors, the procurement and/or delivery of substantial additional quantities of food aid to the affected countries. The action taken so far by WFP with respect to drought relates to measures both to provide immediate assistance to the drought victims and to reduce the impact of drought on the financial capacity of recipient Governments to implement development projects.

46. WFP's development project commitments to OAU countries in 1983 were in excess of \$257 million, i.e., more than 51 per cent of its total commitments. For the period January-June 1984, that figure was \$191 million, i.e., 32.3 per cent of WFP's total commitments for that period.

F. Status report on the implementation of programmes
of assistance to national liberation movements

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)

47. The national liberation movements have received FAO assistance in the form of training, direct support for food production, and sectoral surveys and policy formulation. The assistance is funded from the organization's technical co-operation programme (TCP) and other regular budget resources, from UNDP financing, and from the United Nations Fund for Namibia.

48. TCP assistance (\$21,000) was provided in 1983 for a workshop attended by 20 Namibian women to evaluate the effectiveness and relevance of the training provided under a previous TCP-supported project, and for the preparation of materials for use by the trainees in future courses to be organized by them in camps of the South West Africa People's Organization (SWAPO) camps. In the same year, funds amounting to \$6,300 were mobilized under FAO's Freedom from Hunger Campaign/Action for Development to train cooks and to supply basic items for a SWAPO pre-school day-care centre in Zambia.

49. As a follow up to a TCP-funded training course in nutrition, child care and group feeding, organized in 1982 for staff responsible for running day care centres in camps sponsored by the African National Congress, South Africa (ANC), in 1983 assistance amounting to \$38,000 was approved under FAO's Freedom from Hunger Campaign/Action for Development for two additional courses for ANC staff, and \$75,000 was allocated under the TCP for a workshop on similar lines for Pan-African Congress (PAC) personnel.

50. In addition to projects under TCP, other substantial support has been given from FAO's regular budget to nutrition-related training activities of the national liberation movements. Since July 1983, FAO's regular budget has provided for a nutrition officer outposted at Lusaka, Zambia, for full-time assistance to the national liberation movements in the field of nutrition training. Major activities so far carried out with the assistance of the officer include:

(a) A four-day workshop on vegetable production and nutrition education, attended by 110 Namibian women and school girls in Zambia;

(b) A one-week workshop on nutrition and management of group feeding, attended by 15 SWAPO and ANC pre-school teacher trainers;

(c) A three-week workshop on nutrition, childcare and management of group feeding, attended by 48 SWAPO women supervisors from Angola;

(d) The formulation of a 2-year nutrition education project (proposed for UNDP funding amounting to \$480,000) to upgrade the skills of over 200 leaders and trainers of women and children in SWAPO settlements in Angola and Zambia.

51. High-level fisheries fellowships for six Namibians are to be provided under a \$116,400 second phase project approved in 1983 for UNDP funding. Two Namibians had received diploma-level training under the preceding phase of the project.

52. The ANC was assisted in 1983 by FAO's Freedom from Hunger Campaign/Action for Development programme in mobilizing non-governmental organization funds (\$20,000) to enable the establishment of a dairy enterprise at the Solomon Mahlangu Freedom College with related training so as, to ensure in particular, adequate milk consumption by children and pregnant women among the refugee community.

53. Following earlier UNDP/FAO support to the PAC transit site in Bagamoyo, United Republic of Tanzania, FAO provided in 1983 \$10,000 under TCP for planning the development of a PAC farm to be established as part of a multi-purpose centre at Kitonga. UNDP has approved an allocation of \$255,550 for an FAO-executed project to assist in setting up the farm.

54. As a follow-up to an earlier UNDP/FAO project to assess the potential land suitability of Namibia, FAO is conducting further satellite imagery studies to cover the whole Namibian territory, as an input into the preparation of a comprehensive economic map of Namibia being undertaken by the United Nations Cartographic Unit. The follow-up phase, approved in 1983, is funded with \$90,000 allocated from the United Nations Fund for Namibia.

55. The following two projects, initiated before 1983, were also under way during that year:

"Fellowships for Namibians in food economics, food science and nutrition" (\$355,500 from the United Nations Fund for Namibia)

"Analysis of policy options and preparation of contingency plans for Namibian fisheries" (\$252,000 from UNDP)

World Food Programme (WFP)

56. Co-operation between WFP and OAU was formalized through an exchange of letters and pro memoria in June 1974. As a direct consequence, WFP's General Regulations, governing eligibility for the Programme's assistance, were amended enabling it to consider requests from liberation movements recognized by the United Nations and OAU that are in conformity with specific resolutions of the United Nations and FAO.

57. During the period from October 1983 to June 1984, WFP's assistance to national liberation movements, refugees and displaced persons in Africa was as follows: \$5,565,800 for Namibian refugees in Angola for one year; \$1,953,900 for Zairean refugees in Angola for one year; \$4,670,000 for refugees in Upper Zaire for nine months; \$2,576,000 for Zimbabwean refugees in Botswana for one year; \$1,110,900 for Namibian refugees in Zambia for two years.

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

A. Centre for Human Rights

58. Aside from periodic exchanges of information on particular topics, co-operation between the Centre for Human Rights and the OAU takes place in three main contexts: the activities of the Ad Hoc Working Group of Experts on Human Rights in Southern Africa, assistance to liberation movements, and the implementation of human rights instruments.

59. The Centre keeps the OAU informed on a regular basis of the activities of the Ad Hoc Working Group of Experts on Human Rights in Southern Africa. OAU assists the Group in its activities, particularly with regard to publicizing its work, maintaining contacts with liberation movements,* and the provision of relevant information on developments concerning the situation in southern Africa. The OAU, as well as liberation movements, are invited to attend and participate in meetings serviced by the Centre for Human Rights, including the Commission on Human Rights and its Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities.

60. The Centre for Human Rights follows with particular interest developments concerning the African Charter on Human and People's Rights. Representatives of the OAU are also invited to attend periodic informal consultation meetings of representatives of international secretariats dealing with human rights matters.

B. Department of Political and Security Council Affairs

61. During the period under review, the Special Committee against Apartheid has continued to maintain close co-operation with OAU, particularly as regards:

- (a) The promotion of the international campaign against Apartheid;
- (b) The implementation of the mandatory arms embargo;
- (c) The cessation of nuclear collaboration with South Africa;
- (d) The cessation of cultural, sports and other contacts with apartheid South Africa;

* Unless otherwise indicated, the liberation movements referred to are those recognized by OAU.

(e) The international campaign for the release of Nelson Mandela and all other political prisoners.

62. The OAU was invited, as an observer, to attend several meetings and conferences of the Special Committee, in particular the Latin American Regional Conference for Action against Apartheid, held at Caracas, Venezuela from 16 to 18 September 1983, and the North American Regional Conference for action against Apartheid, held at United Nations Headquarters from 18 to 21 June 1984.

63. The Executive Secretary of the OAU to the United Nations was invited to attend the meeting of the Advisory Committee on the United Nations Educational and Training Programme for Southern Africa in an advisory capacity. The Programme also continued to maintain close liaison with the OAU Bureau for placement and education of African refugees.

64. The Chairman of the Special Committee against Apartheid attended the meeting commemorating the tenth anniversary of the Organization of African Trade Union Unity (OATUU) held at Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, from 28 to 30 April 1983. In March 1984, the Council of Ministers of OAU adopted a resolution commending the Special Committee for its active role in the struggle against apartheid.

65. During the period under review, the Centre against Apartheid continued to provide the OAU secretariat with its publications and audio-visual material in Arabic, English and French.

C. World Food Programme (WFP)

66. As of June 1984, WFP's assistance projects or operations in progress in the front-line States in southern Africa were as follows:

<u>Country</u>	<u>Development projects</u>		<u>Emergency operations</u>		<u>Total WFP assistance</u>
	<u>Number</u>	<u>\$ million</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>\$ million</u>	<u>\$ million</u>
Angola	7	54.5	1	2.0	56.5
Botswana	4	81.1	-	-	81.1
Mozambique	6	73.0	4	12.2	85.2
United Republic of Tanzania	7	41.2	1	1.5	42.7
Zambia	3	5.1	1	2.7	7.8
Zimbabwe	-	-	3	6.7	6.7
Total	27	254.9	10	25.1	280.0

D. United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)

67. UNESCO continues to execute several educational projects financed by UNDP for the benefit of the national liberation movements of southern Africa and to provide the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees with consultancy services in the preparation and implementation of educational activities for African refugees.

68. UNESCO participated in the joint mission to evaluate assistance projects for African liberation movements, which visited the United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia and Angola from 7 to 24 September 1983.

69. Under the Regular Programme, the General Conference of UNESCO, at its twenty-second session, approved a sum of \$266,800 with a view to expanding educational and training activities for African national liberation movements.

70. Under the Regular Programme and from the special account for increased aid to developing countries, an amount of \$14,218 was approved to meet travel and subsistence expenses for representatives of African liberation movements at the twenty-second session of the UNESCO General Conference.

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

A. Department of Political and Security Council Affairs

71. The Outer Space Affairs Division of the Department has co-operated with member States of the OAU, particularly, by bringing to their attention the recommendations of the Second United Nations Conference on the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (see A/CONF.101/10 and Corr.1 and 2). This process was accomplished through a seminar organized under the auspices of the United Nations Space Applications Programme at the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) headquarters in June 1983 for the benefit of ECA and ECWA member States. The recommendations and conclusions of this seminar are contained in document A/AC.105/326. In addition, candidates from the Member States of the OAU participated in a three-week International Training Course on Remote Sensing Applications to Operational Agrometeorology which was conducted in July 1983 in Niamey, Niger, jointly by the United Nations, the World Meteorological Organization, the European Space Agency and FAO. The report of this course is contained in document A/AC.105/328.

72. Furthermore, at its recently concluded twenty-first session, the Scientific and Technical Sub-Committee of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (COPUOS) endorsed the programme proposed by the expert on space applications for 1982 and 1985 (A/AC.105/330). Those proposals include consultative missions to a number of ECA member States in 1984, which would focus on programmes for meeting the needs and requests of these member States in space science and technology and its applications (e.g. basic space sciences, remote sensing, meteorology and communications). The composition of these missions would include representatives of the United Nations Headquarters, ECA and industrialized countries.

73. In addition, member States of OAU have been requested to nominate candidates for 1984-1985 long-range fellowships being offered, under the auspices of the United Nations Space Applications Programme, by (a) the Government of Austria in microwave technology; (b) the Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics in geodesy, cartography and aerial photogrammetry; and (c) the European Space Agency in satellite communications, remote sensing and meteorology. Nominations have also been requested for participation in United Nations international training courses on remote sensing applications to (a) forestry (Moscow, May 1984) and (b) aquaculture (Rome, in co-operation with FAO and the Government of Italy, September 1984).

B. World Bank

74. As the OAU, in accordance with its mandate, deals primarily with important political issues, and the Bank's activities are in the area of economic development, co-operation between the two organizations has been limited to areas in which they share mutual concerns. Effectively, the Bank's co-operation has been overwhelmingly with OAU member States who are also members of the World Bank and who borrow from the Bank and from its affiliated institutions - the International Development Association (IDA) and the International Finance Corporation (IFC).

75. Africa receives a very large percentage of concessional IDA funds, proportionately larger than any of the other regions. In the Bank's Economic Development Institute, training courses in Africa and for Africans in Washington are given the highest priority and represent the largest regional expenditure.

76. Three events in the last year stand out as evidence of World Bank/OAU co-operation. On 16 March 1984, acting OAU Secretary-General Dr. Peter Onu came to the Bank with other members of the Steering Committee of the Second International Conference on Assistance to Refugees in Africa to meet with Senior Vice President for Operations Mr. Stern, concerning the Conference which took place in July 1984 at Geneva. The Bank was able to give some informal advice on economic issues in relation to the Steering Committee's preparations for the Conference. The Bank was represented at the Conference by its representative to the United Nations Office at Geneva, and the Director of the International Relations Department of the Bank addressed the meeting.

77. The second event concerns the launching of the Secretary-General's initiative on Africa in which the Bank has been very involved, having donated \$2 million to the World Food Programme to support the delivery of food to drought-stricken countries and for co-operation with UNDP in the field. These activities have afforded contacts with the OAU.

78. With regard to the third event, the Ministers of the Bank/Fund Development Committee asked the Bank's management to prepare a report on Africa to be presented to its September 1984 meeting. The authors of the report had extensive consultations with leadership of the OAU at Addis Ababa in June 1984.

79. The Economic Development Institute often co-sponsors courses with African institutions. These institutions are those most concerned with economic

development and, in financial year 1983 and most of financial year 1984, they included: AADFI, African Development Bank, COFEB, ESAMI, the Kenya Commercial Bank, the Kenya Posts and Telecommunications Corporation, the International Livestock Centre for Africa, and the Union of African Railways. OAU did not co-sponsor any courses during this period, but it has sent personnel from its staff to courses both in both financial years: 1983, two staff, and 1984, one staff. On 20 February 1984, staff of the Institute visited OAU headquarters to discuss the Institute's five-year plan.

80. The Bank maintains contact with OAU at Addis Ababa through its resident representative, who attended, inter alia, the OAU General Secretariat Meeting of 21-22 April 1983, at the latter's invitation.

C. United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD)

81. As in previous years, a large part of the technical and operational assistance of UNCTAD's Advisory Service on Transfer of Technology continues to be directed to African countries, in response to their requests for assistance and co-operation. While the extent of such co-operation varies from country to country, depending on their identified needs and priorities, this assistance falls within the following broad areas of the Advisory Service's work:

(a) Formulation and implementation of technology plans, including technology policies and plans concerning specific sectors of critical importance to developing countries;

(b) Formulation of an integrated set of plans, laws, regulations and procedures as a means of implementing strategies aiming at the technological transformation of developing countries;

(c) Establishment and strengthening of institutional infrastructures, including technology centres, so that their linkages with the productive sectors can be improved and the needs of technology users met through the provision of services, training and advice in the productive utilization of technology. Contacts and consultations between OAU and the Advisory Service are continuing regarding initiation of specific concrete areas of co-operation between the two organizations in the technology field;

(d) Training of at least 100 personnel on various areas of technology transfer, utilization and development.

82. Contacts and consultations are continuing between the OAU and UNCTAD aimed at initiating inter-secretariat co-operation on specific areas of technology transfer and development to be identified.

83. During the period January 1983-May 1984, at the request of the Group of African States of the Group of 77, the relevant services of the UNCTAD secretariat made arrangements for the provision of interpretation services and conference rooms for the meetings of the African Group in connection with the Group's preparations for, or discussions during, UNCTAD meetings. A total of 143 meetings were arranged

during this period, 97 of which were held within the framework of official UNCTAD meetings, and the remainder on an occasional basis in the light of requests.

84. UNCTAD's Trade Facilitation Programme has been actively involved in technical co-operation projects in eastern and southern Africa, mainly related to the drafting of transit agreements and harmonization of transit procedures for the transit corridors serving the land-locked countries of the subregion.

D. United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO)

85. As in the past, co-operation between UNIDO and OAU during the reporting period focused on joint action, along with the ECA, for the implementation of the programme for the Industrial Development Decade for Africa.

86. Two meetings of the Joint OAU/ECA/UNIDO Inter-Secretariat Committee were held at Addis Ababa, in June and October 1983. The work of the Joint Committee focused on the organization of subregional meetings on the promotion of intra-African industrial co-operation within the framework of the Decade. The three secretariats also undertook a number of activities related to the preparation of documentation for the Fourth General Conference of UNIDO, which took place at Vienna from 2 to 18 August 1984.

87. Based on consultations between the three secretariats, criteria for the selection of core industries at the national and subregional levels were adopted and used in the selection of projects for the subregional meetings. These were issued in early 1984 as annexes to a special Decade publication on "Guidelines for initiating priority actions at the national and subregional levels (1982-1984) for the IDDA" (document ID/310).

88. The first two meetings were held at Addis Ababa in November 1983 in respect of the eastern and southern African subregion, and in Abidjan in December 1983 for the western African subregion. The other two meetings took place at Bangui in February 1984 for the central African subregion, and at Tunis in March 1984 for northern Africa.

89. At each meeting, agreement was reached on core industrial subsectors and support areas in which multinational projects could be developed and on an initial integrated industrial promotion programme consisting of core industrial and support projects drawn from (a) national projects requiring multinational co-operation that had been submitted to UNIDO and ECA by countries in the subregion; (b) subregional industrial programmes developed by intergovernmental organizations in the subregion including the MULPOCs; and (c) the UNIDO Investment Promotion Service. Discussions also focused on the strategy to be adopted for the implementation of the initial programme.

90. In the light of the decisions and recommendations adopted at the seventh meeting of the Follow-up Committee on Industrialization held in March 1983 at Kigali, Rwanda, the three secretariats prepared a draft document containing proposals for a common position of the African countries with respect to the Fourth General Conference of UNIDO.

91. The document deals with each of the substantive items of the agenda of the Conference. On the basis of consultations between the three secretariats, the background and issue papers to be presented to the Conference in respect of agenda item 6, on the Industrial Development Decade, were prepared.

92. This and other issues were presented to the meeting of intergovernmental experts of the whole on industrialization in Africa which met at Addis Ababa from 19 to 24 March 1984 to prepare for the Seventh Conference of African Ministers of Industry which also met at Addis Ababa from 26 to 28 March 1984 and endorsed the recommendations of the experts meeting. As in the past, these meetings were jointly organized by the three secretariats.

E. International Labour Organisation (ILO)

93. During the period under review, ILO continued to co-operate with OAU in preparing and carrying out its programmes of activities in Africa in its various fields of competence and to assist OAU, in particular, in the fields of social security, vocational rehabilitation, population and employment, and assistance in the implementation of the Lagos Plan of Action and the social aspects of development.

94. OAU and the ILO held a Joint Technical Consultation Meeting on Social Security Training in Africa in Addis Ababa from 6 to 9 December 1983. The meeting agreed on basic principles and formulated recommendations on guidelines for endorsement and implementation by the various national and international bodies. This meeting was attended by 45 delegates from 30 African countries, and two consultants representing employers' and workers' organizations including observers from international, regional and national organizations: International Social Security Association (ISSA), ECA, the Arab Labour Organization (ALO), Organisation communautaire africaine et mauricienne (OCAM), OATUU and CNESSS (France). Under its regular budget, ILO also provided two man-months consultancy in a social security scheme for the staff of OAU.

95. The ILO/OAU project in vocational rehabilitation envisages a regional network of service-oriented facilities. It will concentrate on the promotion and development of regional, subregional and national training, and research programmes in the field of rehabilitation and disability prevention. Its main objectives are to improve the living conditions of disabled persons and to contribute to the development of self-reliance of African countries in dealing with problems of disability.

96. An ILO/UNFPA project relating to the establishment of a labour and population unit in the OAU secretariat is to promote and assist in the formulation of population and development planning policies in African countries through a better understanding of the issues involved and of the interrelationships between population, employment and socio-economic variables. UNFPA's contribution is \$202,000 for 1983-1985. ILO provides technical support through its regional advisers of the African Labour and Population Team at Addis Ababa.

97. During the past three years, the secretariat of OAU, UNDP and the ILO International Institute for Labour Studies have begun to implement an African

regional project entitled "Pluriannual programme on the social implications of the implementation of the Lagos Plan of Action". The results of this project's preparatory phase had impressed very favourably the three partners of the project, African Governments, African and non-African universities and research institutions as well as certain other international agencies.

98. As a follow-up to this endeavour, an operational phase of the "Pluriannual programme" is envisaged. The operational phase is intended to contribute to the research for and the formulation and implementation of durable solutions to the crucial problems of food strategies of African countries, of their implications in terms of mastering technology and of their impacts on less favoured social categories (children, youth and women in particular).

99. The operational phase of the proposed project has as its objectives a three-pronged approach: (a) training of instructors to harness African technologies and appropriate technology to serve employment and raise the income of rural populations; (b) evolving of new policies and social institutions to be recommended to Governments, with consensus of their social partners; and (c) encouraging researchers and research institutes to make practical contributions to solving food and technology problems and the difficulties of less favoured social groups.

F. Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)

100. In view of the second session of the OAU African Inter-Ministerial Committee for Food, which was to be held at Addis Ababa from 4 to 7 June 1984, FAO and OAU, together with ECA, prepared a joint report on the food situation in Africa. For the same meeting, FAO and OAU contributed to a position paper on the African food crisis prepared by the Africa Group at Rome.

101. The third session of the Joint FAO/WHO/OAU Regional Food and Nutrition Commission for Africa took place at Cairo in October 1983, and the fifth meeting of representatives of sponsoring agencies of the Commission was held at the OAU headquarters to consider the follow-up to the recommendations of the third session.

102. A two-year project, sponsored by the OAU and executed by FAO, for the integrated management of the Fouta Djallon Mountains started operations in February 1984. It is funded by UNDP and the United Nations Sudano-Sahelian Office (UNSO), with contributions in kind from OAU and the Government of Guinea.

103. FAO has established co-operative arrangements with the African Association of Cartography for the preparation, on the initiative of OAU, of a hydrogeological map of Africa.

104. FAO is preparing a paper on "Implications of recent developments in remote sensing and related technology for African development" for presentation to the OAU/ECA Expert Group Meeting to Assess Trends and Possible Applications and Implications of New Scientific and Technological Advances on the Development Efforts of Africa in the Context of the Lagos Plan of Action, which is to take place in October 1984.

105. Close co-operation continues between FAO and the OAU Inter-African Bureau for Animal Resources (IBAR) in the Pan-African Rinderpest Campaign (PARC). The two organizations collaborated in organizing three ad hoc preparatory committee meetings (held in November 1983, and February and June 1984) for the Campaign. Three regional projects requested by OAU and funded under FAO/TCP in the context of the Campaign are concerned with strengthening the veterinary resources of OAU/IBAR, drawing up strategic measures for decreasing opportunities for disease exchange between wild and domestic stock, and training in rinderpest diagnosis and vaccine production. In addition, FAO has assisted in the preparation of 28 national rinderpest control projects. An Information Meeting on Funding Requirements for the PARC was organized at FAO headquarters in June 1984.

106. The Fourth FAO/OAU/WHO Seminar on Trypanosomiasis was held in November 1983 in Brazzaville, Congo, following the tenth session of the Executive Committee of OAU/International Scientific Council for Trypanosomiasis Research and Control at which FAO was also represented. An observer from OAU/IBAR attended the third session of the FAO Commission on Trypanosomiasis in May 1984 at Nairobi, Kenya. In June 1984, a representative of OAU/IBAR attended an informal meeting on training and information on trypanosomiasis at FAO headquarters. On that occasion, plans for the Fifth FAO/OAU/WHO Seminar on Trypanosomiasis and the publication of a Tsetse/Trypanosomiasis Information Quarterly were discussed.

107. An Expert Consultation on Veterinary Education in Africa, to be held in December 1984 at Nairobi, Kenya, is being prepared by FAO in collaboration with OAU/IBAR.

108. FAO and OAU/IBAR jointly organized the Second Expert Committee Meeting on Genetic Resources which took place in November 1983 in Zimbabwe. Discussions centred on the establishment of a regional data bank for animal genetic resources.

109. The FAO regional plant protection officer for Africa has been relocated to Yaoundé, Cameroon, in order to enhance the close working relations between FAO and the OAU Inter-African Phytosanitary Council at Yaoundé. An OAU request for FAO assistance for training African nationals for biological control of the cassava mealybug is under consideration.

G. World Food Programme (WFP)

110. For programming the utilization of its resources, WFP's standing policy considers Africa, south of the Sahara, as a priority area. At the moment, about 150 WFP development projects are operating in that region, at a total cost of \$1 billion. Total cumulative WFP commitments up to and including 1983 for the low income food deficit countries in Africa were almost \$1,679 million and those for the entire continent, almost \$1,873 million.

111. As the largest source of development assistance within the United Nations system apart from the World Bank group, WFP, in 1983, committed globally for development and emergency assistance nearly \$900 million. In 1984, the total commitment for development projects and emergency operations is expected to be even

higher, and in the allocation of its resources WFP will continue to give Africa priority consideration.

112. As a pioneer and the principal operator in the project approach to food aid, WFP has been one of the earliest exponents of rural development and labour-intensive works. By 1981, over 80 per cent of its commitments were directed to agriculture and rural development.

113. The course of action followed by WFP is to provide development assistance for projects that stimulate food production, support grain reserves linked to price stabilization and generally support improved policy measures. When emergency food assistance is required, it is provided in such a way as to avoid any deterrent to the adoption of policies and programmes to overcome recurrent crop shortfalls and to increase local food production.

114. The type of WFP-supported projects that most directly benefit African countries' rural development are directly productive projects such as land development, improvement and settlement, promotion and diversification of crop production, animal production, forestry management, fishery development and establishment of food reserves for price stabilization. When feeding projects and literacy programmes are located in rural areas, they, too, promote rural development, albeit indirectly.

115. The following examples will illustrate WFP's involvement in the African economic development process: for two separate projects in Ethiopia for the rehabilitation of forest, grazing and agricultural lands, WFP has committed \$135 million. Some \$86 million was approved for one of them earlier, backed by a further \$79 million from other sources.

116. A total of \$212.7 million was committed to development projects in all of Africa in 1983, while the grand total of commitments, for all types of projects, including \$94 million for emergency operations, amounted to \$335 million.

H. World Food Council

117. The World Food Council has given special attention to the African food problem since its seventh ministerial session at Arusha in 1979. In close collaboration with the OAU, it has continued in 1983 to consult African Governments to see how coherent food policies could be an essential basis for reversing the food deficits in Africa.

118. Those consultations led to the recognition that a sound basis for reversing the negative food trends in Africa required essential policy adjustments by African Governments, within the framework of the Lagos Plan of Action.

119. At the Round-table on Food Strategies in Africa, held at Montpellier in 1983, which OAU attended, as a follow-up to the Nairobi African Ministerial Consultation of 1982, it was recognized that responsible policy adjustment was needed to respond effectively to the African nations' stepped-up food policy efforts and programmes,

and that agencies needed to give assistance for policy adjustment as well as to improve co-ordination among themselves, with due respect to those nations' sovereignty.

120. For the tenth ministerial session of the World Food Council, which was to take place at Addis Ababa from 11 to 15 June 1984, and which marked the tenth anniversary of the founding of the World Food Conference at Rome in 1974, the Council prepared a special document reporting on the African countries' efforts to deal with their food problems through the preparation and implementation of national food strategies (WFC/1984/4, parts I and II).

I. United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat)

121. The Centre has offered to the OAU secretariat its expertise and co-operation in the implementation of the two specific programmes in the field of human settlements which had been identified for implementation by the OAU in its document entitled "Operational work programme for the implementation of the Lagos Plan of Action" (CM/134(XXXVII), annex I). These projects are (a) the convening of an expert group meeting to review the progress achieved in the implementation of all previous work undertaken either by the OAU or any other international organization in Africa in the field of human settlements, and to make recommendations on OAU's future activities in this field; and (b) the convening of an expert group meeting on environmental considerations in the development of human settlements in Africa. The Centre is awaiting a response from the OAU on this matter.

122. A draft Memorandum of Understanding between the Centre and OAU was also prepared and forwarded to the OAU secretariat. It is hoped that the Memorandum will be signed in the near future.

J. United Nations Environment ^{Protection} ~~Protection~~ (UNEP)

123. During the reporting period, subregional workshops were held with the participation of heads of national environmental institutions or persons designated to be responsible for co-ordinating national environmental matters for the various subregional environmental groups.

124. Plans were made for the holding, in April 1984 at Lusaka, of a regional meeting between the above-mentioned subregional environmental groups on the African environment, and for a comprehensive programme of action to be adopted at the meeting, addressed to African environmental problems.

K. General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT)

125. A major part of GATT's recent activities have been concerned with implementing the work programme resulting from the November 1982 meeting of the contracting parties at Geneva at ministerial level. This programme includes certain provisions of specific interest for developing countries in general and for the African countries in particular.

126. Implementation of the provisions of the work programme was entrusted to the Committee on Trade and Development. These were namely: action under part IV of the General Agreement and application of the enabling clause regarding differential and more favourable treatment for developing countries; a study on prospects for expanding trade between developed and developing countries; improvement of tariff and non-tariff treatment of products of export interest to the least developed countries; and trade in tropical products and strengthened technical assistance.

127. As regards implementation of part IV, the Committee on Trade and Development has held individual or collective consultations with contracting parties to examine how their economic and trade policies have responded to their obligations under articles XXXVI and XXXVII, and to the requirements of collective action under article XXXVIII.

128. The secretariat has prepared a study on prospects for expanding trade between developed and developing countries. This study is of great interest for all contracting parties, highlighting the possibilities of expanding trade under the General Agreement and the role that GATT can play to facilitate further international trade expansion by offering a multilateral framework of rules and disciplines to strengthen the security, stability and equity of trade relations.

129. In the area of tropical products, of which the African countries are major exporters, two series of consultations held in 1983-1984 have been the occasion of useful work for identifying problems and difficulties still remaining and defining guidelines for possible negotiations between exporting and importing countries.

130. Furthermore, in addition to the provisions regarding the developing countries as a whole, the Geneva ministerial meeting gave special attention to expansion of trade of the least developed countries, of which more than two thirds (27 out of 38) are African. In this connection, the contracting parties undertook, individually and jointly "to ensure special treatment for the least developed countries in the context of differential and more favourable treatment for developing countries, in order to ameliorate the grave economic situation of these countries".

131. In the area of technical co-operation, GATT has pursued its assistance programme in various forms, including seminars and commercial policy courses. Seminars have been organized in Africa. They are designed to inform government officials in those countries about commercial policy problems, major international conferences on trade, and in addition, to allow the African countries to participate more actively in world trade.

132. In the field of training activities, the GATT secretariat organizes commercial policy training courses at Geneva each year in English, French or Spanish, for senior officials from developing countries. Since the adoption of the Lagos Plan of Action, 66 officials and representatives of African regional organizations have participated in these courses.

L. United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization

133. UNESCO is continuing its co-operation with OAU in the provision of consultancy services and the training of staff. As part of the Regular Programme, research contracts will be concluded with the OAU Centre d'études linguistiques et historiques par tradition orale, at Niamey.

134. Project RAF/80/032, "Multi-sectoral assistance to the general secretariat of OAU", has ended. Negotiations are currently taking place between OAU, UNESCO and UNDP on the financing of the operational phase of the project, entitled: "Organization of African Unity cultural development programmes".

135. The Council of the International Programme for the Development of Communication has just granted PANA, at its May 1984 session, a contribution of \$100,000 to finance seminars and round tables organized for the benefit of correspondents from African national agencies which participate in PANA.

M. World Health Organization

136. In the period under review, WHO continued collaboration with OAU in various fields. WHO and OAU jointly organized a symposium on virus and cancer in April 1984 at Nairobi. A joint WHO/OAU monograph on classification of nomenclature and diagnostic criteria for liver diseases is under preparation. WHO has contributed \$22,000 for the publication of the African Pharmacopeia. OAU participated in the WHO consultative co-ordination meeting on traditional medicine activities in Africa, held at Brazzaville in July 1984.

137. Activities within the framework of the OAU/WHO Joint Commission included:

(a) Organization of subregional workshops for the elaboration of strategies and programmes in the field of nutrition and food and of policy guidelines and national nutritional programmes for a number of countries;

(b) Elaboration of joint proposals on weaning food formula;

(c) Elaboration of guidelines on breast feeding and health education in communities;

(d) Promotion of food and nutrition surveillance with a view in particular to improving the control of protein-energy malnutrition, vitamin A deficiency, endemic goitre and anaemic diseases through the design of a surveillance system in peripheral areas and through training courses for nationals and consultant services;

(e) Provision by WHO of financial support to the activities of the Joint FAO/WHO/OAU Regional Food and Nutrition Commission for Africa and the services of a WHO nutritional adviser.

138. The WHO Liaison Office with OAU maintained close contacts with the organization and participated in a number of OAU meetings, such as the OAU Council

of Ministers and the OAU Co-ordinating Committee on Assistance to Refugees. In view of the new situation due to drought, WHO will strengthen its co-operation with OAU.

N. Universal Postal Union

139. Co-operation with OAU is carried on, especially in the technical field, through the Pan-African Postal Union (PAPU), OAU's specialized agency for matters relating to postal services. In this connection, representatives from both the OAU and PAPU took part as observers in two meetings of UPU bodies: the October 1983 session of the Consultative Council for Postal Studies; and the February/March 1984 session of the Executive Council.

140. Arrangements were also made for OAU and PAPU to be represented at the 19th Congress of UPU, held at Hamburg from 18 June to 26 July 1984. For its part, UPU was represented at the PAPU meetings, held in December 1983 at Monrovia, and in April/May 1984 at Harare.

141. A co-operation agreement between PAPU and UPU was concluded in May 1984. It is mainly concerned with technical co-operation activities, reciprocal representation and the exchange of information and documents.

142. UPU co-operated with PAPU and its member countries in the organization of the second Conference on Mail Circulation in Africa, held at Monrovia in November 1983. UPU's contribution to this Conference consisted in providing the services of consultant-lecturers to lead the discussions, and in awarding fellowships to help the representatives of the postal administrations of the least developed countries of Africa to attend the Conference.

O. International Telecommunication Union

143. ITU continues to co-operate closely with OAU within the framework of the Pan-African Telecommunication Network (PANAFTEL) and the Regional African Satellite Communication System.

P. International Atomic Energy Agency

144. During the period under review, the Agency had three inter-country projects for Africa: water resources in North Africa (ongoing); microcomputer training of scientists and engineers and use of desk computers (completed); and nuclear techniques in insect physiology (ongoing). A recent request from the African Centre for Science and Technology to consider an inter-country project on applications of irradiation techniques in food processing is under active consideration. The Agency is willing to co-operate in peaceful uses of atomic energy with the Economic Commission for Africa through the Agency's member States.

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

145. During 1983 and the first half of 1984, the global network of United Nations Information Centres co-operated with OAU, maintaining direct working contacts in the countries where there are OAU offices. Where no OAU offices exist, the Centres liaised with diplomatic representatives of OAU member States on coverage and dissemination, while supplying them with information materials on United Nations work and activities, especially those on the issues before the OAU and of particular concern to Africa.

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

147. The Centres also co-operated closely with regional, subregional and national organs of ECA and, in some cases, provided coverage for Africa-related United Nations meetings and those held by ECA in their work areas. Several Centres, particularly the Dakar Centre, reported fruitful working relations with the Pan-African News Agency (PANA), an OAU organ with headquarters at Dakar.

148. The Centres' contacts with local educational authorities and non-governmental organizations also produced good coverage and dissemination on various events or observances centering around African issues.
