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ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR AFRICA

ANNUAL REPORT

13 April 1980–10 April 1981

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

OFFICIAL RECORDS, 1981

SUPPLEMENT No. 14

UNITED NATIONS



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NOTE

Symbols of United Nations documents are composed of capital letters combined with figures. Mention of such a symbol indicates a reference to a United Nations document. United Nations documents symbols which are preceded by the designation E/CN.14/. . . indicate that the documents are issued under the auspices of the Economic Commission for Africa.

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CONTENTS

	<u>Paragraphs</u>	<u>Page</u>
ABREVIATIONS		v
INTRODUCTION		1
CHAPTERS:		
I. ISSUES THAT REQUIRE ACTION BY OR ARE BROUGHT TO THE ATTENTION OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL	2 - 3	1
A. New and renewable sources of energy		1
B. Full regionalization of regional training institutes for population studies in Africa		3
C. Implications of General Assembly resolutions 32/197 and 33/202 on the restructuring of the economic and social sectors of the United Nations system for the regional commissions		20
D. Programmes of work and priorities of the Economic Commission for Africa for 1982-1983		23
II. WORK OF THE COMMISSION SINCE 13 APRIL 1980	4 - 25	25
A. Activities of subsidiary bodies	4	25
B. Other activities	5 - 24	25
C. Relations with specialized agencies and other organizations	25	28
III. SIXTEENTH SESSION OF THE COMMISSION - SEVENTH MEETING OF THE CONFERENCE OF MINISTERS	1 - 127	29
A. Attendance and organization of work	1 - 7	29
B. Agenda	8	30
C. Account of proceedings	9 - 114	32
D. Programme of work and priorities	115 - 127	59
IV. RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED BY THE CONFERENCE OF MINISTERS AT ITS SEVENTH MEETING <u>a/</u>		62

a/ For list of resolutions see pages 62 and 63.

TABLE OF CONTENTS (continued)

ANNEXES:

- I. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS OF DRAFT RESOLUTIONS
FOR ACTION BY THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL
AND CONFERENCE OF MINISTERS RESOLUTIONS
- II. MEETINGS OF SUBSIDIARY BODIES HELD DURING
THE PERIOD UNDER REVIEW
- III. LIST OF DOCUMENTS

ABBREVIATIONS

AACB	Association of African Central Banks
AATPO	Association of African Trade Promotion Organizations
ACARTSOD	African Centre for Applied Research and Training in Social Development
ACMS	African Centre for Monetary Studies
ACP	African, Caribbean and Pacific countries
ADB	African Development Bank
ADF	African Development Fund
ARCT	African Regional Centre for Technology
ATRCW	African Training and Research Centre for Women
BADEA	Arab Bank for Economic Development in Africa
CEC	Commission of the European Communities
CEPGL	Economic Community of the Great Lakes Countries
CILSS	Permanent Inter-State Committee for Drought Control in the Sahel
CMEA	Council for Mutual Economic Assistance
CODESRIA	Council for the Development of Economic and Social Research in Africa
ECOWAS	Economic Community of West African States
EEC	European Economic Community
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
GATT	General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade
ICAO	International Civil Aviation Organization
IDEP	Institute for Economic Development and Planning
IFORD	Institut de formation et de recherche démographiques
ILO	International Labour Organisation
IMCO	Intergovernmental Maritime Consultative Organization

IMF	International Monetary Fund
IPPF	International Planned Parenthood Federation
IYDP	International Year of Disabled Persons
MULPOC	Multinational Programming and Operational Centre
NTF	Nigerian Trust Fund
OAU	Organization of African Unity
OPEC	Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries
PADIS	Pan-African Documentation and Information System
PTA	Preferential Trade Area
RIPS	Regional Institute for Population Studies
TCDC	Technical co-operation among developing countries
UDEAC	Central African Customs and Economic Union
UNCHS	United Nations Centre for Human Settlements
UNCTAD	United Nations Conference on Trade and Development
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
UNIDO	United Nations Industrial Development Organization
UNSO	United Nations Sahelian Office
UNTFAD	United Nations Trust Fund for African Development
UPU	Universal Postal Union
WACH	West African Clearing House
WARDA	West African Rice Development Association
WFC	World Food Council
WHO	World Health Organization
WIPO	World Intellectual Property Organization

INTRODUCTION

1. The present annual report of the Economic Commission for Africa covers the period from 13 April 1980 to 10 April 1981. It has been prepared in accordance with paragraph 18 of the Commission's terms of reference.

CHAPTER I: ISSUES THAT REQUIRE ACTION BY OR ARE BROUGHT TO THE ATTENTION OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

2. At its two hundred and seventeenth meeting held on 10 April 1981, the Conference of Ministers of the Commission unanimously approved the following draft resolution for submission to the Economic and Social Council for action:

A. New and renewable sources of energy 1/ /Resolution 425 (XVI)/

The Economic and Social Council,

Having considered the report of the Regional Preparatory Meeting on New and Renewable Sources of Energy in Africa 2/ held at Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, from 12 to 16 January 1981,

Recalling Economic Commission for Africa resolution 113 (VI) of 2 March 1964 on the utilization of solar energy in Africa, resolution 265 (XII) of the Conference of Ministers of the Economic Commission for Africa of 23 February 1975 in which it was recommended that the Executive Secretary should undertake any action needed to ensure that use was made of the results of solar energy research to benefit the development of African countries and he was requested to provide maximum possible assistance to any African country or group of countries which had undertaken solar energy research, experimentation or exploitation,

Recalling also the recommendations made by the second African Meeting on Energy 3/ held at Accra from 8 to 19 November 1976 concerning the development and utilization of non-conventional sources and new energies,

Bearing in mind resolution 337 (XIV) of the Conference of Ministers of the Economic Commission for Africa of 27 March 1979 endorsing the recommendation made by the Regional Seminar on Solar Energy 4/ held at Niamey from 8 to 13 January 1979 at which it was decided to establish a Regional Centre for Solar Energy Research and Development in Africa,

1/ See chapter III, paragraphs 70 and 71 below.

2/ E/CN.14/800 - E/CN.14/TPCW/II/17 - E/CN.14/NRD/E/39.

3/ E/CN.14/665.

4/ E/CN.14/713.

Taking into account General Assembly resolutions 33/148 of 20 December 1978 and 34/190 of 18 December 1979, in which it was decided to convene at Nairobi an international conference on new and renewable sources of energy in August 1981,

Recalling the guiding principles of the Lagos Plan of Action 5/ on the development of new and renewable sources of energy,

Taking into account also that new and renewable sources of energy could constitute alternative sources of energy and contribute to the future development of African countries,

Cognizant of the importance of developing new and renewable sources of energy in order to meet the requirements for continued economic and social development, particularly in rural and remote areas,

Stressing the importance of intensive international co-operation and concerted action and the full commitment of African countries in the field of new and renewable sources of energy,

Considering that the mastery of various technologies regarding new and renewable sources of energy and their adaptation to local conditions require adequate technological infrastructure and appropriate research and development efforts,

Considering further that genuine development cannot be ensured and that new technologies cannot be mastered without highly skilled, competent and motivated staff with the required knowledge, practical experience and sense of initiative,

1. Endorses the final report of the Regional Preparatory Meeting on New and Renewable Sources of Energy held at Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, from 12 to 16 January 1981 including its Plan of Action and recommendations;

2. Further endorses the regional paper 6/ which reflects the African position concerning the development and utilization of new and renewable sources of energy;

3. Expresses its appreciation to the Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa for the assistance rendered to African Member States in the preparatory work for the United Nations Conference on New and Renewable Sources of Energy to be held at Nairobi, Kenya, from 10 to 21 August 1981;

4. Urges African Member States to be represented at the Conference at the highest level possible in the field of new and renewable sources of energy and, acting on the basis of the guidelines set out in the regional paper, to ensure that their views are fully and equitably reflected in the international declaration or plan of action to be drawn up by the Conference;

5/ See A/S-11/14, annex I.

6/ E/CN.14/799.

5. Further urges African Member States to give high priority to measures for the implementation of national, subregional and regional programmes conceived within the framework of the African Plan of Action for the Development and Utilization of New and Renewable Sources of Energy;

6. Invites African Member States to keep the Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa informed on the progress made in the implementation of this Plan and of any problems and difficulties in this regard;

7. Urges the Secretary-General to strengthen the Energy Resources Unit of the Economic Commission for Africa and to allocate the funds required for carrying out the various tasks related to the promotion and implementation of the Plan;

8. Requests the Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa to prepare a progress report on the implementation of the African Regional Plan of Action for the Development and Utilization of New and Renewable Sources of Energy and to submit it for consideration at the ninth meeting of the Conference of Ministers of the Economic Commission for Africa in 1983.

B. Full regionalization of regional training institutes for population studies in Africa 7/ /Resolution 426 (XVI)/

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling resolution 367 (XIV) of the Conference of Ministers of the Economic Commission for Africa of 27 March 1979 which requested the Executive Secretary of that Commission to initiate action to make the Regional Institute for Population Studies at Accra and the Institut de formation et de recherche démographiques at Yaounde fully regional in character,

Recalling also the action taken by the Conference of Ministers of the Economic Commission for Africa at its sixth meeting concerning the implementation of regionalization of the two institutes, 8/

Further recalling resolution 393 (XV) of the Conference of Ministers of the Economic Commission for Africa of 12 April 1980 which endorsed the new statutes of the two institutes and recommended that the statutes should be submitted through the Economic and Social Council for approval by the General Assembly,

Noting with satisfaction the action taken by the Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa and the Governments of the host countries of the two institutes to bring about their regionalization, notably through the organization of sensitization missions within the countries served by each of the two institutes on the regionalization and activities of the institutes,

7/ See chapter III, paragraphs 70 and 71 below.

8/ E/1980/27.

Further noting with satisfaction the readiness of the Governments of Ghana and the United Republic of Cameroon to co-operate with the secretariat in holding a meeting of plenipotentiaries of member States on the future of the two institutes,

Conscious of the urgent need to bring about the regionalization of the two institutes,

1. Requests the Secretary-General to ensure that the new statutes of the institutes annexed to the present resolution are submitted to the General Assembly at its thirty-sixth session;

2. Recommends that the General Assembly should approve the two statutes at its thirty-sixth session;

3. Invites all African Member States to participate fully in the meetings of plenipotentiaries on the future of the two institutes and to discharge their financial obligations which will be determined by these meetings in order that the regionalization might become effective as soon as possible;

4. Requests the Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa, in collaboration with the Governments of the host countries of the institutes, to make all the necessary arrangements to ensure that the regionalization become effective by January 1982 at the latest and to submit a progress report to the Conference of Ministers of the Economic Commission for Africa at its next meeting.

Annex

A. Statutes of the Regional Institute for Population Studies

ARTICLE I

Establishment and objectives

1. The Regional Institute for Population Studies (hereinafter referred to as "the Institute") established in Accra pursuant to the agreement signed on 3 December 1971 between the United Nations and the Government of the Republic of Ghana shall be continued in existence under the terms of these statutes.

2. The primary purpose of the Institute shall be the training of persons particularly those from the countries set out in the appendix to these Statutes, specialized in population studies, and the conduct and publication of the results of research in population and related fields in relation to such countries.

3. For the purposes of the preceding paragraph, the Institute shall:

(a) Provide training courses on population and related fields;

(b) Organize and undertake research on all aspects of population and related fields both at its headquarters and in the countries served by the Institute;

(c) Organize in co-operation with appropriate national services and specialized agencies concerned in other African countries, workshops, seminars and meetings on national, subregional and regional population problems;

(d) Provide at the request of the Governments of the countries set out in appendix to these Statutes such advisory services as may be within its competence and resources;

(e) Grant degrees, diplomas, certificates or other awards to persons in respect of courses of study provided by the Institute, and subject to the approval of the Governing Council, establish for this purpose such relationships with national universities or similar institutions as may be appropriate; and,

(f) Provide documentation in the various fields of population with respect to Africa to research workers and to national, subregional and regional organizations.

ARTICLE II

Headquarters of the Institute

1. The headquarters of the Institute shall be in Accra in the Republic of Ghana.
2. The Government of the Republic of Ghana shall, in an agreement to be entered into between the Government and the United Nations, provide and grant as the case may be, such adequate premises, facilities and services and privileges and immunities as may be required for the effective operation of the Institute.

ARTICLE III

Status and organization of the Institute

1. The Institute shall be a subsidiary body of the Economic Commission for Africa.
2. The Institute shall have its own Governing Council.
3. In addition, there shall be an Advisory Board on Studies and Research, a Director and other staff of the Institute.
4. The Institute shall, except as may be otherwise provided by the General Assembly, be subject to the Financial Regulations, the Financial Rules and the Staff Rules of the United Nations and all other administrative issuances of the Secretary-General.

ARTICLE IV

The Governing Council Composition, functions and meetings

1. The Governing Council shall be composed as follows:

(a) The Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa, who shall be ex officio Chairman of the Governing Council;

(b) A representative of the Government of the Republic of Ghana;

(c) Twelve of the countries set out in the appendix to these Statutes selected by the Conference of Ministers of the Economic Commission for Africa (hereinafter referred to as "the Conference");

(d) A representative of the United Nations Fund for Population Activities.

2. The Director of the Institute shall act as Secretary of the Governing Council and shall signify the acts of the Governing Council.

3. In selecting the members of the Governing Council referred to in subparagraph (c) of paragraph 1 of this article, the Conference shall have regard to the necessity of maintaining a fair geographical distribution of selection among the countries set out in the appendix to these Statutes.

4. The members of the Governing Council selected under subparagraph (c) of paragraph 1 of this article shall hold office for a period of four years and may be eligible for re-elections provided, however, that in making selections for the first time, the Conference shall direct that one half of the countries selected by them shall retire two years after they have been selected and shall be replaced by the same number of countries selected by the Conference for that purpose.

5. The members of the Governing Council referred to in subparagraph (c) of paragraph 1 of this article, shall each designate to represent it on the Governing Council, a person who is competent and experienced in the activities of the Institute.

6. The Governing Council shall:

(a) Prescribe the general principles and policies governing the operations of the Institute;

(b) Give directives of a general nature as to the implementation of the principles and policies governing the operations of the Institute;

(c) Prescribe conditions for the admission of persons to undergo courses of study provided by the Institute and for the award of degrees, diplomas or certificates or other awards granted by the Institute;

(d) Prescribe regulations governing the conduct of persons undergoing courses of study at the Institute;

(e) Examine and approve the work programme of the Institute and their corresponding budgets;

(f) Review and approve the annual progress report of the Director of the Institute on the activities of the Institute;

(g) Examine and approve the financial report and accounts of the Institute for the preceding year;

(h) Present through its Chairman, to the Conference, annual reports on the work of the Institute;

(i) Determine apart from the office of the Director of the Institute, the other offices of the Institute.

7. The Governing Council may delegate to a national university or similar institution with which it has established relationship under subparagraph (e) of paragraph 3 of article I of these Statutes, the Director of the Institute or the Advisory Board on Studies and Research any of its functions as set out in subparagraphs (c) and (d) of paragraph 6 of this article.

8. The Governing Council shall meet in ordinary session once a year and may hold extraordinary sessions at the request of its Chairman or one third of its members.

9. Subject to the provisions of these Statutes, the Governing Council shall adopt its own rules of procedure.

ARTICLE V

The Chairman of the Governing Council

1. The Chairman of the Governing Council shall:

(a) Cause to be prepared the draft agenda of the meetings of the Governing Council;

(b) Convene and preside over the meetings of the Governing Council;

(c) With the approval of the Governing Council, solicit and receive on behalf of the Institute, financial and other resources from the specialized agencies of the United Nations or other intergovernmental organizations, non-governmental organizations and other sources.

2. The Chairman of the Governing Council may delegate his functions as set out in subparagraph (c) of paragraph 1 of this article to the Director of the Institute.

ARTICLE VI

Appointment of staff of the Institute

1. The Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa shall:

(a) By delegation of authority from the Secretary-General of the United Nations, and upon the recommendation of the Governing Council, appoint the Director of the Institute;

(b) By delegation of authority from the Secretary-General of the United Nations appoint other professional staff of the Institute upon the recommendation of the Director of the Institute.

2. The Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa shall keep the Governing Council informed of all appointments made by him under this article.

ARTICLE VII

The Director

1. The Director of the Institute shall be appointed as provided for in these Statutes, for a period of two years subject to renewal for succeeding periods of two years each.

2. The Director of the Institute shall act as the legal representative of the Institute.

3. Subject to such directions of a general nature that the Governing Council may give, the Director of the Institute shall have responsibility for the planning, organization and direction of training, research, advisory services and other activities of the Institute. He shall in particular:

(a) Be responsible for the organization and administration of the Institute;

(b) Submit for the approval of the Governing Council the work programmes and corresponding budgets of the Institute;

(c) Be responsible for the carrying out of the activities of the Institute in accordance with the approved work programmes and corresponding budgets of the Institute;

(d) Submit for the approval of the Governing Council annual reports on the activities and financial standing and the accounts of the Institute including the particulars of existing vacancies in the professional posts of the Institute for dissemination within the countries set out in the appendix to these Statutes;

(e) Transmit to the Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa the names of all applicants for appointment to the other professional posts of the Institute;

(f) Subject to such directives as the Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa may give, select and appoint persons to the General Service posts of the Institute;

(g) Make necessary arrangements with national and international organizations for the use by such organizations of the services and facilities provided by the Institute, it being understood that in the case of national organizations no arrangements shall be made without the approval of the Governments concerned;

(h) Establish and maintain such contacts with Governments, the United Nations and its specialized agencies and other organizations as may be necessary or desirable for the achievement of the objectives of the Institute;

(i) Undertake other assignments or activities as may be determined by the Governing Council.

ARTICLE VIII

Advisory Board on Studies and Research Composition and functions

1. The Advisory Board on Studies and Research (hereinafter referred to as "the Board"), shall be composed of:

(a) Six persons who are citizens of the countries set out in the appendix to these Statutes and who may be either university teachers or experts engaged in work in the field of population or related studies appointed by the Chairman of the Governing Council, having regard to the maintenance of a fair distribution of appointments among the countries set out in the appendix to these Statutes;

(b) Two senior lecturers of the Institute elected by the academic staff of the Institute from time to time;

(c) The Director of the Institute;

(d) A representative of the Economic Commission for Africa;

(e) The Director of the Population Division of the United Nations Headquarters;

(f) A representative of the United Nations agencies actively engaged in giving assistance to the Institute as may be designated by the Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa;

(g) A representative of the International Union for the Scientific Study of Population;

(h) A representative of the governmental or non-governmental organizations working in the field of population in one or more of the countries set out in the appendix to these Statutes as may be designed by the Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa;

(i) A representative of the Ministry responsible for demographic questions of the Government of Ghana;

(j) The President of the Association of former students of the Institute;

(k) A representative of the student body of the Institute selected for that purpose by the student body of the Institute.

2. The members of the Board appointed, designated or elected by the Chairman of the Governing Council and the academic staff of the Institute shall be appointed, designated or elected as the case may be, to service on two successive meetings of the Board and may be eligible for reappointment, designation or election.

3. The member of the Board elected by the student body of the Institute shall be elected to serve on one meeting of the Board and may be eligible for re-election.

4. The Board shall at the beginning of each of its meetings, elect its Chairman from among its members specified in subparagraph (a) of paragraph 1 of this article.

5. The Director of the Institute shall provide secretarial services for the Board.

6. The Board shall have the following powers and duties:

(a) To propose for adoption by the Governing Council the activities to be undertaken by the Institute;

(b) To give advice to the Director of the Institute on the design of courses of study and research programmes of the Institute;

(c) To satisfy itself regarding the context and academic standard of any course of study in respect of a degree, diploma, certificate or other award of the Institute and examine any relationship entered into between the Institute with any university or similar institution in pursuance of the provisions of subparagraph (e) of paragraph 3 of article I of these Statutes and to report its findings thereon to the Governing Council;

(d) To propose for adoption by the Governing Council conditions regarding the eligibility of persons for admission to courses of study for a degree, diploma, certificate or other award of the Institute and for obtaining of any degree, diploma, certificate or other award of the Institute;

(e) To propose for adoption by the Governing Council the standard of proficiency to be attained in each examination for a degree, diploma, certificate or other award of the Institute;

(f) To propose for adoption by the Governing Council regulations governing the conduct of persons undergoing courses of study at the Institute;

(g) To initiate proposals relating to the conduct of the Institute generally, and to discuss any matter relating to the Institute and to make representations thereon to the Governing Council.

7. The Board may delegate to a national university or similar institution with which it has established relationship under subparagraph (e) of paragraph 3 of article I of these Statutes or the Director of the Institute any of its functions as set out in subparagraphs (d), (e) and (f) of paragraph 6 of this article.

8. The Board shall meet at least once every two years upon its convocation by its Chairman or the Governing Council.

9. Subject to the provisions of this article, the Board shall determine its own rules of procedure including its quorum, the convening of its ordinary or extraordinary meetings, and the conduct of business thereat and at other times.

ARTICLE IX

Assistance by the secretariat of the Economic Commission for Africa

The secretariat of the Economic Commission for Africa shall assist the Institute in every possible way in order to facilitate its work. In particular, the Economic Commission for Africa shall at the request of the Institute make available to the Institute qualified staff to give lectures, to assist in supervising research and to participate in seminars of the Institute.

ARTICLE X

Co-operation with organizations, etc.

The Institute shall establish such relationships with the United Nations and its specialized agencies and other organizations and with Governments, universities or similar institutions and research organizations in the countries set out in the appendix to these Statutes, as may be necessary or desirable for the achievement of the objectives of the Institute.

ARTICLE XI

Financial resources and rules governing the financial management of the Institute

1. The Institute shall derive its finances from contributions made by the Governments of the countries set out in the appendix to these Statutes as may be determined from time to time by the Conference and by the United Nations Fund for Population Activities.

2. The Institute may derive further resources in cash or in kind from the United Nations and its specialized agencies, other intergovernmental organizations, governments and non-governmental organizations and other sources. Acceptance by the Institute of offers of such further assistance shall, in every case, be subject to the decision of the Chairman of the Governing Council, in consultation with the Director of the Institute and in accordance with the basic aims of the Institute and the relevant provisions of the rules governing the financial management of the Institute. The Chairman of the Governing Council shall report on the matter to the Governing Council at its next session.

ARTICLE XII

Amendments

These Statutes may, on the recommendation of the Conference of African Planners, Statisticians and Demographers, be amended by the Conference.

Appendix

Botswana, Ethiopia, the Gambia, Ghana, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malawi, Mauritius, Nigeria, Sierra Leone, Somalia, the Sudan, Swaziland, Uganda, the United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

B. Statutes of the "Institut de formation et de recherche démographiques"

ARTICLE I

Establishment and objectives

1. The Institut de formation et de recherche démographiques (hereinafter referred to as "the Institute") established in Yaounde pursuant to the agreement signed on 9 November 1971 between the United Nations and the Government of the United Republic of Cameroon shall be continued in existence under the terms of these Statutes.
2. The primary purpose of the Institute shall be the training of demographers particularly those from the countries set out in the appendix to these Statutes, and the conduct and publication of the results of research in population and related fields in relation to such countries.
3. For the purposes of the preceding paragraph, the Institute shall:
 - (a) Provide training courses in population and related fields;
 - (b) Organize and undertake research on all aspects of population and related fields both at its headquarters and in the countries served by the Institute;
 - (c) Organize in co-operation with appropriate national services and specialized agencies concerned in other African countries, workshops, seminars and meetings on national, subregional and regional population problems;

(d) Provide at the request of the Governments of the countries set out in the appendix to these Statutes, such advisory services as may be within its competence and resources;

(e) Grant degrees, diplomas, certificates or other awards to persons in respect of courses of study provided by the Institute, and subject to the approval of the Governing Council, establish for this purpose such relationships with national universities or similar institutions as may be appropriate; and

(f) Provide documentation in the various fields of population with respect to Africa to research workers and to national, subregional and regional organizations.

ARTICLE II

Headquarters of the Institute

1. The headquarters of the Institute shall be in Yaounde in the United Republic of Cameroon.
2. The Government of the United Republic of Cameroon shall, in an agreement to be entered into between the Government and the United Nations, provide and grant as the case may be, such adequate premises, facilities and services and privileges and immunities as may be required for the effective operation of the Institute.

ARTICLE III

Status and organization of the Institute

1. The Institute shall be a subsidiary body of the Economic Commission for Africa.
2. The Institute shall have its own Governing Council.
3. In addition, there shall be an Advisory Board on Studies and Research, a Director and other staff of the Institute.
4. The Institute shall, except as may be otherwise provided by the General Assembly, be subject to the Financial Regulations, the Financial Rules and the Staff Rules of the United Nations and all other administrative issuances of the Secretary-General.

ARTICLE IV

The Governing Council Composition, functions and meetings

1. The Governing Council shall be composed as follows:

(a) The Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa, who shall be ex officio Chairman of the Governing Council;

(b) A representative of the Government of the United Republic of Cameroon;

(c) Twelve of the countries set out in the appendix to these Statutes selected by the Conference of Ministers of the Economic Commission for Africa (hereinafter referred to as "the Conference");

(d) A representative of the United Nations Fund for Population Activities.

2. The Director of the Institute shall act as Secretary of the Governing Council and shall signify the acts of the Governing Council.

3. In selecting the members of the Governing Council referred to in subparagraph (c) of paragraph 1 of this article, the Conference shall have regard to the necessity of maintaining a fair geographical distribution of selection among the countries set out in the appendix to these Statutes.

4. The members of the Governing Council selected under subparagraph (c) of paragraph 1 of this article shall hold office for a period of four years and may be eligible for re-election provided, however, that in making selections for the first time, the Conference shall direct that one half of the countries selected by them shall retire two years after they have been selected and shall be replaced by the same number of countries selected by the Conference for that purpose.

5. The meeting of the Governing Council referred to in subparagraph (c) of paragraph 1 of this article, shall each designate to represent it on the Governing Council, a person who is competent and experienced in the activities of the Institute.

6. The Governing Council shall:

(a) Prescribe the general principles and policies governing the operations of the Institute;

(b) Give directives of a general nature as to the implementation of the principles and policies governing the operations of the Institute;

(c) Prescribe conditions for the admission of persons to undergo courses of study provided by the Institute and for the award of degrees, diplomas or certificates or other awards granted by the Institute;

(d) Prescribe regulations governing the conduct of persons undergoing courses of study at the Institute;

(e) Examine and approve the work programme of the Institute and their corresponding budgets;

(f) Review and approve the annual progress report of the Director of the Institute on the activities of the Institute;

(g) Examine and approve the financial report and accounts of the Institute for the preceding year;

(h) Present through its Chairman, to the Conference, annual reports on the work of the Institute;

(i) Determine apart from the office of the Director of the Institute, the other offices of the Institute and the organizational chart of the Institute.

7. The Governing Council may delegate to a national university or similar institution with which it has established relationship under subparagraph (e) of paragraph 3 of article I of these Statutes, the Director of the Institute or the Advisory Board on Studies and Research any of its functions as set out in subparagraphs (c) and (d) of paragraph 6 of this article.

8. The Governing Council shall meet in ordinary session once a year and may hold extraordinary sessions at the request of its Chairman or one third of its members.

9. Subject to the provisions of these Statutes, the Governing Council shall adopt its own rules of procedure.

ARTICLE V

The Chairman of the Governing Council

1. The Chairman of the Governing Council shall:

(a) Cause to be prepared the draft agenda of the meetings of the Governing Council;

(b) Convene and preside over the meetings of the Governing Council;

(c) With the approval of the Governing Council, solicit and receive on behalf of the Institute, financial and other resources from the specialized agencies of the United Nations or other intergovernmental organizations, non-governmental organizations and other sources.

2. The Chairman of the Governing Council may delegate his functions as set out in subparagraph (c) of paragraph 1 of this article to the Director of the Institute.

ARTICLE VI

Appointment of staff of the Institute

1. The Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa shall:

(a) By delegation of authority from the Secretary-General of the United Nations, and upon the recommendation of the Governing Council, appoint the Director of the Institute;

(b) By delegation of authority from the Secretary-General of the United Nations appoint other professional staff of the Institute upon the recommendation of the Director of the Institute.

2. The Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa shall keep the Governing Council informed of all appointments made by him under this article.

ARTICLE VII

The Director

1. The Director of the Institute shall be appointed as provided for in these Statutes, for a period of two years subject to renewal for succeeding periods of two years each.

2. The Director of the Institute shall act as the legal representative of the Institute.

3. Subject to such directions of a general nature that the Governing Council may give, the Director of the Institute shall have responsibility for the planning, organization and direction of training, research, advisory services and other activities of the Institute. He shall in particular:

(a) Be responsible for the organization and administration of the Institute;

(b) Submit for the approval of the Governing Council the work programmes and corresponding budgets of the Institute;

(c) Be responsible for the carrying out of the activities of the Institute in accordance with the approved work programmes and corresponding budgets of the Institute;

(d) Disseminate within the countries set out in the appendix to these Statutes all vacancies within the Institute;

(e) Submit for the approval of the Governing Council annual reports on the activities and financial standing and the accounts of the Institute including the particulars of all existing vacancies in the Institute;

(f) Transmit to the Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa the names of all applicants for appointment, to all posts of the Institute;

(g) Subject to such directives as the Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa may give, select and appoint persons to the General Service posts of the Institute;

(h) Make necessary arrangements with national and international organizations for the use by such organizations of the services and facilities provided by the Institute, it being understood that in the case of national organizations no arrangements shall be made without the approval of the Governments concerned;

(i) Establish and maintain such contacts with Governments, the United Nations and its specialized agencies and other organizations as may be necessary or desirable for the achievement of the objectives of the Institute;

(j) Undertake other assignments or activities as may be determined by the Governing Council.

ARTICLE VIII

Advisory Board on Studies and Research Composition and functions

1. The Advisory Board on Studies and Research (hereinafter referred to as "the Board"), shall be composed of:

(a) Six persons who are citizens of the countries set out in the appendix to these Statutes and who may be either university teachers or experts engaged in work in the field of population or related studies appointed by the Chairman of the Governing Council, having regard to the maintenance of a fair distribution of appointments among the countries set out in the appendix to these Statutes;

(b) Two lecturers of the Institute elected by the academic staff of the Institute from time to time;

(c) The Director of the Institute;

(d) A representative of the Economic Commission for Africa;

(e) The Director of the Population Division of the United Nations Headquarters;

(f) A representative of the United Nations agencies actively engaged in giving assistance to the Institute as may be designated by the Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa;

(g) A representative of the International Union for the Scientific Study of population;

(h) A representative of the governmental or non-governmental organizations working in the field of population in one or more of the countries set out in the appendix to these Statutes as may be designated by the Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa;

(i) A representative of the Ministry responsible for population matters of the Government of the United Republic of Cameroon;

(j) The President of the Association of former students of the Institute;

(k) A representative of the student body of the Institute selected for that purpose by the student body of the Institute.

2. The members of the Board appointed, designated or elected by the Chairman of the Governing Council and the academic staff of the Institute shall be appointed, designated or elected as the case may be, to serve on two successive meetings of the Board and may be eligible for reappointment, designation or election.

3. The member of the Board elected by the student body of the Institute shall be elected to serve on one meeting of the Board and may be eligible for re-election.

4. The Board shall at the beginning of each of its meetings, elect its Chairman from among its members specified in subparagraph (a) of paragraph 1 of this article.

5. The Director of the Institute shall provide secretarial services for the Board.

6. The Board shall have the following powers and duties:

(a) To propose for adoption by the Governing Council the activities to be undertaken by the Institute;

(b) To give advice to the Director of the Institute on the design of courses of study and research programmes of the Institute;

(c) To satisfy itself regarding the context and academic standard of any course of study in respect of a degree, diploma, certificate or other award of the Institute and examine any relationship entered into between the Institute with any university or similar institution in pursuance of the provisions of subparagraph (e) of paragraph 3 of article I of these Statutes and to report its findings thereon to the Governing Council;

(d) To propose for adoption by the Governing Council conditions regarding the eligibility of persons for admission to courses of study for a degree, diploma, certificate or other award of the Institute and for obtaining of any degree, diploma, certificate or other award of the Institute;

(e) To propose for adoption by the Governing Council the standard of proficiency to be attained in each examination for a degree, diploma, certificate or other award of the Institute;

(f) To propose for adoption by the Governing Council regulations governing the conduct of persons undergoing courses of study at the Institute;

(g) To initiate proposals relating to the conduct of the Institute generally, and to discuss any matter relating to the Institute and to make representations thereon to the Governing Council.

7. The Board may delegate to a national university or similar institution with which it has established relationship under subparagraph (c) of paragraph 3 of article I of these Statutes or the Director of the Institute any of its functions as set out in subparagraphs (d), (e) and (f) of paragraph 6 of this article.

8. The Board shall meet at least once every two years upon its convocation by its Chairman or the Governing Council.

9. Subject to the provisions of this article, the Board shall determine its own rules of procedure including its quorum, the convening of its ordinary or extraordinary meetings, and the conduct of business thereat and at other times.

ARTICLE IX

Assistance by the secretariat of the Economic Commission for Africa

The secretariat of the Economic Commission for Africa shall assist the Institute in every possible way in order to facilitate its work. In particular, the Economic Commission for Africa shall at the request of the Institute make available to the Institute qualified staff to give lectures, to assist in supervising research and to participate in seminars of the Institute.

ARTICLE X

Co-operation with organizations, etc.

The Institute shall establish such relationships with the United Nations and its specialized agencies and other organizations and with Governments, universities or similar institutions and research organizations in the countries set out in the appendix to these Statutes, as may be necessary or desirable for the achievement of the objectives of the Institute.

ARTICLE XI

Financial resources and rules governing the financial management of the Institute

1. The Institute shall derive its finances from contributions made by Governments of the countries set out in the appendix to these Statutes as may be determined from time to time by the Conference and by the United Nations Fund for Population Activities.

2. The Institute may derive further resources in cash or in kind from the United Nations and its specialized agencies, other intergovernmental organizations, governments and non-governmental organizations and other sources. Acceptance by the Institute of offers of such further assistance shall, in every case, be subject to the decision of the Chairman of the Governing Council, in consultation with the Director of the Institute and in accordance

with the basic aims of the Institute and the relevant provisions of the rules governing the financial management of the Institute. The Chairman of the Governing Council shall report on the matter to the Governing Council at its next session.

ARTICLE XII

Amendments

These Statutes may, on the recommendation of the Conference of African Planners, Statisticians and Demographers, be amended by the Conference.

Appendix

Algeria, Benin, Burundi, the Central African Republic, Chad, the Comoros, the Congo, Djibouti, Gabon, Guinea, the Ivory Coast, Madagascar, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Morocco, the Niger, Senegal, Seychelles, Togo, Tunisia, the United Republic of Cameroon, the Upper Volta and Zaire.

- C. Implications of General Assembly resolutions 32/197 and 33/202 on the restructuring of the economic and social sectors of the United Nations system for the regional commissions 9/ [Resolution 427 (XVI)]

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling General Assembly resolutions 32/197 of 20 December 1977 and 33/202 of 29 January 1979 on the restructuring of the economic and social sectors of the United Nations system so as to make them more fully capable of dealing with problems of international economic co-operation and development in a comprehensive and effective manner,

Recalling resolution 330 (XIV) of the Conference of Ministers of the Economic Commission for Africa of 27 March 1979 on the restructuring of intergovernmental machinery for development and co-operation in Africa,

Grateful for all actions so far taken to implement the requirements of General Assembly resolutions 32/197 and 33/202, particularly those relating to section IV of the annex to resolution 32/197, on structures for regional and interregional co-operation,

Recalling resolutions 332 (XIV) of 27 March 1979 and 398 (XV) of 2 April 1980 of the Conference of Ministers of the Economic Commission for Africa on the Development Strategy for Africa for the Third Development Decade and the Plan of Action for the Implementation of the Monrovia Strategy for African Development respectively, both of which led to the adoption by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity of the Lagos Plan of Action 10/ for the Implementation of the Monrovia Strategy for the Economic Development of Africa,

9/ See chapter III, paragraphs 70 and 71 below.

10/ See A/S-11/14, annex I.

Recalling also the resolution of the Organization of African Unity on the participation of Africa in international negotiations,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 35/56 of 5 December 1980 which proclaimed the Third United Nations Development Decade and adopted the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade, aimed at implementing the goals and objectives of the Declaration and Programme of Action on the Establishment of a New International Economic Order and of which the Lagos Plan of Action should be considered an integral part,

Recalling also General Assembly resolution 35/64 of 5 December 1980 on special measures for the social and economic development of Africa in the 1980s adopted after consideration of the Lagos Plan of Action,

Conscious that the important part played by the Economic Commission for Africa in the preparation of the Monrovia Strategy and the Lagos Plan of Action reflects faithfully an important element of the role of the Commission as the main general economic and social development centre within the United Nations system for the African region,

Taking note of General Assembly decision 35/440 of 16 December 1980, in which the General Assembly decided, inter alia, to invite the regional commissions to consider further at their plenary sessions in 1981 the implications for their role and functions of General Assembly resolutions 32/197 and 33/202, in the light, inter alia, of the observations and recommendations contained in the report of the Secretary-General 11/ on development and international economic co-operation: Implications of General Assembly resolutions 32/197 and 39/202 for the regional commissions, particularly paragraphs 76 to 79 thereof, and to report thereon for action by the General Assembly at its thirty-sixth session, through the Economic and Social Council in the context of its consideration of the report of the Secretary-General called for under General Assembly resolution 34/206 of 19 December 1979,

Having noted the afore-mentioned report of the Secretary-General and the note of the secretariat of the Economic Commission for Africa relating to it, 12/ and having considered carefully those documents,

Taking account of the dimensions and characteristics of the challenge of socio-economic change which confronts African Member States individually and collectively in the 1980s,

Firmly convinced of the role of economic co-operation in the process of bringing about structural change, self-reliance and self-sustainment,

11/ A/35/546.

12/ E/CN.14/811.

Aware that the limited resources of the United Nations system require to be applied at the point of optimum effect within the African region and convinced of the catalytic as well as integrative role which the Economic Commission for Africa now plays in the promotion of self-reliance and self-sustainment,

Appreciative of the support provided by the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme for strengthening the role of the Economic Commission for Africa as an executing agency,

1. Endorses the analysis contained in the report of the Secretary-General which reflects generally the role of the regional commissions in the United Nations system;

2. Requests the General Assembly to make available to the Economic Commission for Africa the necessary resources so as to enable it fully to play its role under the authority of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council as the main general economic and social development centre within the United Nations system for the African region;

3. Appeals to the Secretary-General to intensify his efforts to decentralize the relevant activities and redeploy the associated manpower and financial resources to the secretariat of the Economic Commission for Africa so as to strengthen the capacity of the secretariat to respond effectively to the growing requests from African Member States particularly in relation to the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade;

4. Calls upon the Secretary-General to involve the regional commissions in all preparations for the meetings of the Second and Third Committees of the General Assembly and in particular to arrange for the executive secretaries to address the Second Committee on the economic and social conditions of their respective regions as well as on the programmes of work and priorities of their commissions;

5. Also calls upon the Secretary-General to ensure the involvement of the executive secretaries of the regional commissions in the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination by making them full members of that Committee;

6. Further calls upon the Secretary-General to ensure the involvement of the executive secretaries in such other machinery as might enable the regional commissions effectively to exercise their responsibilities for co-ordination at the regional level in accordance with the requirements of General Assembly resolutions 32/197 and 33/202;

7. While congratulating the United Nations Development Programme for its financial contributions to the secretariat of the Economic Commission for Africa for the implementation of development projects, calls on the Administrator of that Programme and the Executive Director of the United Nations Fund for Population Activities to intensify their efforts to provide more resources to the Economic Commission for Africa so as to enable it to carry out more effectively its task as an executing agency of projects of the United Nations Development Programme and the United Nations Fund for Population Activities in the African region;

8. Requests the Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa to intensify his efforts to strengthen the relations between the Commission and United Nations Headquarters on the one hand, and between the Commission and the specialized agencies and other organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system on the other, so as to achieve the objective of effective leadership and co-ordination within the United Nations system in the African region;

9. Calls upon the Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa to strengthen the relationship between the Commission and the other regional commissions with a view not only to strengthening inter-regional co-operation at the United Nations Secretariat level but also to enabling the regional commissions to play a greater role in South-South economic and technical co-operation;

10. Appeals to the Secretary-General and the heads of the specialized agencies and other bodies within the United Nations system as well as the other regional commissions to give the necessary support to the initiatives of the Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa so that the resources of the system may be properly co-ordinated so as to respond effectively to the development and economic growth needs of the African region.

D. Programmes of work and priorities of the Economic Commission for Africa for 1982-1983 13/ /Resolution 428 (XVI)/

The Economic and Social Council,

Having examined and discussed the revised programme of work and priorities for 1980-1981 14/ and the proposed programme of work and priorities for 1982-1983 15/ approved by the Conference of Ministers of the Economic Commission for Africa,

Bearing in mind that the Commission's medium-term plan for 1980-1983 16/ was considered and approved at the eighteenth meeting of its Executive Committee and that the Commission's programme of work and priorities for 1980-1981 and 1982-1983 were based on it,

Taking into consideration the explanation given by the Commission's secretariat that:

(a) The programmes reflected a realistic appraisal of the prospects of obtaining funds in view of the decisions of the General Assembly to place restrictions on the growth of the programme budget,

(b) The programmes were based on a hard core of priority projects consistent with the International Development Strategy for the third United

13/ See chapter III, paragraphs 70 and 71 below.

14/ E/CN.14/707/Rev.2.

15/ E/CN.14/790.

16/ E/CN.14/TECO/40.

Nations Development Decade 17/ and the Lagos Plan of Action 18/ and which had been considered by numerous subsidiary bodies of the Commission and after taking into account projects which were considered to be of low priority, of marginal usefulness, obsolete or ineffective,

Taking note that the programmes are based on assessments of resources available or likely to be available and incorporated in a programme budget submitted for consideration by the General Assembly,

1. Notes that, in accordance with the manner in which the United Nations programme budget was determined after the preparation of the programme, the programmes of work and priorities had no quantitative targets or budget estimates;

2. Recommends that the two programme documents be updated on the basis of decisions reached in the latest round of meetings of the Multinational Programming and Operational Centres of the Commission;

3. Approves the Commission's programme of work and priorities for 1982-1983;

4. Urges the Secretary-General to do all in his power to provide adequate resources for the Commission to enable it to implement fully its work programme in view of the growing economic and social problems of Africa.

217th meeting,
10 April 1981.

3. The Economic and Social Council is also requested to amend article 5 of the terms of reference of the Commission by adding Zimbabwe as the fiftieth member of the Commission and deleting article 6 (b) which relates to the associate membership of Powers which are responsible for the international relations of African Territories.

17/ General Assembly resolution 35/56.

18/ See A/S-11/14, annex I.

CHAPTER II: WORK OF THE COMMISSION SINCE 13 APRIL 1980

A. Activities of subsidiary bodies

4. During the period under review, the Commission organized the second meeting of the Technical Preparatory Committee of the Whole for the consideration of its report (see chapter III, paragraphs 70 and 71 below). For further information on the activities of subsidiary bodies, see annex II to the present report.

B. Other activities

5. The activities carried out under the Commission's programme of work for 1980-1981 and in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council and the Conference of Ministers, are described below. Additional information will be found in the Biennial Report of the Executive Secretary for 1979-1980 (E/CN.14/695).

6. During the period under review, 13 April 1980 - 10 April 1981, the secretariat serviced the session of the Commission, the meeting of the Conference of Ministers, the meetings of its subsidiary bodies and special meetings held under the auspices of the Commission.

7. The performance of the agricultural sector in the developing countries of Africa continued to be poor during the period under review. This poor performance, which resulted in decreasing self-sufficiency in food and increasing imports of foodstuffs, led to the adoption by the second extraordinary session of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity (OAU) of the Lagos Plan of Action, which puts great emphasis on agriculture, and more particularly on the prevention of food losses, food security and the increase of food production.

8. Following the guidelines of the Development Strategy for Africa for the Third United Nations Development Decade as adopted in Conference of Ministers resolution 332 (XIV) and the Monrovia Strategy for the Economic Development of Africa, the basic emphasis of the programme in development planning, projections and policies for 1979/1980 was to assess the development trends and prospects in the region in the light of the Development Strategy for Africa.

9. As far as education and training are concerned, operationally the secretariat focused on training staff development officers and instructors, the training of trainers, non-formal education, the establishment and operation of viable employer occupation counselling and guidance services within personnel agencies, maximization of the use of national mass media facilities and techniques for employee skill development, the development and flow of funds for the operation of training functions and the integration and development of fellowship programmes.

10. The report of the first session of the Intergovernmental Regional Committee on Human Settlements was presented to the Conference of Ministers meeting in Rabat, Morocco, in March 1979. Owing to the lack of resources,

however, the Committee did not hold its planned meeting in 1979 and no review of the work programme was possible until the second session which was held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, from 28 July to 1 August 1980.

11. The national process of industrial restructuring has been the overriding characteristic of the secretariat's programme for industrial development in Africa. The secretariat has initiated and is implementing sectoral development programmes in the chemicals, metals, engineering food and agro-industries and the building materials and construction industries - all of which are basic industries that are considered strategic for African industrialization.

12. Intra-African trade continued to remain at a very low level, accounting in 1980 only for 45 per cent of the region's total trade, compared with about 24.6 per cent and 19.3 per cent for Latin America and developing Asia respectively. During the period under review the secretariat endeavoured to provide substantial assistance to member States in their efforts to promote subregional trade as a key element in the creation and/or strengthening of subregional economic groupings viewed as foundations for an All-African integration scheme.

13. The manpower subprogramme is concerned with the appraisal of manpower policies and the effectiveness and subsequent development of related machinery for manpower planning; the provision of technical assistance and advisory services in the foundation of manpower policies, plans and programmes; and training for the development and effective utilization of manpower. During the period under review, manpower surveys and analyses were undertaken in respect of the basic metal, engineering, chemicals, agro-food and building and construction industries.

14. As far as natural resources are concerned, the second meeting of plenipotentiaries of the African Remote Sensing Council and the inaugural meetings of the Regional Management Committees were held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, from 11 to 15 August 1980.

15. During the period under review, the main activities of the Energy Resources Unit of the secretariat concentrated on encouraging the exploration and systematic planning and optimum development of energy resources in Africa, the promotion of multinational co-operation in their exploration and use of energy resources and technical co-operation. A Regional Preparatory Meeting on New and Renewable Sources of Energy was organized by the secretariat from 12 to 16 January 1981 in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

16. The activities in water resources development have had as their primary objectives assistance in the planning and development of national water resources and the development of international water resources consistent with national policies and suited to the needs of African countries. To this end and in compliance with Conference of Ministers resolution 339 (XIV) the secretariat organized a Regional Meeting on Problems and Needs of Africa in Community Water Supply and Sanitation from 4 to 8 August 1980 in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

17. As for cartography, the secretariat continued to pursue the task of strengthening the regional centres it had set up at Ile-Ife, Nigeria, and Nairobi, Kenya.
18. In the environmental field and in response to the Lagos Plan of Action, the secretariat has been involved in areas of environmental assessment and management which have been identified as of priority concern to the region, and it is implementing a joint project on the development of marine science and technology in Africa and organizing a workshop in Lagos later in 1981.
19. During the period under review, the secretariat's work in the field of population within the region continued to focus on the creation of awareness of the long and short-term implications of population trends for economic and social development. The secretariat also planned and organized various meetings, conferences and seminars.
20. In the public administration, management and finance fields, the secretariat undertook a study mission on governmental structures in French-speaking African countries. The report of this study will be used to draft a working document which will be submitted to subregional meetings of officials responsible for public administration to be held in 1981.
21. The secretariat took part in the planning of and participated in a Conference for African countries on technical co-operation among developing countries (TCDC) which was organized by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in Nairobi, Kenya, from 11 to 20 May 1980. Similarly, it participated in a two-day meeting organized by OAU in Paris on 9 and 10 June 1980 with funding from the United Nations Interim Fund for Science and Technology.
22. The secretariat organized the third Conference of African Ministers of Social Affairs, preceded by an Expert Group meeting, which was held at Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, from 6 to 8 October 1980. This Conference considered the general principles and policies of the African Centre for Applied Research and Training in Social Development (ACARTSOD) and approved its programme of activities and budget for the biennium 1981-1982. In May 1980 in collaboration with the Union nationale des femmes du Mali, the secretariat conducted a co-operative seminar for rural women using the vernacular language.
23. During the last few years the secretariat's programme on statistics has been progressively adapted to meet the expected data requirements of Africa during the Third United Nations Development Decade. The secretariat therefore organized a bilingual training course in national accounts at Rabat, Morocco, in May 1980. Similarly a regional working group on civil registration and vital statistics collection met at Nairobi, Kenya, in July 1980 and established guidelines for a concerted effort in this area.
24. As for transport, communications and tourism, much has been done to implement the United Nations Transport and Communications Decade in Africa. In April 1980 the secretariat was invited to participate in a seminar on regional co-operation sponsored jointly by the European Economic Community (EEC) and the African, Caribbean and Pacific countries' secretariat for countries of East Africa and the islands of the Indian Ocean. The third meeting

of the Inter-agency Co-ordinating Committee on the Decade was held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, on 15 and 16 October 1980. The meeting considered, inter alia, a progress report on the implementation of the Decade, the role of the secretariat as lead agency in the implementation of the Decade, the mobilization of funds for the implementation of the Decade and arrangements for follow-up technical consultative meetings between Governments and potential donors.

C. Relations with specialized agencies and other organizations

25. In his Biennial report for 1979-1980 (E/CN.14/695) the Executive Secretary described in chapter VIII, pages 109-114, the co-operation of the Commission and its secretariat with the United Nations specialized agencies and other international organizations as well as with their secretariats.

CHAPTER III: SIXTEENTH SESSION OF THE COMMISSION - SEVENTH MEETING OF
THE CONFERENCE OF MINISTERS

A. Attendance and organization of work

1. The sixteenth session of the Commission and seventh meeting of the Conference of Ministers consisting of six meetings was held in Freetown, Sierra Leone, from 6 to 10 April 1981. The session was opened at 4 p.m. on 6 April 1981 by Comrade Tekola Dejene on behalf of the outgoing Chairman of the sixth meeting of the Conference of Ministers, Comrade Hailu Yemenu, Senior Minister and Secretary-General of the Central Planning Supreme Council of Ethiopia, who welcomed the Zimbabwean delegation which was attending the Conference for the first time as the fiftieth member of the Commission. A statement was made by His Excellency Dr. Siaka Stevens, President of Sierra Leone. A message from the Secretary-General of the United Nations on the occasion of the seventh meeting of the Conference of Ministers was read out by the Executive Secretary. A statement was made by Mr. Edem Kodjo, Secretary-General of OAU. Mr. K. Kpetigo, Minister of Industry of Togo, expressed, on behalf of all States members of ECA, the ECA secretariat and all participants, appreciation to the people and Government of Sierra Leone for their warm welcome and hospitality.

2. The session was attended by representatives of the following States members of the Commission: Algeria, Angola, Benin, Botswana, Burundi, the Central African Republic, the Comoros, the Congo, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Ethiopia, Gabon, the Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, the Ivory Coast, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Mali, Mauritania, Morocco, Mozambique, the Niger, Nigeria, Rwanda, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Somalia, the Sudan, Togo, Tunisia, Uganda, the United Republic of Cameroon, the United Republic of Tanzania, the Upper Volta, Zaire, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

3. The following States Members of the United Nations were represented by observers in accordance with paragraph 9 of the Commission's terms of reference: Cuba, France, the Federal Republic of Germany, the German Democratic Republic, India, Italy, the Netherlands, Spain, Sweden, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United States of America and Yugoslavia. The Holy See, a State not a Member of the United Nations, was also represented by an observer.

4. The meeting was attended by representatives of the United Nations Department of International Economic Co-operation, the United Nations Department of Technical Co-operation for Development, the United Nations Sudano-Sahelian Office (UNSO), the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (UNCHS), the United Nations Centre for Science and Technology for Development, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the World Food Council (WFC). In accordance with paragraph 11 of the Commission's terms of reference, the following specialized agencies were represented: the International Labour Organisation (ILO), the Food and Agriculture Organization

of the United Nations (FAO), the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), the World Health Organization (WHO), the International Monetary Fund (IMF), the Universal Postal Union (UPU), the Intergovernmental Maritime Consultative Organization (IMCO), the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) and the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT). The UNCTAD/GATT International Trade Centre was also represented.

5. The following intergovernmental organizations were represented in accordance with paragraph 11 of the Commission's terms of reference: the Africa Regional Co-ordinating Committee for the Integration of Women in Development, the African Centre for Applied Research and Training in Social Development (ACARTSOD), the African Centre for Monetary Studies (ACMS), the African Development Bank (ADB), the African Institute for Higher Technical Training and Research, the African Regional Centre for Technology (ARCT), the Association of African Central Banks (AACB), the Association of African Trade Promotion Organizations (AATPO), the Commission of the European Communities (CEC), the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance (CMEA), the Customs and Economic Union of Central Africa (UDEAC), the Economic Community of the Great Lakes Countries (CEPGL), the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), the Institute for Economic Development and Planning (IDEP), the Institut de formation et de recherche démographiques (IFORD), the Mano River Union, the Niger Basin Authority, the Organization of African Unity (OAU), the Regional Centre for Services in Surveying and Mapping, the Regional Centre for Training in Aerial Surveys, the Regional Institute for Population Studies (RIPS), the Trans-African Highway Authority, the West Africa Rice Development Association (WARDA) and the West African Clearing House (WACH).

6. In accordance with paragraph 14 of the Commission's terms of reference the Association of African Universities, the Council for the Development of Economic and Social Research in Africa (CODESRIA) and the International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF) were represented by observers 19/.

7. At its two hundred and fourteenth meeting the Conference unanimously elected Dr. S.S. Banya, Minister of Finance, Development and Economic Planning of Sierra Leone as Chairman, Mr. Sadek Bonzayen, Ambassador at Large of Tunisia, as first Vice-Chairman, Mr. Serge Kananiye, Minister of Planning of Burundi, as second Vice-Chairman and Mr. M.V. Mulapo, Minister of Commerce, Industry, Trade and Tourism of Lesotho, as Rapporteur.

B. AGENDA

8. At its two hundred and fourteenth meeting the Conference adopted the following agenda:

1. Opening of the session
2. Minute of silent prayer and meditation
3. Election of officers
4. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work

19/ For the full list of participants, see E/CN.14/INF.123.

5. Formal official opening by His Excellency, the President of the Republic of Sierra Leone
6. Biennial report of the Executive Secretary 1979-1980
7. Survey of Economic and Social Conditions in Africa, 1979-1980
8. Assessment of the eleventh special session and the thirty-fifth ordinary session of the United Nations General Assembly from the point of view of the African region
9. Implementation of the Lagos Plan of Action: Report and recommendations of the Technical Preparatory Committee of the Whole
10. Social implications of the Lagos Plan of Action: Report and recommendations of the third Conference of African Ministers of Social Affairs
11. The United Nations Transport and Communications Decade in Africa: Progress report by the Conference of Ministers of Transport, Communications and Planning
12. Report and recommendations of the Technical Preparatory Committee of the Whole:
 - (a) On selected matters
 - (i) Development and utilization of mineral resources in Africa.
 - (ii) Report of the Regional Preparatory Meeting and regional paper on new and renewable sources of energy in Africa
 - (iii) Resources of the sea
 - (iv) Operational Plan for the Implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action on Science and Technology for Development
 - (v) Report and recommendations on the integration of women in development
 - (vi) Report of the second session of the Intergovernmental Regional Committee on Human Settlements
 - (vii) Role of the public sector in promoting the economic development of developing countries
 - (viii) ECA-sponsored institutions
 - (ix) International Year of Disabled Persons
 - (x) Development of environmental protection legislation in the ECA region
 - (xi) Technical co-operation among African countries
 - (xii) Regional programme to be financed by UNDP during its 1982-1986 programming cycle

- (xiii) Establishment of the Pan-African Documentation and Information System: Progress report and future development programme
 - (xiv) Statistical Training Programme for Africa
 - (xv) Progress report on the preparation of the first ECA Conference of African Least Developed Countries and the United Nations Conference on Least Developed Countries
 - (xvi) Progress report on the African Institute for Higher Technical Training and Research, Nairobi
 - (xvii) Implications of General Assembly resolutions 32/197 and 32/202 for the regional commissions
 - (b) On the work programme and the medium-term plan
 - (i) Revised programme of work and priorities for 1980-1981
 - (ii) Draft programme of work and priorities for 1982 and 1983
 - (iii) Draft medium-term plan for 1984-1989
 - (c) On the United Nations Trust Fund for African Development
 - (i) Progress report on payments, projects and expenditures, 1977-1980
 - (ii) Estimates of additional resources required during 1982-1983 biennium
 - (d) On staff and administrative questions
13. United Nations Trust Fund for African Development:
Pledges of financial contributions by member States for 1982-1983 biennium
14. Any other business
15. Date and venue of the eighth meeting of the Conference of Ministers and seventeenth session of the Commission
16. Adoption of the report and resolutions
17. Closure of the meeting.

C. ACCOUNT OF PROCEEDINGS

Opening statements

9. Opening addresses were delivered by His Excellency, the President of the Republic of Sierra Leone, Dr. Siaka Stevens; Mr. Edem Kodjo, Secretary-General of the Organization of African Unity; and Mr. Adebayo Adedeji, Executive Secretary of the Commission.

10. The Conference was opened by His Excellency Dr. Siaka Stevens, the President of the Republic of Sierra Leone, who drew attention to the economic problems facing Africa such as the scarcity of foreign exchange,

mounting foreign debts, rising oil import bills, rising unemployment, falling food production, general increase in the population and a general fall in living standards. He noted that the old traditional remedies such as international global conferences had not yet provided adequate solutions to Africa's socio-economic problems. In order to overcome Africa's socio-economic problems, African countries had adopted the Lagos Plan of Action. It was incumbent upon member States themselves individually and collectively to implement that Plan. Indeed Africa did not lack funds for development nor the market for its products. What was required was a sound sense of direction without which nothing could be achieved. He further underscored the indispensability of economic co-operation through which Africa could mobilize its vast economic and social potential. He commended the Lagos Plan of Action and called upon the Conference to make proposals for the practical implementation of the Plan and directed ECA and OAU to work together in the preparation of projects to that end.

11. The Secretary-General of the Organization of African Unity stressed that the importance of the Conference was to find ways and means of implementing the objectives of the Lagos Plan of Action. In that regard, the OAU Heads of State and Government had adopted the Lagos Plan of Action and the Final Act of Lagos with a view to finding solutions to the declining economic and social conditions of Africa. Africa must act quickly and firmly to bring about the needed economic change. Even though the Lagos Plan of Action called for implementation mostly at the national level, economic co-operation between African countries was crucial to the achievement of the African economic community envisaged in the Final Act of Lagos. He referred to the strong co-operation existing between OAU and ECA and was sure that these two organizations would continue to work together in the implementation of the Lagos Plan of Action. He also referred to the co-operation between OAU and the specialized agencies and to possible assistance from Arab countries for the purpose of implementing the Lagos Plan of Action.

12. In his opening statement the Executive Secretary of the Commission paid tribute to African Ministers of Development and Planning for the laudable work they had done to ensure that Africa had a development strategy and a plan of action for the 1980s and 1990s which was truly reflective of the continent's unique problems and circumstances. Both the Monrovia Strategy and the Lagos Plan of Action had been largely incorporated in the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade. The Lagos Plan of Action, which was both a means and an instrument for achieving a fundamental restructuring of African economies, could become effective only if individual Governments redesigned their national development plans in accordance with the two cardinal principles of the Plan, namely self-reliance and self-sustainment. That called for a correct evaluation of the resources, potentials, priorities and circumstances of each country. He underscored the importance of factor inputs as the basis of self-reliance and in that respect referred to the need for Africa to control fully the development of and trade in its national resources, the development of indigenous technological capability and the mobilization of domestic resources.

13. In order to enhance the economic development of African countries there was a need to avoid underutilization of fixed capital assets and capital wastage through protective maintenance of machinery and equipment, and to encourage the use of the barter system in intra-African trade especially with regard to industrial raw materials and energy which were major components of the cost of industrial production. He also briefed the Conference on steps already taken to implement General Assembly resolutions 32/197 and 33/202 on restructuring which was aimed at strengthening the leadership and operational role of regional commissions. He referred to the agenda item on their implications for ECA, stressing that a lot still remained to be done to enable ECA effectively to perform its new role of team leader and co-ordinator of regional activities of the entire United Nations system in Africa. Finally, he referred to the existing excellent working relationship between ECA and OAU and warned that no attempts to undermine it would be tolerated.

General debate

- (a) Biennial report of the Executive Secretary 1979-1980
- (b) Survey of Economic and Social Conditions in Africa, 1979-1980
- (c) Assessment of the eleventh special session and the thirty-fifth ordinary session of the United Nations General Assembly from the point of view of the African region
- (d) Implementation of the Lagos Plan of Action: Report and recommendations of the Technical Preparatory Committee of the Whole
- (e) Social implications of the Lagos Plan of Action: Report and recommendations of the third Conference of African Ministers of Social Affairs
- (f) The United Nations Transport and Communications Decade in Africa: Progress report by the Conference of Ministers of Transport, Communications and Planning
- (g) Report and recommendations of the Technical Preparatory Committee of the Whole on selected matters: (i) on the work programme and the medium-term plan, (ii) on the United Nations Trust Fund for African Development, (iii) on staff and administrative questions, (iv) on the United Nations Trust Fund for African Development: pledges of financial contributions by member States for 1982-1983 biennium (items 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12 and 13).

14. The representatives of the following States members of the Economic Commission for Africa made statements in the general debate: Algeria, Botswana, the Congo, the Gambia, Guinea, Lesotho, Liberia, the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Mali, Morocco, the Niger, Nigeria, Rwanda, Senegal, the United Republic of Tanzania, Togo, Tunisia, Zaire, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

15. The representative of Algeria referred to some of the activities of the secretariat that had resulted from General Assembly resolution 32/197. He stated that United Nations decisions and resolutions served as guidelines and stressed that all ECA activities should be based on those guidelines. One case in point was a rail project mentioned during the discussion which was intended to link the North African subregion with the town of El Aium, the capital of Western Sahara. Generally speaking, any project aimed at bringing people closer together and accelerating the economic integration of Africa should be welcomed. Unfortunately, in the case of that project and in the light of the current situation, it could only be hoped that the decisions of OAU and the United Nations on the issue of Western Sahara would be rapidly put into effect so that the project might one day be implemented. The application of those decisions was the prerequisite for the advent of peace in the region, for improving the living conditions of all people of the subregion and for the greater well-being of Africa.

16. The representative of Botswana stated that for some years now all had not been well with Africa. He called the developments leading to the adoption of the Monrovia Strategy and the Lagos Plan of Action and emphasized that the implementation of the Lagos Plan of Action rested primarily with the African States individually and collectively and not with countries outside Africa or with international organizations. On the chronic problem of food shortages in Africa, his country was striving to attain self-sufficiency in food. He mentioned the Southern African Development Co-ordination Committee as a useful vehicle for harmonizing the development policies of southern African countries in order to reduce their dependence on South Africa. He then paid warm tribute to the Executive Secretary under whose leadership the presence of the secretariat was being felt in every corner of the continent, particularly since the establishment of the MULPOCs. He also said that the need for ECA and OAU to intensify their mutual co-operation could not be overemphasized.

17. He was impressed with the role that the secretariat had been playing in sponsoring regional and subregional institutions and welcomed the fact that one of the items on the agenda was devoted to that question. In that regard, he would carefully study the proposals made with a view to seeing how his country could best assist in strengthening the subregional institutions of which it was a member. Finally he reiterated the fact that the successful implementation of the Lagos Plan of Action was the answer to the paradox of a rich continent plagued by economic backwardness.

18. The representative of the Congo congratulated ECA and OAU for their efforts in laying bare the economic problems of Africa and for proposing solutions. The many economic theories that had been propounded in the past had not solved Africa's underdevelopment and indeed things were going from bad to worse. Africa must rely on itself for its salvation, make a break with the past and bring about a fundamental change in its economy. The national plan of his country, which would take account of the Lagos Plan of Action, was geared towards mobilizing participation at the grass-root level for its implementation so as to enable the people to feed themselves. The national plan was concerned with important problems such as communications, the recovery of the economic sector in respect of which his country would like to

see the studies already carried out by the secretariat on the issue made more detailed; the exodus from the rural areas and its attendant problems such as the aging of the population leading to a fall in agricultural production, excessive dependence on food imports from abroad and employment and unemployment among young people. Regional co-operation which was explicitly required in the Lagos Plan of Action needed the commitment of member States; the MULPOCs could also play an important role in that regard. Finally, his country had not so far made any contribution to the United Nations Trust Fund for African Development because of the financial difficulties facing it. However, it was committed to making a modest contribution for the implementation of programmes in Africa and to taking an active part in the implementation of those programmes.

19. The representative of the Gambia pointed out that the Lagos Plan of Action had come to stay. All that the Conference was required to do was to review its implementation periodically in the light of changing circumstances. He referred to the Trust Fund for African Development to which the Gambia had already contributed, and appealed to all member States to contribute to it as a practical manifestation of collective self-reliance. He said that he was concerned about the recommendations by the secretariat for the creation of new institutions at a time when the economic conditions of Africa seemed particularly bad. He then gave a brief summary of the economic activities of priority to his country and which were also priorities set out in the Lagos Plan of Action. They included, energy, for which a master plan had been prepared with the assistance of UNSO and the World Bank; agriculture, particularly the development of the Gambia River basin for irrigation purposes; human resources, especially the training of women and the establishment of vocational institutions; and a national literacy programme. A national food plan was also currently under preparation.

20. The representative of Guinea referred to collaboration between ECA and OAU and between ECA and the United Nations specialized agencies as an important means for the effective implementation of the Lagos Plan of Action. In that connexion the MULPOCs had an important role to play in helping African intergovernmental organizations to implement the Lagos Plan of Action. The Lagos Plan of Action had been adopted not only as a means of ending the balkanization of the African continent but also for the purpose of improving the economic and social conditions of Africa. In his country the Government had taken steps to disseminate information about the Lagos Plan of Action and the implications of the Plan were being studied by national political organizations, government ministries and the national university. His Government laid special emphasis at the national and regional levels on such projects as those relating to mining, transport and communications and the development of human resources. Finally, he stressed that his Government was committed to African regional integration.

21. Speaking also in his capacity as the Chairman of the Lusaka-based MULPOC Council of Ministers, the representative of Lesotho commended the secretariat for pioneering an economic revolution in Africa. What now remained was to translate the Lagos Plan of Action into implementable projects, since in the last analysis Africa would be judged by actions rather than words. He congratulated the Executive Secretary for his far-sightedness in establishing the MULPOCs which were already proving themselves to be effective agents for project execution. He referred to the Preferential Trade Area for Eastern

and Southern Africa (PTA) as the most important project of the Lusaka MULPOC during the past two years. After a series of meetings of the Inter-governmental Negotiating Team, the time had now arrived for a second ministerial meeting to be held in May 1981. It was hoped that that meeting would resolve the last outstanding differences and set the stage for a meeting of Heads of State to sign the PTA Treaty in September/October 1981 so that by the beginning of 1982 the Preferential Trade Area could be launched. He then highlighted other activities of the Lusaka-Based MULPOC, laying special emphasis on transport and communications, training and the role of women in economic development. In general good progress had been made, despite a shortage of resources for the MULPOC. He expressed the hope that member States would pledge generously during the forthcoming Pledging Conference to enable the activities already started in the sub-region to be brought to fruition.

22. The representative of Liberia explained that the revolution which had taken place in his country a year ago illustrated how a Government which did not believe in self-reliance and which did not respond to the peoples' aspirations would be swept out of power. His Government had already started taking concrete steps towards the implementation of the Lagos Plan of Action and a conference organized by his Government and ECA, bringing together Liberian and ECA experts, would be held in October 1981 to consider his Government's four-year development plan with regard to the implementation of the Lagos Plan of Action. Finally, he urged member States to take advantage of the enormous technical expertise that existed within the secretariat.

23. The representative of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya stated that it was not completely correct to attribute all the socio-economic problems now facing African countries to the oil question alone. It was important to consider other factors as well, including the general international economic situation. Moreover, the solution to those economic problems required close economic co-operation among African countries and the full control of their economies. It was in that context that his Government had been happy to adopt the Lagos Plan of Action as it would provide African countries with a framework for the effective solution of their socio-economic problems. However, what was crucial was the immediate implementation of the Lagos Plan of Action.

24. The representative of Mali congratulated the Executive Secretary for having presented such a full report to the Conference and stated that he supported the work programme and priorities of the secretariat in the hope that it would remain true to the spirit of the Final Act of Lagos, which should be the inspiration at all times for all development studies and activities. His country supported the programme of work of the Niamey MULPOC which had recently been adopted at Freetown. His country was always in the vanguard of African unity and remained faithful to the spirit of Lagos. Mali would like donor countries and organizations to be less reticent about participating in the implementation of projects. To that end, his delegation hoped that the actions of African Governments would be more practical than rhetorical and for that purpose Africa must remain united while bearing in mind only the practical implementation of the Lagos Plan of Action.

25. The representative of Morocco stated that 1970 had witnessed a world economic slump which had adversely affected African countries. African countries had also suffered because they had inherited underdevelopment which was characterized by inadequate infrastructure, lack of skilled manpower, technological backwardness, low level of industrialization and agricultural output, unemployment, high cost of imports, decreasing export earnings, adverse balance of payments and acute food shortages. International attempts, at solving those problems, such as negotiations within UNCTAD, had not been satisfactory and it was therefore imperative for African countries to implement the Lagos Plan of Action urgently. He was happy to note that international organizations had recognized the importance of the Lagos Plan of Action and were willing to help in its implementation. Solidarity among non-aligned countries at global negotiations should also help in the implementation of the Lagos Plan of Action. He congratulated the secretariat for having organized the Conference of African Ministers of Transport and Communications which would assist African countries in the development and co-ordination of rational transport and communications system. The very day of the opening of the Conference, His Majesty the King of Morocco had launched the construction of a railway line linking Marrakech and Cayoum as the contribution of Morocco to the implementation of the Lagos Plan of Action. He also referred to the Regional Conference on the Development and Utilization of Mineral Resources in Africa which had been an important step towards the achievement by African countries of control over their mineral resources. He proposed that African countries should get together to find common solutions to their energy problems. His Government would do all it could to support the Tangiers-based MULPOC and hoped that the document to be prepared on the implementation of the Lagos Plan of Action would assist in the economic integration of the region.

26. The representative of the Niger informed the meeting that his country had already established a national plan for 1982-1983 which incorporated most of the priorities contained in the Lagos Plan of Action, including food self-sufficiency. In that plan great emphasis was laid on the development of the rural sector which was the buttress of the economy. As the Niger was a landlocked country, the Plan also laid emphasis on the need for improving transport and communications. He also stressed the important role of health as a contributory factor towards the attainment of the objectives of the Lagos Plan of Action and appealed to member States to give unrelenting support to sub-regional and regional economic co-operation institutions. He affirmed that, as host of the Niamey MULPOC, his country would spare no effort in giving to the MULPOC every support.

27. The representative of Nigeria informed the meeting that her country gave full support to the activities of the secretariat carried out in fulfilment of its mandate to assist in the economic development of Africa. She congratulated the secretariat for the part it had played in the formulation of the Lagos Plan of Action. She also welcomed the new role of the secretariat as an executing agency and hoped that it would soon get over its teething troubles. Considering the resource constraints to which the secretariat was subject, the latter's role must continue to be that of a catalyst, without competing with other competent agencies. It was also necessary for the secretariat to select its projects carefully so that it could make the

greatest possible impact with minimum resources. She warned against the proliferation of institutions and said that member States should be offered the opportunity to examine carefully any proposals for the establishment of new institutions, and when they have decided to join any, to give them their support.

28. Turning to the MULPOCs, she stressed the need for the MULPOCs to avoid duplicating the activities of other subregional institutions where they already existed. On the biennial report of the Executive Secretary, she expressed concern at the continuing deterioration on socio-economic trends in Africa and stated that the solution lay in the realistic implementation of the Lagos Plan of Action by each member State. Future reports should include an account of efforts being made to implement the Lagos Plan of Action at the national level. As far as Nigeria was concerned, steps had already been taken to reflect many of the priorities contained in the Lagos Plan of Action in the national plan for 1981-1985, which emphasized food and agriculture and the satisfaction of basic needs. She also decried the distinction between oil producers and non-oil producers which had been belaboured in the secretariat's document on socio-economic conditions in Africa, because it tended to create the illusion that oil-producing countries were much better off than non-oil producers. She stressed the need to devote a section of the report to conditions in oil-producing African countries and to use social indicators rather than mere financial aggregates in comparing conditions of member States. Finally, she stressed the importance of co-operation between ECA and OAU in the implementation and monitoring of the Lagos Plan of Action.

29. The representative of Rwanda observed that the Conference provided a good opportunity to discuss and exchange views on the economic situation of Africa and plans for the future. The Lagos Plan of Action provided a means of improving the economic and social conditions of the region, but nothing could be achieved without co-operation at the regional level. The national plan of his Government was directed towards the implementation of the Lagos Plan of Action, and he underscored the role which the people themselves could play in the implementation of the Lagos Plan of Action. His country attached great importance to economic co-operation with neighbouring countries and, in that regard, the Gisenyi-based MULPOC had a positive role to play in the implementation of subregional projects. It was for that reason that the work programme of the Gisenyi-based MULPOC for 1981-1983 gave priority to agriculture, research, industrial development, energy and human resources. He referred to the assistance which the Gisenyi-based MULPOC had given to CEPGL and appealed to donors for continued assistance to enable CEPGL to realize its objectives.

30. The representative of Senegal emphasized that ways must be found to resolve Africa's unprecedented economic crisis. That crisis had hit the Sahelian countries worst of all. The crippling effect of drought on food production had been aggravated by serious balance-of-payments deficits as a result of rising imports. He referred to the disappointing prospects of obtaining international aid from major donors like OPEC, the World Bank and IMF and stressed that the only way out was for Africa to take collective action. He then recounted some of the measures that his country was taking to alleviate the food problem, emphasizing that its agriculture was being developed within the framework of co-operation with neighbouring countries. He emphasized the need for all United Nations agencies as well as regional and subregional organizations

and international organizations assisting African countries, particularly in the Sahel, to help Africa to implement the Lagos Plan of Action particularly with regard to the achievement of self sufficiency in food production. The solution to Africa's problems lay in the genuine interdependence in the community of interests between developing and developed countries.

31. The representative of Togo said that he shared the views expressed by the OAU Secretary-General on the need for close collaboration between OAU and ECA in the implementation of the Lagos Plan of Action. The urgent need to implement the Lagos Plan of Action which offered hope for the future had been underscored by the slow progress made in the North-South dialogue and delays in defining a New International Economic Order. African countries could prosper for their mutual benefit only through collective self-reliance and by pooling their resources. He reviewed the steps being taken by his Government to implement the Lagos Plan of Action and listed the priority areas selected by his country which included the promotion of agricultural production through water management, reforestation, fertilizer subsidies and agricultural aids, the promotion of industrial production through economies of scale such as the joint cement plant with Ghana and the Ivory Coast, employment, training of local technical personnel, foreign exchange, savings, control of inflation, improvement of the terms of trade and energy were also among the country's major concerns. Finally, he stated that the Lagos Plan of Action afforded African countries the opportunity of tackling their common economic problems in a concerted manner.

32. The representative of Tunisia thanked the Executive Secretary for the various documents which had been prepared for the Conference and stressed that the fulfilment of the development objectives of Africa depended on the collective efforts. In that regard he reiterated the importance of the Lagos Plan of Action and referred to the positive role which African organizations could play in its implementation, pointing out however that the latter required that action should be taken by member States primarily at the national and regional levels. He emphasized the importance of regional co-operation which was an indispensable step towards the economic development of the region and stated that ECA could play a catalytic role in that regard. He noted with satisfaction the declaration made by the Secretary-General of OAU to the effect that a meeting would soon be organized by OAU and the Arab League with a view to finding out how the Arab countries could participate in the implementation of the Lagos Plan of Action and expressed the hope that ECA would also be involved in the meeting. He also noted with satisfaction the commitments made by the Executive Secretary and the Secretary-General of OAU to strengthen the co-operation between their two organizations.

33. The representative of the United Republic of Tanzania said that the Conference was taking place at a particularly critical juncture in the history of Africa and that ways must be found to implement the Lagos Plan of Action. In that regard, the role of the OAU and ECA secretariats was crucial and both institutions must now devote all their energy to the economic liberation of Africa. Likewise each member State must be serious about the implementation of programmes and projects for collective self-reliance and self-sustainment. Recalling the somber statement made by the observer for the World Food Council concerning the grim food situation in Africa (see paragraph 51 below), he warned that food had become a weapon which the developed countries could use

against African States. It was necessary to ensure that the Lagos Plan of Action did not become a mere paper tiger, and member States must give their utmost support to regional co-operation programmes and multinational institutions for collective self-reliance in line with the spirit of the Lagos Plan of Action. The United Republic of Tanzania was fully committed to the Lagos Plan of Action, had taken measures aimed at the creation of a more egalitarian society and given support to subregional and regional co-operation.

34. The representative of Zaire pointed out that the Conference was being held at a time when African countries were facing a very disturbing socio-economic situation characterized by a shortage of health centres, a high mortality rate, low school attendance, limited industrialization, uneven distribution of the gross national product, disadvantaged rural areas, precarious transport and communications infrastructure and acute food shortages aggravated by a population explosion. He also indicated that the slump in raw material prices and the increase in the prices of imported goods, particularly oil, had brought about a sharp deterioration of the terms of trade and therefore deficits in the balance of payments and increases in the foreign debt burden. The situation was appalling for the non-oil-producing countries and was due to the survival of economic machinery and structures inherited from the colonial era which maintained modes of production which no longer reflected African realities. It should not be forgotten that there was a lack of systematization and horizontal co-operation at the regional level. Africa had tried to put forward solutions to remedy those problems within the framework of the North-South dialogue and at other international meetings but without any success because the developed world refused to change its attitude and understand African problems. Determined to rid the continent of underdevelopment, African countries had adopted a regional approach to development based on the principles of self-reliance and collective autonomy. In the course of the Conference, African countries would, once again, have the chance of examining the means to use in order to implement the principle of autonomy. In that context, the Lagos Plan of Action was particularly significant. The implementation of the Lagos Plan of Action called for the political commitment of the African countries and a spirit of continental solidarity. African countries should know that the actual development of the continent was above all their concern and the birth of subregional economic groupings was an indication of the need to establish horizontal trade links and proof of Africa's awareness of the need for taking collective measures. The people of Africa should therefore have sole responsibility for developing their continent; foreign aid should play only a supporting role. Already at the opening session of the ECA Conference of Ministers held in Kinshasa, Zaire, in 1977, the President of Zaire had declared that he held similar ideas to those contained in the Lagos Plan of Action and had proposed in particular to make the electric power generated by the Inga dam available to African countries. The representative of Zaire stressed the importance of the MULPOCs and hoped that African States would provide them with adequate human and material resources. Finally, there was need for co-operation between the secretariats of ECA and OAU which should work together without respite in order to translate the objectives of the Lagos Plan of Action into reality.

35. The representative of Zambia referred to the serious economic situation in Africa and said that it was a pity that a continent, so rich in resources was still a net importer of food. It was necessary to examine critically

how each African country could implement the Lagos Plan of Action by incorporating it in its national plan. To a large extent, Zambia was already doing so, putting food self-sufficiency and general agricultural development at the top of its national priorities. He then outlined the most important subregional projects in which Zambia was involved. Of those, the most significant was the establishment of the Preferential Trade Area for Eastern and Southern Africa, which had Zambia's full support. He also referred to the Southern African Development Co-ordination Committee in which Zambia played an active role and whose principal aim was the harmonization of plans and projects in the southern African subregion, aimed at reducing its dependence on South Africa. He appealed to member States to increase the resources of the Lusaka-based MULPOC so as to enable it to implement its programme effectively.

36. The representative of Zimbabwe congratulated the secretariat for having prepared the documents on the Lagos Plan of Action and the Monrovia Strategy. He stated that because of the horrifying indignity of poverty and economic dependence, the tasks of developing African economies should be approached on the same footing as a liberation war. It was in that context that the Lagos Plan of Action was of direct importance because it called for collective action and self-reliance. He paid tribute to OAU and member States for their assistance and sacrifice to Zimbabwe during the liberation struggle. He stressed that the same spirit should once again be manifested in the liberation of Namibia and South Africa. In that regard, the Lagos Plan of Action was also of direct significance for the countries of southern Africa in reducing the dependence of their economies on that of South Africa; furthermore, the countries of southern Africa were already engaged in the implementation of the Lagos Plan of Action through the Southern African Development Co-ordination Committee. He appealed for more international aid and technical assistance to enable his Government to undertake the task of reconstruction and rehabilitation.

37. Statements were also made by observers for the following States Members of the United Nations not members of the Commission: France, India, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the United States of America.

38. The observer for France described the Lagos Plan of Action as ambitious but realistic. His country would incorporate its main ideas in its own policy towards assistance to Africa. He was particularly impressed by its underlying concept of collective self-reliance. He cited his country's association with various ECA projects, saying that such co-operation would continue. He emphasized that the economic crisis in Africa was part of a crisis that faced the whole world and that to solve it was a matter that required world solidarity. Although it was a main contributor, the energy problem was by no means the only cause of the crisis, which was partly a political phenomenon. There was no need to point an accusing finger at anyone; what was important was for different countries to pull together. It was his country's intention to maintain its traditional links with African countries. It was partly in manifestation of that interest that France had agreed to host the forthcoming conference on the least developed countries.

39. The observer for India referred to his country's involvement in several multinational co-operation programmes in Africa. He pledged his country's solidarity with Africa in implementing the Lagos Plan of Action. He recalled the Executive Secretary's visit to India two years previously, when several fields of co-operation had been explored. As a gesture of solidarity with African countries, his country had contributed 5 million rupees to the United Nations Trust Fund for African Development thus becoming the first non-African developing country to do so. He recounted at length many different areas of activities in which Indian equipment and expertise could be utilized by African countries for mutual co-operation. He considered TCDC to be an important corner-stone in the construction of the new international economic order. As further evidence of India's determination to seek co-operation with African countries, his country had applied for membership of the African Development Fund as well as the African Development Bank.

40. The observer for the USSR stated that, despite the resolution of the sixth special session of the General Assembly on the establishment of the new international economic order, the economic condition of developing countries had continued to deteriorate. That was largely due to the existence of an unfavourable international environment. The USSR continued to play its part in the maintenance of détente and international peace and security, especially by keeping the Indian Ocean as a zone of peace, which was necessary for Africa's economic development. With the independence of Zimbabwe and the prospective liberation of Namibia, he was glad to see that the age of colonialism was approaching its end. He lauded the Lagos Plan of Action for being internally-oriented in order to utilize to the full the indigenous resources and capabilities of African countries themselves. The Socialist countries would continue, as in the past, to co-operate with African countries in their development efforts. He ended by recounting a number of different projects in the execution of which his country had been co-operating with many African States.

41. The observer for the United States of America stated that her Government was keenly aware of the economic hardships and challenges facing African countries and recognized the importance of the Lagos Plan of Action, the development of water resources and transport and communications, energy and the development of human resources all of which were vital to the successful transformation of the economies of African countries. She assured the Conference that, while her Government intended to limit its expenditure on aid in order to revitalize its own economy, economic assistance to developing countries would continue to be an essential component in her Government's foreign policy. She referred to the ways in which her Government had recently manifested its concern for the economic and social welfare of African countries and the steps which it planned to take in order to assist in the economic and social development of the region and to encourage economic co-operation among African countries.

42. Representatives of the following United Nations departments, bodies and agencies made statements in the general debate: the United Nations Department of Technical Co-operation for Development, UNSO, the United Nations Centre for Science and Technology, UNIDO, UNDP, WFC, FAO, ICAO and WIPO.

43. The Under-Secretary-General, Department of Technical Co-operation for Development, United Nations, observed that, in the absence of agreements at the global level to introduce changes in present international economic relations, the Conference took on a new dimension as it offered a unique opportunity for African countries to review and adopt programmes aimed at giving new direction and impetus to development. He said that the Lagos Plan of Action was an important document because it called upon African countries to mobilize both human and material resources for development and spelled out the need for increased sovereignty over natural resources. Africa was rich in natural resources. However, although major steps had been taken in the field of irrigation, only a small part of the Africa's total water resources was being used productively, and about two thirds of its population did not even have safe drinking water. The failure to integrate energy into the over-all African national development plans constituted a further constraint to economic development. The Lagos Plan of Action envisaged an important role for the public sector in its implementation and it was therefore necessary to reform administrative structures, strengthen management and streamline public enterprises. The Department of Technical Co-operation for Development was the principal arm through which the United Nations Secretariat implemented technical co-operation activities. The Department's main activities were concentrated in Africa, with over 500 projects receiving assistance amounting to approximately \$US 50 million. The least developed African countries continued to receive the special attention of the Department. In compliance with General Assembly resolution 32/197, his Department co-operated with ECA in the implementation of regional projects.

44. The representative of UNSO recalled that UNSO had been established to assist the countries of the Sahel members of CILSS, to redress the effects of drought and in 1978 UNSO's responsibility had been enlarged to include the provision of assistance to the countries of the Sudano-Sahelian region in the implementation of the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification. UNSO had assisted in the preparation of the Lagos Plan of Action and was willing to assist in its implementation within the context of its mandate. Already UNSO's assistance to the countries of the Sudano-Sahelian region in the implementation of projects and programmes in the fields of transport, energy, forestry, livestock, etc. was complementary to the activities of the secretariat in those fields. In particular he drew attention to the UNSO priority feeder road construction and improvement programme in the Sahel which was consistent with the objectives of the United Nations Transport and Communications Decade in Africa. To conclude, he said ECA and UNSO had already agreed on the details of an accord for co-operation.

45. The Assistant Secretary-General, United Nations Centre for Science and Technology, said that the Lagos Plan of Action called upon African countries to put science and technology to the service of development by reinforcing autonomous capacity, which was the fundamental directive of the Vienna Conference. He stressed that there was need to translate the principles adopted and agreements reached at the Conference into concrete programmes. For that purpose, the operational plan for the Implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action, now before the Conference for consideration, would be submitted to the intergovernmental Committee on Science and Technology for Development at its third session for review and adoption. The plan purported to offer

a framework containing specific proposals for action which member States could resort to in charting their activities in the field of science and technology. The action proposals contained therein closely adhered to the various programmes adopted by the African region and, most particularly, the Lagos Programme of Action.

46. The representative of UNIDO said the Executive Director of UNIDO attached particular importance to the work of ECA for it was through a better understanding of that work that ECA and UNIDO could strengthen their co-operation and co-ordinate their efforts to serve member States more effectively. Consequently, UNIDO had attended all ECA Conferences of Ministers and had been able to observe the impressive efforts ECA had made in re-orienting the work of the secretariat towards operational activities covering the entire socio-economic spectrum, particularly within the framework of the MULPOCs. In the field of industry UNIDO/ECA co-operation had been pursued under the aegis of the biennial Conferences of African Ministers of Industry which were sponsored by OAU, ECA and UNIDO. Those conferences had played a significant role in strengthening OAU/ECA/UNIDO co-operation and in creating regional programmes and institutions for promoting regional industrial co-operation. The Lagos Plan of Action, which had given industry second priority after agriculture, had widened and deepened the scope of ECA/UNIDO co-operation as well as co-operation with other organizations in the United Nations system. Consequently, UNIDO had been guided by the Lagos Plan of Action in preparing projects for the forthcoming UNDP third regional programme cycle for Africa. He then gave an account of the assistance which his organization was giving to member States.

47. He drew attention to the New Delhi Declaration and Plan of Action on Industrialization of Developing Countries and International Co-operation for their Industrial Development which had been endorsed by the Industrial Development Board at its fourteenth session in May 1980 and by the General Assembly at its thirty-fifth session. He also drew attention to General Assembly resolution 35/66 which had declared the 1980s to be the Industrial Development Decade for Africa and which had also called upon ECA and UNIDO, in close co-operation with OAU, to formulate proposals to implement the Decade programme and to monitor progress. Discussions were accordingly in progress among OAU, ECA and UNIDO to determine the best ways in which African countries could be assisted to implement the Decade and a joint plan of action prepared by the three organizations would be submitted to the Conference of African Ministers of Industry to be held in November 1981 for consideration and action. UNIDO would play its part fully in implementing the Lagos Plan of Action and in ensuring that it did so in full co-operation with ECA and OAU.

48. The UNDP Assistant Administrator and Regional Director for Africa expressed concern about the economic condition of the continent and said that the African region had been affected by disasters and difficulties. It was a continent that contained the largest number of least developed and land-locked countries, the largest number of refugees and the largest number of drought-stricken countries. The scourge of those difficulties would have lasting effect on future generations, as thousands of children were among those most affected. The refugee problem had reached an alarming proportion

and an international conference had been convened to consider the need for increased assistance. The solutions to those problems lay in national and collective efforts, and it was for that reason that the Lagos Plan of Action and the Monrovia Declaration were of such importance.

49. At the meeting of the OAU Council of Ministers which had preceded the second extraordinary Assembly of Heads of State and Government of OAU, he had outlined areas where Africa required urgent action. Those areas included organization and reorientation of development, and more particularly the democratization of national development; self-sufficiency in food; self-sufficiency in energy; development financing; transport and communications; development and utilization of science and technology; and technical co-operation among developing countries. To that list, in view of the aggravation of drought conditions in Africa, should be added the protection of the African environment against desertification. However he singled out three areas that were most critical for future development: self-sufficiency in energy, the financing of Africa's development and the protection of the African environment against desertification. With regard to energy, he stressed the importance of intra-African co-operation in that field and of the establishment of the Energy Commission referred to in the Lagos Plan of Action. On the development financing, there was need to adjust the development strategies of African countries and to utilize the human resources of Africa to the full. In addition it was imperative to exercise strict control over the utilization of both domestic and external resources. He underscored the importance of control by calling attention to the practice of Western investors of overcharging for goods and services and said that UNDP had been able to save one African country from being overcharged \$US 20 million. He called on member States to scrutinize contract proposals submitted to them by their commercial partners and announced that UNDP was ready to assist any member State in that respect. On the protection of the African environment from desertification, he referred to the various conferences which had already been held on the problem of desertification, and said that during 1982-1986 UNDP would undertake projects related to the protection and rehabilitation of the African environment.

50. He also referred to future co-operation between Africa and UNDP and said that about 80 per cent of UNDP resources for the year 1982-1986 would be allocated to the countries whose per capita income was less than \$US 500. Attention would also be paid to regional programmes in Africa and to technical co-operation among African countries. With regard to the implementation of the Lagos Plan of Action he referred to the inter-agency meeting to be convened by OAU in April 1981 to examine possible collaboration among specialized agencies in the implementation of subregional and regional projects. UNDP intended to finance subregional and regional projects during the period. Finally, he stated that co-operation between ECA and UNDP had improved significantly, and thanked the Executive Secretary for that development. He looked forward to even closer collaboration so that the Lagos Plan of Action could be effectively implemented.

51. The representative of the World Food Council stated that the great humanitarian concept of a world without hunger envisioned in the 1974 World Food Conference Universal Declaration still remained a dream in Africa.

With up-to-date figures he demonstrated that Africa of all the regions of the world suffered the most serious food problems. The majority of the world's food-deficit countries were in Africa and Africa's share of hungry people in the world was the greatest. Natural and man-made disasters had compounded the African food problem, turning the situation into an outright crisis. Some 28 African countries comprising about 50 per cent of the continent's population were on the verge of famine and could not continue without increased food aid on an emergency basis. Thus the cost of the food problem in economic and human terms meant swelling import bills, depletion of foreign exchange, postponement or scrapping of vital natural development programmes and a growing dependence on imported food-stuffs. He concluded by outlining programmes being undertaken by his organization in conformity with the Lagos Plan of Action.. They included a special "Food Window" which his organization had proposed jointly with FAO to IMF for the provision of balance-of-payments support to food-deficit countries experiencing rising food import bills; national food strategies aimed at increasing resources for more food production, improving consumption and distribution and strengthening food security; the conclusion of a new Food Aid Convention which guaranteed 7.6 million tons of food aid on a permanent and replenishable basis; and a number of proposals aimed at highlighting the food issue in international forums and at creating a viable system of world food security.

52. The representative of the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) referred to the acute food problem facing the African region and stated that it was necessary for African Governments to effect political and institutional changes including the mobilization of human resources in order to bring about an effective agricultural revolution in Africa. He noted with satisfaction that Africa had adopted the Lagos Plan of Action at the beginning of the Third United Nations Development Decade, and that would enable the various United Nations agencies to participate in the implementation of the Plan. FAO had collaborated with the secretariat in the preparation of the Lagos Plan of Action and it would continue that collaboration during the implementation of the Plan; in that regard FAO had prepared a document on the implementation of the Lagos Plan of Action. FAO would also participate at the forthcoming Interagency meeting to be held in Addis Ababa in April 1981 to work out areas of co-operation and collaboration with other United Nations agencies in providing assistance to the secretariat in the implementation of its subregional and regional projects.

53. The representative of the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), assured the Conference that his organization would co-operate with ECA in the implementation of the Lagos Plan of Action, and the programme of the United Nations Transport and Communications Decade in Africa. He also described the steps ICAO was taking to promote efficient communications between adjacent air traffic control centres and between pilots and ground stations in Africa. In its attempt to provide comprehensive and effective coverage of its activities in the Africa region, ICAO would establish a second regional office in East Africa to serve Eastern and Southern African States.

54. The representative of WIPO drew attention to General Assembly resolution 35/64 on special measures for the social and economic development of Africa in the 1980s which revealed the determination of all organizations

in the United Nations system to help to achieve the objectives of the Lagos Plan of Action; and to paragraph 154 of the Lagos Plan of Action which, in recognizing that the lack of information was one of the most serious obstacles to the selection, acquisition and use of appropriate technology options, prescribed the establishment of machinery to assess and promote the acquisition and dissemination of relevant information. WIPO was co-operating with some African Governments in the projects directly related to that problem. One of those projects concerned the Industrial Property Organization for English-speaking Africa, with ECA and WIPO acting jointly as its interim secretariat. WIPO would continue to help African Governments to reinforce their indigenous technological capacities by strengthening their intellectual property infrastructures at the national and regional levels and establishing links between those infrastructures and the relevant development sectors such as industry, research and development and human resources.

55. Observers for the following intergovernmental organizations then made statements: the Africa Regional Co-ordinating Committee, the African Development Bank, the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance and UDEAC.

56. The observer for the Africa Regional Co-ordinating Committee on the Integration of Women in Development drew attention to the fact that ECA was the only regional commission which had established institutions for the integration of women in development. The Co-ordinating Committee had adopted a programme and strategies for 1980-1985 for the development of women which, after receiving the approval of the Conference of Ministers, had finally been incorporated into the Lagos Plan of Action. That programme and strategies had also been submitted to the secretariat of the World Conference for the United Nations Decade for Women held at Copenhagen as the input of the African region.

57. The Co-ordinating Committee had recently held its second meeting in Addis Ababa in order to consolidate its achievements. The second meeting of the Co-ordinating Committee had also adopted a number of resolutions contained in its report relating to the mobilization of resources for the integration of women in development at the national, subregional and regional levels, the participation of women in the formulation of national development plans, projects designed to benefit rural women and data collection and the dissemination of information. She stressed that the issue of resources for the implementation of women's programmes was a most critical one. The Co-ordinating Committee had been made aware of the reluctance of several donors to continue their assistance to the African Training and Research Centre for Women (ATRCW) unless their assistance was matched by funds from the regular budget of ECA. UNDP, however, had been particularly generous in providing support for the MULPOC programmes relating to the integration of women in development. However, the time had come when the Governments of member States should themselves undertake the major responsibility of financing women's programme, and in that regard the Co-ordinating Committee had submitted a resolution for the consideration of the Conference urging African countries to make specific pledges to the United Nations Trust Fund for African Development for the implementation of the priority women's programme. Turning to the insecure tenure of the staff of ATRCW, she recalled that a call had been made two years previously for the professional status of the women staff of ATRCW to be improved and for regular budget posts to be

provided for them. It was regrettable to note that the women staff of ATRCW still occupied relatively low professional positions and were almost exclusively funded from extrabudgetary sources. She urged the Executive Secretary to intensify his efforts to change the present situation. The last problem she referred to was the fact that it had not been possible to convene a meeting of a North African MULPOC so as to obtain official approval for the women's programme for that subregion. Until such a meeting could be held, she wanted the Conference to authorize the Executive Secretary to proceed with the implementation of practical programmes for the integration of women in development for the North African subregion.

58. The observer for ADB said that as an African institution ADB was fully committed to the ideals of the Lagos Plan of Action and was determined to contribute to its implementation. For that purpose, the lending policies of ADB would continue to favour food production, labour intensive small-scale industries, manpower training and improvement of transport and communication networks among African countries, with particular attention to the least developed and land-locked States. At the end of 1980 the cumulative lending of ADB, the African Development Fund (ADF) and the Nigerian Trust Fund (NTF) to member States had amounted to \$US 2.5 billion. That amount, although large, did not amount to 10 per cent of the development needs of the recipient member States. Constant dialogue between ECA and ADB had led to the implementation of a co-operative programme aimed at financing and carrying out pre-investment studies on transport and communications. As a gesture of continued support of the activities of ECA, ADB had agreed to host a conference of chief executives of ECA-sponsored institutions in Abidjan in December 1981. ADB would, if its Board of Directors approved, support the Pan-African Documentation and Information System (PADIS) to the tune of \$US 1 million during the period 1980-1989 because it believed in the vital role of PADIS. ADB was also considering launching the project "Shelter Afrique" in 1982 to deal with Africa's urgent and long-neglected housing needs, especially for the low-income groups. He finally reiterated that ADB would play its full part in the implementation of the Lagos Plan of Action and would continue to mobilize the necessary financial resources, both concessional and non-concessional, which would enable it to play its part in Africa's quest for economic self-reliance.

59. The observer for the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance pointed out that the CMEA was rendering economic and technical assistance to the African countries, and that its assistance in setting up industrial production in Africa accounted for 70 per cent of all the assistance it provided for the African region. There were 22,189 experts from CMEA member countries working in 43 African countries, and a total of 19,304 Africans were undergoing training within CMEA member countries. He expressed satisfaction at the growing co-operation between CMEA and ECA through organized seminars and visits. He expressed the hope that the current session would find positive solutions to the many problems that faced African countries in the task of economic development and thus lay a foundation for détente and peaceful co-existence within the international framework.

60. The representative of UDEAC stressed the importance of the current session and said that it was being held at a time when Africa was undergoing a serious economic crisis. It was for that reason that the launching of the

Lagos Plan of Action which was based on the principle of collective self-reliance and aimed at reinforcing African economic integration was a welcome development. He noted that the implementation of that objective would start at subregional level; for Central Africa a concrete step had already been taken with the establishment of UDEAC several years ago. He referred to the objectives of UDEAC which were inter alia the elimination of trade barriers in inter-State trade, the equitable distribution of the industrial projects, the co-ordination of development programmes, and the promotion of integration process which was characterized by close customs co-operation and the harmonization of investment codes. In order to strengthen the co-operation within the Central African subregion, measures had already been taken to strengthen the close co-operation between the Yaounde MULPOC and UDEAC, such as the signing of an agreement on co-operation between the two.

Social implications of the Lagos Plan of Action: Report and recommendations of the third Conference of African Ministers of Social Affairs (item 10)

- 61. The representative of the secretariat introduced the report of the third Conference of African Ministers of Social Affairs, which had taken place in Addis Ababa in October 1980 (E/CN.14/785), and said that sessions of the Conference of African Ministers of Social Affairs were normally held biennially, under the joint auspices of OAU and ECA. Those sessions provided an opportunity for a critical review of African social trends and significant social problems as they related to development in the region with a view to assessing their implications on official policy and action by national Governments. The third Conference of African Ministers of Social Affairs had considered, inter alia, the programme of activities and budget of the African Centre for Applied Research and Training in Social Development (ACARTSOD) for 1981-1982; the scale of assessment of contributions by members to the budget of ACARTSOD; and the appointment of an Executive Director and the designation of the members of the Governing Board of ACARTSOD. The third Conference had also discussed the ways of observing the International Year of Disabled Persons (IYDP), which had been proclaimed by General Assembly resolution 31/123, in the African region.
62. The representative of the secretariat then explained that two regional meetings had been jointly organized by OAU and ECA, with a view to preparing African Governments for the observance of IYDP. Those preparatory meetings, which had taken place in Addis Ababa in October 1980, had succeeded in elaborating and recommending various national and regional measures which would assist in the development of action-oriented plans towards the attainment of the objectives of IYDP. The conclusions and recommendations of those meetings had been reviewed by the third Conference of African Ministers of Social Affairs and duly incorporated in two draft resolutions before the Conference [see resolutions 410(XVI) and 411 (XVI) in chapter IV below].
63. However, by far the most significant accomplishment of the third Conference of African Ministers of Social Affairs was its detailed analysis and elaboration of the social implications of the Lagos Plan of Action. He then explained the International Development Strategy for the United Nations Development Decade had emphasized the importance of extending and strengthening the basic social services as health, nutrition, water, sanitation and education which would help to reduce income inequalities and, above all, enhance the capacity of society for economic and social progress. The International Development Strategy had also given due recognition to social justice as a precondition to balanced

development in which the full and effective participation of the entire population in the development process must be ensured. All those developments were consistent with the Monrovia Strategy and with the Lagos Plan of Action and the Conference of African Ministers of Social Affairs had stressed the importance of mobilizing all available human resources in the implementation of the Lagos Plan of Action.

64. The representative of the secretariat then drew attention to the comprehensive list of recommended measures addressed to member States by the third Conference of African Ministers of Social Affairs concerning the social context within which the implementation of the Lagos Plan of Action must be considered. Those recommendations appeared on pages 6 to 19 of the report (E/CN.14/785) and covered measures to improve the demographic and health situation, the quality of human resources and the status of women and opportunities for their participation in national development efforts; measures to deal with problems of youth unemployment, refugees and displaced persons; social policy measures to be taken to counter adverse social consequences that might arise out of the implementation of the Lagos Plan of Action; measures to maximize social benefits; and international co-operation in social development. The various measures recommended had been incorporated into one comprehensive resolution for the consideration of the Conference [see resolution 423(XVI) in chapter IV below].

65. In the discussions that followed, one participant observed that the report (E/CN.14/785) had not dealt with the problems of the difficult living conditions of African immigrants to Europe and proposed that social policies evolved under the Lagos Plan of Action should take account of the welfare of such immigrants.

66. The Conference then endorsed the report and resolutions contained therein.

The United Nations Transport and Communications Decade in Africa: Progress report by the Conference of Ministers of Transport and Communications (item 11)

67. Before introducing the report of the second meeting of the Conference of Ministers of Transport, Communications and Planning, the representative of the secretariat recalled the purpose of the Transport and Communications Decade in Africa and resolution 391(XV) adopted by the Conference of Ministers in April 1980. With respect to the second meeting of the Conference of Ministers of Transport, Communications and Planning held at Addis Ababa in March 1981, he pointed out that that conference had provided an opportunity for taking stock of progress made in the implementation of the programme of the Decade and giving the Decade a new orientation in line with the global strategy defined in volume I of the Decade document. In preparation for that Conference of Ministers, the fourth meeting of the Interagency Co-ordinating Committee of the Decade had been held on 9 and 10 March 1981 and a meeting of intergovernmental experts from African countries from 9 to 15 March 1981. The representative of the secretariat read out the agendas of those preliminary meetings and summarized the issues discussed and the positions which had emerged from the discussions which emphasized inter alia, the implementation of the programme of the Decade, the search for additional funding, the updating of the first phase of the programme of the Decade and the preparation of the second phase of that programme (1984-1988).

68. He then referred to statements made by the Deputy Executive Secretary of ECOWAS stressing how important it was to count on subregional organizations in

Africa for the implementation of the programme of the Decade, and by the representative of ADB who had stated that his organization had agreed to act as leader in the mobilization of financing for the programme of the Decade. He also referred to a communiqué received from Morocco on the project relating to a permanent intercontinental link between Africa and Europe. He drew attention to the resolutions which the second meeting of the Conference of Ministers of Transport, Communications and Planning had adopted which entrusted the secretariat with greater functions and thus with more work. Although UNDP had provided finance for activities related to the implementation of the Decade, those resources were clearly inadequate in view of the magnitude of the undertaking and of the role entrusted to the secretariat. Finally, he called upon the representative of Senegal to introduce a draft resolution on the implementation of the Decade.

69. During the discussion that followed, some delegations proposed amendments to the draft resolution and requested clarifications. After the representative of the secretariat had given the necessary clarifications, the resolution was adopted as amended /see resolution 422 (XVI) in chapter IV below.

Report and recommendations of the Technical Preparatory Committee of the Whole (item 12)

70. The Chairman of the second meeting of the Technical Preparatory Committee of the Whole introduced the report and recommendations of the second meeting of the Committee.

71. The Conference then adopted the report of the Committee (E/CN.14/813 - E/CN.14/TPCW/II/28) together with the draft resolutions which the Committee had recommended for adoption (see draft resolutions A to D in chapter I above and resolutions 403(XVI) to 409(XVI) and 412(XVI) to 421(XVI) in chapter IV below).

United Nations Trust Fund for African Development: Pledges of financial contributions by member States for the 1982-1983 biennium (item 13)

72. The following documents were submitted to the third Pledging Conference of African Government Plenipotentiaries: United Nations Trust Fund for African Development - Progress report of pledges and payments by member States, project implementation and expenditures, 1977-1980 (E/CN.14/791); and United Nations Trust Fund for African Development, third Pledging Conference, Resources required for the 1982-1983 biennium (E/CN.14/796). In introducing the documents, the Executive Secretary expressed satisfaction at the support that member States had given to the first Pledging Conference for 1977/1979 and to the second Pledging Conference for 1979/1981. That demonstrated the importance African Governments attached to self-reliance. The spirit of self-reliance would encourage other donors to contribute to the Trust Fund (UNTFAD). Indeed one non-African developing country, India, had also contributed to UNTFAD. The gap between available and required resources to implement approved projects for 1982-1983 amounted to \$US 6 million. He therefore appealed to member States to fill that gap at the present Conference. Countries which had not paid should do so and those that had never pledged should also pledge on the present occasion. The Chairman drew attention to Conference of Ministers resolution 288(XIII) which had called upon the Executive Secretary to convene pledging conferences every two years for plenipotentiaries of African

Governments and representatives of African financial organizations to replenish the Trust Fund.

73. In making their pledges several representatives expressed support for the Lagos Plan of Action, ECA and its activities and stated that, in spite of difficulties arising from adverse economic circumstances, inflation, draught, wars and revolutions, they would continue to make contributions to the Fund.

74. The representative of Algeria said that his country had already paid its pledge. Projects for which the money was to be used which would include PADIS, were being worked out with the secretariat and requirements could exceed what had already been pledged.

75. The representative of Benin recalled that his country had been committed to the African revolution since 1972. He stressed that one of the guiding principles of that revolution was that Benin should rely first of all on its own resources for its economic and social development. It was because of its conviction that such a principle needed to be adopted on a continent-wide basis that Benin had always contributed to the United Nations Trust Fund for African Development. Thus in 1978 Benin had contributed \$US 40,000, paid in full. For the fiscal year 1982/83, although his country strongly supported the Trust Fund, it would contribute the sum of \$US 5,000 because of the economic difficulties which it had experienced following the imperialist aggression of 16 January 1977 and unfavourable climatic conditions. The contribution should be used for projects relating to: (a) human settlements; (b) human resources planning; and (c) the Pan-African Documentation and Information System (PADIS).

76. The representative of Botswana said that his Government had already paid in \$US 10,000 for 1982-1983. He pledged an additional sum of \$US 15,000, making a total of \$US 25,000. Of that amount his Government wished \$US 10,000 to be used for Lusaka MULPOC projects, \$US 3,000 to be used for projects on the integration of women in development and the balance of \$US 12,000 to be used by ECA for the general development of Africa.

77. The representative of Burundi pledged \$US 20,000. Part of that money should be used to support the work of the Gisenyi MULPOC.

78. The representative of the Congo pledged \$US 40,000 to be used for agricultural and mineral research, the development of mineral resources, sub-regional integration and transport and communication as well as the women's project. All those projects were in conformity with the work programme of the Yaounde MULPOC and that of UDEAC.

79. The representative of Egypt stated that, in addition to the establishment of the \$US 5 million Egyptian Aid Fund which had been announced in Lagos in 1980, a draft agreement between his Government and the Pan-African Documentation and Information Centre (PADIS) for the purpose of strengthening the Information and Documentation Centre in Cairo was under consideration. If that draft agreement was approved, the contribution in kind to be provided by the Egyptian Government would be in the order of \$US 920,000.

80. The representative of Ethiopia said that his Government had supported ECA since its establishment. It had donated Africa Hall and the land on which

the new extensions to the ECA secretariat now stood. His Government had also furnished the Ethiopia Lounge in the new extension. PADIS would also be given land valued at \$US 1,200,000. He recalled that at the first pledging conference his country had pledged and fully paid \$US 73,280 at a time when it was in a state of war. Today, Ethiopia still faced the problem of the resettlement of persons displaced by the war of aggression and drought. His country, like all other least developed countries was seriously affected by international economic malaise. However, he was authorized to pledge 30,000 Birr, payable in local currency, for projects to be agreed with the secretariat at a later date.

81. The representative of Gabon said that his Government had pledged \$US 70,000 for the last biennium; that sum had however not been paid and steps were being taken to pay. Since Gabon had already made a commitment to increase its contributions to UNDP for the development of Africa, he would pledge \$US 40,000 for 1982-1983.

82. The representative of the Gambia said that his country had pledged and paid \$US 5,000 for the previous biennium but that it had not yet been informed by ECA whether the money had been received or not. He asked the secretariat to confirm to his Government in writing whether the money had been received or not. He stated, however, that he had no mandate to pledge on the present occasion but he would communicate the decision of his Government to ECA at a later date.

83. The representative of Guinea said his country stood for the success of the African economic revolution and since UNTFAD had an important part to play in advancing that cause, it would pledge \$US 30,000 for 1982-1983.

84. The representative of Guinea-Bissau said that the difficulties of his country were well known but he would pledge 35,000 pesos in local currency.

85. The representative of Kenya pledged \$US 70,000 and said that he trusted the Executive Secretary to allocate the money to the best advantage of the region.

86. The representative of Lesotho said that his country had pledged \$US 7,000 during the last biennium but that it would now increase that amount to \$US 8,000 and that the additional \$US 1,000 should be used for women's projects.

87. The representative of Liberia pledged \$US 20,000.

88. The representative of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya said his country was co-operating with individual African countries in various ways, including the grant of loans as its contribution to the rebirth of Africa. His Government also supported the African Centre for Applied Research and Training in Social Development (ACARTSOD) at Tripoli to the tune of \$US 300,000 annually. For the 1982-1983 biennium his Government pledged \$US 200,000 to UNTFAD, and it would inform to ECA on which projects the money should be spent.

89. The representative of Mali said that his Government had pledged \$US 25,000 for the last biennium and that that amount would be transferred to ECA shortly. He then pledged \$US 25,000 for 1982-1983 for projects to be communicated to ECA later.

90. The representative of Morocco said that of the \$US 500,000 pledged at the last Conference, his Government had paid \$US 200,000 and would pay the balance of \$US 300,000 shortly. He pledged \$US 500,000 for 1982-1983 for subregional and regional projects, the Tangiers MULPOC, the African Institute for Enterprise Management of Tangiers, PADIS, assistance to land-locked States and research.

91. The representative of Nigeria said that Africa was the centre piece of Nigerian foreign policy. Nigeria had co-operation agreements with several African countries. It had established the \$US 80 million Nigerian Trust Fund within ADB to be used towards the development of Africa. The Fund had been replenished recently. The money Nigeria had pledged in the past had been used to promote chemical industries, metal and engineering industries, trade in food and livestock, the Institute for Higher Training and Research, the Centre for Manufacturing and Design, mineral resources research, etc. Thirteen projects contained in ECA documents would be examined carefully to see which ones Nigeria would finance. Projects relating to women deserved far more support than they had received hitherto, and it was Nigeria's wish that those projects should be given proper attention in future. For the 1982-1983 biennium she pledged \$US 200,000 to be paid in two equal instalments, stating that some of it should be used for women's projects.

92. The representative of Rwanda pledged \$US 15,000, 70 per cent of which should be used for Gisenyi MULPOC projects.

93. The representative of Senegal recalled his country's standing commitment to the cause of African development and stated that Senegal had pledged \$US 200,000 at the last Pledging Conference. Of that amount, \$US 52,000 had already been paid, while \$US 148,000 was outstanding. Stressing the particularly difficult economic conditions in Senegal which were the result of ten years of drought, the unusual drop in groundnut production and the burden imposed by oil bills, he informed the Conference of an economic and financial recovery plan which his Government was now implementing. The plan had effected a considerable reduction in the State budget. Consequently, Senegal would make no pledge for 1982-1983, but would make all efforts to pay the \$US 148,000 already pledged in two instalments.

94. The representative of Sierra Leone pledged \$US 30,000.

95. The representative of Somalia, who was attending a pledging conference for the first time, pledged \$US 30,000 to be used in accordance with an agreement the Government would reach with ECA at a later date.

96. The representative of Togo pledged \$US 10,000 to be used for transport and communications projects in the Niamey MULPOC subregion.

97. The representative of the United Republic of Cameroon said his Government would communicate its pledge to the ECA secretariat and that it wished the money pledged to be used to support the work programme of the Yaounde MULPOC.

98. The representative of the United Republic of Tanzania said that his Government was committed to the ideals of UNIFAD since it was a concrete demonstration of the belief that Africa should be developed by Africans themselves. Hence at the last pledging conference it had pledged \$US 750,000. That money had not been fully paid but this Government would honour its pledge

as soon as possible. He felt that voluntary pledges were not enough to develop Africa. What was needed was for a consistent mechanism or criteria to be developed to establish the amount that each country should contribute to the Fund periodically. That would show the seriousness of African Governments. For the 1982-1983 biennium he pledged \$US 50,000 to be used mainly to support the East African Mineral Resources Development Centre, and also for projects in rural development and human settlements.

99. The representative of Zaire recalled that the resolution by which the African Trust Fund had been established had been adopted in 1977 at the thirteenth session of the Commission which had been held at Kinshasa. Since then, Zaire had based itself on the principle that self-reliance was better than relying on others and, notwithstanding the very real economic difficulties it had experienced during the years 1979/80 and 1980/81, it had felt that it could not renege on the commitments it had made in the name of African solidarity and had pledged regularly even during a period when its economic situation had been particularly difficult. His country had already paid up a substantial portion of all the pledges it had made in the past and the competent authorities in his country had made all the necessary arrangements to make good the balance as soon as possible. With regard to its contribution for the 1982-1983 biennium, at a time when Africa was talking about the implementation of the Lagos Plan of Action, Zaire was more than ever convinced that Africa should spare no effort to make extra sacrifices in line with the development objectives the continent had set for itself. In conclusion, despite his country's economic difficulties, he had been instructed on behalf of Zaire, to pledge the amount of \$US 250,000 to the African Trust Fund, half of which, or \$US 125 000 was to be earmarked for the following: PADIS projects, subregional projects to be implemented within the framework of the Gisenyi MULPOC, particularly energy projects, and those relating to the integration of women in the economic development of the subregion.

100. The leader of the delegation of Zambia said that in the past his Government had pledged 160,000 kwacha in kind to maintain the Lusaka MULPOC offices. He renewed that pledge. In addition he pledged \$US 40,000 in cash for Lusaka MULPOC projects to be identified later.

101. The leader of the delegation of Zimbabwe said that, although his Government was engaged in a major programme to reconstruct the war-torn economy, it recognized the critical importance of the Lagos Plan of Action for the future of Africa. Accordingly it pledged \$US 20,000 as a token of its earnest intention to support UNTFAD.

102. The representatives of Equatorial Guinea, Ghana, Mozambique, Sao Tome and Principe and the Sudan said that they would communicate their Governments' decisions to ECA in due course.

103. The representatives of Angola and the Ivory Coast said that they had no mandate to pledge.

104. The representative of the African Development Bank said that he had no specific instructions to pledge any amount although in May 1981 there would be a meeting at the Bank during which assistance by the Bank to PADIS would be discussed.

105. The Executive Secretary thanked the Plenipotentiaries for the encouraging support they had given to the Conference. He said that in 1977, 22 countries had pledged \$US 2,963,512; in 1979, 20 countries and the African Development Bank had pledged \$US 2,247,892; and in 1981, 23 countries had pledged \$US 1,928,000 in cash, excluding pledges in kind. He invited those countries which had not yet pledged to do so as promptly as possible.

106. The following is a summary of the pledges made:

	(in United States dollars)
1. Benin	5 000
2. Botswana	25 000
3. Burundi	20 000
4. Congo	40 000
5. Gabon	40 000
6. Guinea	30 000
7. Kenya	70 000
8. Lesotho	8 000
9. Liberia	20 000
10. Libyan Arab Jamahiriya	200 000
11. Mali	25 000
12. Morocco	500 000
13. Nigeria	200 000
14. Rwanda	15 000
15. Sierra Leone	30 000
16. Somalia	30 000
17. Togo	10 000
18. United Republic of Tanzania	50 000
19. Zaire	250 000
20. Zambia	40 000
21. Zimbabwe	20 000
Grand total	<u>\$US 1 682 000</u>
22. Ethiopia pledged 30,000 Birr in local currency;	
23. Guinea-Bissau pledged 35,000 pesos in local currency;	
24. Zambia pledged 160,000 kwacha in kind for the maintenance of the Lusaka MULPOC Offices.	

107. Separate agreements between African Governments and the United Nations relating to pledges made were signed by the Executive Secretary and on behalf of the African Governments concerned.

Any other business (item 14)

108. The representative of Morocco wanted to know what co-operation existed between the secretariat and the Arab League as there was no observer for the Arab League attending the Conference. The Executive Secretary said that Afro-Arab co-operation came principally under the aegis of the OAU secretariat. However, ECA had always participated at all technical meetings convened by OAU and the Arab League. ECA had recently participated in one such meeting which had been held in Khartoum and which the OAU secretariat had already referred to. Traditionally, the Arab League had not participated

at ECA meetings and it was only BADEA that had been invited. However, he was not sure why BADEA had not attended the present Conference. If the Conference of Ministers decided that the Arab League should be invited to participate at future meetings, the secretariat would comply. The Conference of Ministers, therefore, decided that the Arab League should be invited to participate at all future meetings of the Commission.

Date and venue of the eighth meeting of the Conference of Ministers and seventeenth session of the Commission (item 15)

109. The representative of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya stated that his Government would be pleased to host the third meeting of the Technical Preparatory Committee of the Whole and the seventeenth session of the Commission/ eighth meeting of the Conference of Ministers in Tripoli, the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya. The representative of Egypt then demanded from the Executive Secretary an assurance that invitations to the afore-mentioned meetings in Tripoli would include all member States and that such invitations would also contain an assurance by the Government of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya that facilities for the purposes of the meetings would be provided to representatives of all member States without discrimination. In reply, the representative of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya stated that the assurance required of his Government would be given. The Conference agreed that the third meeting of the Technical Preparatory Committee of the Whole and the seventeenth session of the Commission (eighth meeting of the Conference of Ministers) would be held in Tripoli in 1982 at a date to be determined in due course.

Adoption of the report and resolutions (item 16)

110. The Conference adopted the present report on the work of the sixteenth session of the Commission, seventh meeting of the Conference of Ministers. It also adopted unanimously the resolutions submitted to it by the Technical Preparatory Committee of the Whole, three resolutions recommended by the Conference of African Ministers of Social Affairs, one resolution on the United Nations Transport and Communications Decade in Africa, and a vote of thanks (see chapter I above and chapter IV below).

Closure of the meeting (item 17)

111. The representative of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, in proposing the vote of thanks to the Government and people of Sierra Leone /see resolution 424(XVI) in chapter IV below/, stated that the success of the Conference had been made possible by the cordial atmosphere that had prevailed in Freetown and the inspiring opening address delivered by His Excellency, Dr. Siaka Stevens, President of the Republic of Sierra Leone, which had guided the deliberations of the Conference. Africa was meeting at a time when the continent was facing a grave crisis but that crisis strengthened the will of the peoples of Africa to overcome their problems through their own collective efforts in order to achieve prosperity and progress. In that connexion, the Lagos Plan of Action and the Monrovia Strategy would assist African countries in the realization of their economic and social objectives.

112. In his closing speech, the Executive Secretary referred to the candour and frankness with which the Conference had discussed some of the burning issues of Africa. The Conference had also added new dimensions to the excellent

work done by the Technical Preparatory Committee of the Whole. However, what was crucial if the peoples of Africa were to achieve a better standard of living was follow-up action on the decisions taken by the Conference at the national, subregional and regional levels. In that respect, the Conference had not only identified problems but had proposed solutions, which was a step in the right direction in the implementation of the Lagos Plan of Action whose foundation had been laid in 1980. Finally he thanked the Government and people of Sierra Leone for the warm welcome extended to participants and the excellent physical facilities provided for the Conference.

113. The Chairman of the Conference expressed his gratitude to the Technical Preparatory Committee of the Whole for the sound work it had done in preparation for the Conference and to the Executive Secretary and the entire secretariat for their part in making the Conference a success. He was gratified by the commendable seriousness and candour with which the Conference had carried out its work. The Conference had not only identified economic and social problems facing Africa but had also made practical proposals for solving them through the implementation of the Lagos Plan of Action, particularly in the spirit of collective self-reliance.

114. The Chairman declared the sixteenth session of the Commission and seventh meeting of the Conference of Ministers closed.

D. PROGRAMME OF WORK AND PRIORITIES

115. The programme of work and priorities for 1982-1983 (E/CN.14/790-E/CN.14/TPCW/II/7) rests, in general, on the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade and, in particular, on the major lines of advance set out in and the underlying concepts and principles of the Lagos Plan of Action for the Implementation of the Monrovia Strategy for the Economic Development of Africa, which should be considered an integral part of the International Development Strategy. The two principles underlying the Plan are self-reliance (which may roughly be interpreted as the expansion of the role of indigenous rather than imported factor inputs for production, marketing, research and experimental development, etc.) and self-sustainment (which again roughly means the substitution of internal - national, multinational, regional - for external growth and development stimuli) together with the establishment of intrasectoral and intersectoral linkages at the national and multinational levels.

116. Since economic growth in Africa is defined as increases in the physical output of goods and services to meet the needs of the mass of African populations and since such growth must come from the exploitation of the region's ample natural resources/raw materials base, primarily under the direction of African entrepreneurial capabilities and mainly through the mobilization and application of indigenous factor inputs, there clearly exists a frame of reference for work programmes and medium-term plans.

117. The work programme thus gives high priority to the development of capabilities at the national, multinational and regional levels for building up technical knowledge of these resources and to the need to organize intra-African trade in, inter alia, industrial raw materials in order to raise the level of raw materials complementarity as well as the range of industrial production possibilities. Without this, member States will continue to de-

pend on external sources to modernize their national economies, and to expand and diversify them to meet the needs of the mass of their people, to develop the capital and intermediate goods industries required to foster internal linkages, to ensure higher standards of consumption, health, etc. and to expand employment opportunities.

118. Within the general areas of natural resources, the importance of minerals, energy and water has particularly emerged with attention being given to policies and operational instruments for their exploration, evaluation, processing and use at the national and multinational levels and export, where necessary, with a view to earning the foreign exchange required to purchase strategic developmental resources, equipment, management, etc.

119. The next area of emphasis is the development of indigenous factor inputs (including skilled manpower, technology, intermediate raw material inputs, institutional and physical infrastructures, etc.) for the other areas and sectors. It is expected that prompt action in this area should assist in freeing more foreign exchange to import capital goods.

120. As far as skilled manpower is concerned, the work programme emphasizes the imperative need to link skilled manpower development to the natural resources base and to skills which are required in such crucial areas as policy analysis, design engineering, material analysis, management, administration, financial analysis, project identification and analysis, marketing, banking, insurance and research and development, particularly in food and agriculture, industry and science and technology.

121. The work programme in science and technology is based mainly on the recommendations of the Vienna Conference and the Plan of Action for its implementation. Specifically, emphasis is being placed on the development of machinery for science policy and planning, development of appropriate skills through formal training, on-the-job training and on-the-spot learning tours to countries and institutions whose experience is of relevance to the solution of African development and economic growth problems. Backstopping services are being given to the African Regional Centre for Technology and other similar institutions.

122. Institution building at the multinational and regional levels continues although the scope and role of this crucial factor appears still to be underrated particularly where its benefits, although believed to be substantial, have not been directly or indirectly measured. However, the work programme provides for backstopping services to such institutions as the MULPOCs, the mineral resources development centres, etc.

123. Clearly meeting the needs of the mass of the people also implies a major transformation of domestic markets as well as their combinations to accommodate economies of scale where unavoidable. Hence, special attention is paid in the work programme to the transformation of domestic markets since without this the on-going efforts to combine markets through preferential trade areas and other similar arrangements will be only partially successful.

124. As regards specific sectors, special attention is being given under agriculture and food to the reduction of food losses and to a food security system. In industry, attention is increasingly concentrated on a core covering engineering, chemicals, fibres, food and forest products as well as to the institutional devices required for the design and implementation of projects in these areas. Inputs into the different industrial areas are to be based as much as possible on the region's natural resources/raw materials. In transport and communications, the work programme concentrates on those programmes and projects that have already been identified by member States in the framework of the United Nations Transport and Communications Decade in Africa. Apart from activities connected with co-ordination, emphasis is being put on assistance to member States in defining their own projects more concretely, the establishment of appropriate institutions for research into transport and communication problems and on the development of national capabilities for the maintenance of equipment.

125. In view of the increasing attention being given to the special status of the least developed, land-locked and island developing countries, a great number of which exist in Africa, the work programme contains enlarged activities in respect of this group of countries particularly in the framework of the expanded programme of assistance to them. In this connexion, the work programme may be modified on the basis of the results of the United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, scheduled to take place in Paris in September 1981.

126. The ECA work programme on the integration of women in the development process is probably the largest within the United Nations system or any other international development agency. Thus increasing emphasis is being placed not only on the need to provide opportunities for the advancement of women generally but also on upgrading the skills of women particularly in food and agriculture, home management and in the informal sectors generally through field work and operational projects.

127. Planning the context of the Lagos Plan of Action includes the collection, analysis and interpretation of statistical, demographic and other information for decision making. Hence, in the work programme, emphasis is being laid on the African Household Surveys Capability Programme, the Statistical Training Programme for Africa, population studies, including fertility and family planning problems, with a view to incorporating the results in planning techniques and the development of appropriate planning techniques for dealing with such development objectives as participation, full employment, attack on mass poverty and the equitable distribution of the fruits of development including equitable inter-group and spatial distribution.

LIST OF RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED BY THE CONFERENCE
OF MINISTERS AT ITS SEVENTH MEETING

<u>Number</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Page</u>
403 (XVI)	Biennial report of the Executive Secretary, 1979-1980 ..	64
404 (XVI)	Survey of economic and social conditions in Africa	65
405 (XVI)	Implementation of the Lagos Plan of Action	65
406 (XVI)	Regional Conference on the Development and Utilization of Mineral Resources in Africa	67
407 (XVI)	Women and development: Programme of Action and mobili- zation of resources	68
408 (XVI)	Human settlements	70
409 (XVI)	Regional and subregional institutions sponsored by the Commission	73
410 (XVI)	Conclusions and recommendations of the Regional Seminar on the International Year of Disabled Persons	75
411 (XVI)	The consequences of the racist and <u>apartheid</u> policy in front-line States	76
412 (XVI)	Strengthening of national capabilities for environmental legislation, assessment and management as a development strategy	77
413 (XVI)	Pan-African Documentation and Information System	79
414 (XVI)	Statistical Training Programme for Africa: Regional funding by the European Economic Community	80
415 (XVI)	Statistical Training Programme for Africa: Assistance to Portuguese-speaking African countries	82
416 (XVI)	United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries	82
417 (XVI)	The African Institute for Higher Technical Training and Research	83
418 (XVI)	Multinational Programming and Operational Centres	85
419 (XVI)	Medium-term plan for the period 1984-1989	87
420 (XVI)	The United Nations Trust Fund for African Development ..	88

<u>Number</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Page</u>
421 (XVI)	Staff and administrative questions	89
422 (XVI)	United Nations Transport and Communications Decade in Africa	90
423 (XVI)	Social implications of the Lagos Plan of Action	93
424 (XVI)	Vote of thanks to the Government and People of Sierra Leone	108
425 (XVI)	New and renewable sources of energy	1
426 (XVI)	Full regionalization of regional training institutes for population studies in Africa	3
427 (XVI)	Implications of General Assembly resolutions 32/197 and 33/202 on the restructuring of the economic and social sectors of the United Nations system for the regional commissions	20
428 (XVI)	Programmes of work and priorities of the Economic Commission for Africa for 1982-1983	23

CHAPTER IV : RESOLUTIONS AND OTHER DECISIONS ADOPTED BY THE CONFERENCE
OF MINISTERS AT ITS SEVENTH MEETING

403 (XVI). Biennial report of the Executive Secretary, 1979-1980 20/

The Conference of Ministers,

Having reviewed the Biennial report of the Executive Secretary for the biennium, 1979-1980, 21/

Recognizing the important role which African intergovernmental institutions have to play in working with member States in the implementation of the Lagos Plan of Action, 22/

Noting with encouragement the expanding role of the Commission as an executing agency as evidenced by an almost twofold increase, in the 1979-1980 biennium, of the volume of its regional programme of technical co-operation activities as compared with the 1977-1978 biennium,

Noting in particular the significant contribution made by the United Nations Development Programme as the single largest contributor to the Commission's extrabudgetary resources,

1. Expresses its appreciation and thanks to the United Nations Development Programme and other multilateral donors and to bilateral donors for their continuing support of the technical co-operation programme of the Commission aimed at improving the quality of life of the African people;

2. Requests the Executive Secretary to intensify implementation of the various agreements which he has signed on behalf of the Commission with intergovernmental organizations;

3. Calls upon member States to give full political and financial support to these institutions to enable them to discharge their respective mandates with maximum effectiveness.

217th meeting,
10 April 1981.

20/ See chapter III, paragraphs 70 and 71 above.

21/ E/CN.14/695.

22/ A/S-11/14, annex I.

404 (XVI). Survey of economic and social conditions in Africa 23/

The Conference of Ministers,

Emphasizing the importance of the Survey of economic and social conditions in Africa 24/ in revealing the difficulties encountered by member States and in suggesting comprehensive solutions to many of these problems,

Realizing the difficulties and the enormous work involved in the preparation of the Survey owing to the large number of countries in the region and the poor data base,

Congratulating the secretariat on the work done in preparing the Survey of economic and social conditions in Africa for 1979-1980,

1. Requests the Executive Secretary to draw up the necessary guidelines on the preparation of the Survey to be sent to member States not later than the end of March of each year;

2. Recommends that each member State should send, not later than the end of September of each year, a paper on socio-economic conditions in its country covering the previous reporting year in order to assist the secretariat in preparing the Survey at the regional and country levels.

217th meeting,
10 April 1981.

405 (XVI). Implementation of the Lagos Plan of Action 25/

The Conference of Ministers,

Referring to the provisions of the Final Act of Lagos, 26/ and in particular the last paragraph thereof concerning the reporting procedure regarding activities for the implementation of the Lagos Plan of Action,

23/ See chapter III, paragraphs 70 and 71 above.

24/ E/CN.14/802-E/CN.14/TPCN.II/19-E/CN.14/LDCs.I/2.

25/ See chapter III, paragraphs 70 and 71 above and A/S-11/14, annex I.

26/ A/S-11/14, annex I.

Referring to paragraph 4 of the resolution concerning the implementation of the Plan of Action 27/ which directs the Secretary-General of the Organization of African Unity in collaboration with the Executive Secretary of the Commission to take all necessary measures to implement the Lagos Plan of Action in utilizing the resources of the specialized agencies of the Organization of African Unity along with the technical and financial assistance of the specialized bodies of the Commission and the appropriate national and international organs,

Convinced that the successful implementation of the Plan depends largely on the formulation of specific strategies for its implementation at all levels,

Aware of the major role which should be played by African Ministers of Economic Development and Planning in the implementation of this Plan,

1. Takes cognizance of the document prepared by the secretariat entitled "Implementation of the Lagos Plan of Action - Some proposals and recommendations for the guidance of member States"; 28/
2. Calls on the secretariat of the Commission to improve the document in the light of the relevant comments made on it by the Technical Preparatory Committee of the Whole at its second meeting; 29/
3. Requests that the expanded document should be discussed with the general secretariat of the Organization of African Unity in order to prepare a joint document;
4. Requests that that joint document should be submitted to the second meeting of the Joint Conference of African Planners, Statisticians and Demographers, in which representatives of the general secretariat of the Organization of African Unity will take part, for in-depth technical consideration, final drafting and submission to the Council of Ministers and the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity in 1982;

27/ Ibid, annex III.

28/ E/CN.14/801-E/CN.14/TPCW.II/18.

29/ E/CN.14/813-E/CN.14/TPCW.II/28.

5. Recommends that the Executive Secretary should consider, with the Secretary-General of the Organization of African Unity, all necessary measures for the prompt establishment of an appropriate institutional mechanism responsible for harmonizing and co-ordinating all actions aimed at implementing the Lagos Plan of Action, in accordance with the provisions of the last paragraph of the Final Act of Lagos.

217th meeting,
10 April 1981.

406 (XVI). Regional Conference on the Development and Utilization
of Mineral Resources in Africa 30/

The Conference of Ministers,

Having considered the report 31/ of the Regional Conference on the Development and Utilization of Mineral Resources in Africa held at Arusha, the United Republic of Tanzania, from 2 to 6 February 1981,

Recalling the Lagos Plan of Action,32/ which provides that the main development objectives of the strategy for mineral resources development should be achieved in the 1980s, inter alia, through the organization of the Regional Conference on the Development and Utilization of Mineral Resources in Africa,

Conscious of the lack of information on the mineral resources endowment of African countries and the lack of adequate capability for the exploration, evaluation, exploitation and utilization of those mineral resources, the lack of co-ordinated African mineral development policies, weak institutional capabilities, and the low level of intra-African co-operation and trade in minerals,

Conscious further of the relatively weak contribution of mineral resources to the socio-economic development of African countries, in particular because of the role played by foreign operations in the development and utilization of mineral resources,

Recognizing the important role that mineral resources could play in supporting and contributing to development activities in the other sectors of the socio-economic development of the continent,

30/ See chapter III, paragraphs 70 and 71 above.

31/ E/CN.14/804.

32/ A/S-11/14, annex I.

1. Expresses its satisfaction to the Executive Secretary for the successful organization of the aforementioned Conference and for submitting the final report to the Conference of Ministers;

2. Endorses the final report of the Regional Conference on the Development and Utilization of Mineral Resources in Africa held at Arusha, the United Republic of Tanzania, from 2 to 6 February 1981 and the recommendations contained therein;

3. Urges member States to give special priority to the implementation of the recommendations contained in the report, paying special attention to building up technical knowledge of the mineral resources base; developing national and multinational capabilities for mineral extraction, processing and marketing; developing intra-African trade and extra-African markets for minerals; stabilizing manpower training and further training; research and development; developing national and international mineral exploration; the mining and processing equipment industries; and the protection of the environment;

4. Requests the Executive Secretary to take, in collaboration with member States, the Organization of African Unity and appropriate international organizations, all necessary measures for the implementation of the recommendations contained in the report and to submit periodic progress reports thereon;

5. Further requests the Executive Secretary to publish as early as possible the technical papers prepared for the Conference and to ensure their widest possible distribution to member States.

217th meeting,
10 April 1981.

407 (XVI). Women and development : Programme of Action and mobilization of resources 33/

The Conference of Ministers,

Recalling its resolutions 362 (XIV) and 363 (XIV) of 27 March 1979 in which it requested Governments to provide adequate resources for the proper functioning of subregional and regional machineries set up to promote the advancement of women,

33/ See chapter III, paragraphs 70 and 71 above.

Recalling also its resolution 375 (XV) of 12 April 1980 by which it endorsed the action proposals contained in the Programme and Strategies for 1980-1985 as well as the resolutions adopted at the second Regional Conference on the Integration of Women in Development held at Lusaka in December 1979, calling upon Governments to accord high priority within their national development plans to the integration of women in development,

Bearing in mind that the Programme and Strategies for 1980-1985 have been incorporated in the Lagos Plan of Action,^{34/}

Recalling further General Assembly resolution 35/136 of 11 December 1980 which endorsed the Programme of Action for the Second Half of the United Nations Decade for Women adopted at the World Conference of the United Nations Decade for Women held at Copenhagen in July 1980,

Recognizing that the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade ^{35/} places strong emphasis on the important role women play in development,

Conscious that the work programme and priorities of the subregional committees on the integration of women in development adopted by the respective Councils of Ministers of the Multinational Programming and Operational Centres collectively reflect the priorities expressed by member States,

Having examined the report ^{36/} of the second Meeting of the Africa Regional Co-ordinating Committee for the Integration of Women in Development held at Addis Ababa in March 1981,

1. Takes note with satisfaction of the report of the second meeting of the Africa Regional Co-ordinating Committee;

2. Endorses the work programme and priorities for 1982-1983 for the integration of women in development as approved by the Multinational Programming and Operational Centre;

3. Reaffirms the necessity for member States, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and agencies of the United Nations system to provide resources to the national, subregional and regional programmes for the advancement of women;

^{34/} A/S-11/14, annex I.

^{35/} General Assembly resolution 35/56 of 5 December 1980.

^{36/} E/CN.14/809-E/CN.14/TPCW.II/26.

4. Urges the Executive Secretary to devote substantial resources from the proceeds of the third Pledging Conference for the United Nations Trust Fund for African Development to the women's programme;

5. Urges the Executive Secretary to intensify efforts to provide regular posts for the staff of the African Training and Research Centre for Women and to elevate the Centre to divisional status;

6. Requests member States to take appropriate measures to implement the Programme of Action for the Second Half of the United Nations Decade for Women to ensure the achievement of the objectives of the Decade in Africa.

217th meeting,
10 April 1981.

408 (XVI). Human settlements 37/

The Conference of Ministers,

Recalling its resolution 358 (XIV) of 27 March 1979 on institutional arrangements for human settlements which reaffirmed the mandate of the Intergovernmental Regional Committee on Human Settlements, and resolution 378 (XV) of 12 April 1980 on an action plan and institutional machinery for a regional programme on the environment for Africa which requested the Executive Secretary to work out the terms of reference for a joint sectoral body for human settlements and environment,

Further recalling General Assembly resolutions 31/116 of 16 December 1976, 32/162 of 19 December 1977 and 32/197 of 20 December 1977,

Having examined the report 38/ of the second meeting of the Intergovernmental Regional Committee on Human Settlements held at Addis Ababa from 28 July to 1 August 1980 and the resolutions adopted at that meeting,

Appreciative of the progress of activities relating to human settlements development which includes building materials and construction industries development,

Commending the positive guidance given by the Intergovernmental Regional Committee through its resolutions towards the development of human settlements as an integral feature of the over-all African development strategy consistent with the implications of the Lagos Plan of Action, 39/

37/ See chapter III, paragraphs 70 and 71 above.

38/ E/CN.14/782.

39/ A/S-11/14, annex I.

Appreciating the assistance being provided by the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements to a large number of African countries,

1. Endorses the report and resolutions adopted at the second meeting of the Intergovernmental Regional Committee on Human Settlements subject to the reconsideration by the Committee of resolution 4 (ii) concerning the situation of refugees in Africa and without prejudice to the operational role of the United Nations Centre under resolution 32/162 as mentioned in the report 40/ of the second meeting of the Technical Preparatory Committee of the Whole;

2. Approves that the mandate of Intergovernmental Regional Committee should include environmental matters and their implications and authorizes that the Committee be renamed the Joint Intergovernmental Regional Committee on Human Settlements and Environment, in conformity with resolution 378 (XV) mentioned above and the provisions contained in the report of the Intergovernmental Regional Committee on Human Settlements;

3. Decides that the terms of reference of the Joint Intergovernmental Regional Committee on Human Settlements and Environment for the regional environment programme should include the following in addition to what is provided in General Assembly resolution 32/162 for human settlements:

(a) Formulation of policies, priorities and strategies for regional, subregional and transnational environmental management in the African region;

(b) Promotion of the exchange of information and experience on national environmental policies, legislation, programme and problems;

(c) Review of the work programme and priorities on the environment in the Commission, appraisal of progress made in their implementation and assistance in mobilizing financial and other resources for programming in priority environmental areas in the African region;

(d) Assistance in assembling information on national environmental problems for the preparation of the state of the environment report on the African region;

(e) Promotion of programmes on environmental education for the public through the mass media and for the training of nationals as specialists to monitor, assess, manage and carry out research on environmental problems;

(f) Promotion of close inter-organizational co-operation on environmental matters between the Commission and the United Nations Environment Programme, and all other United Nations intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations working within and outside the African region;

4. Calls upon the Economic Commission for Africa and related United Nations agencies and other agencies to take measures for the successful and speedy implementation of the above-mentioned resolution and requests in particular the Executive Secretary and the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme to establish systematic and effective collaboration based on regular consultations; and to this end, further requests the Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa to work out, in consultation with agencies concerned, and especially the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements, the United Nations Environment Programme, the United Nations Development Programme and the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, an appropriate basis of modalities for interagency co-operation;

5. Requests the Executive Secretary to strengthen the regional and subregional operational capabilities of the Human Settlements Section through the creation or expansion of the necessary facilities in all the Multinational Programming and Operational Centres for responding to the needs of member States in matters pertaining to the development of human settlements, and particularly the development of building materials and construction industries;

6. Invites member States which have not done so to pay particular attention to the establishment at the national level and within the framework of the Multinational Programming and Operational Centres of appropriate mechanisms and methodologies for evolving comprehensive human settlements policies integrating the relevant sectoral programme on physical, urban and settlement planning, housing and other shelter, infrastructure and construction development policies; and to this end to promote pilot studies and projects;

7. Invites further member States to take the necessary steps for the rapid implementation of the Pan-African Documentation and Information System's complementary file on HABITAT-Africa within the framework of national documentation and information centres;

8. Requests specially the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements, the United Nations Environment Programme and bilateral and other sources to extend to the Commission further and increased support for the expansion and diversification of its services in the field of building materials and construction industries development and its successful continuation until the objectives assigned to it have been achieved;

9. Decides to refer resolution 4 (11) to the Intergovernmental Committee on Human Settlements for its reconsideration in the light of the concerns expressed at the second meeting of the Technical Preparatory Committee of the Whole.

217th meeting,
10 April 1981.

409 (XVI). Regional and subregional institutions sponsored by the Commission 41/

The Conference of Ministers,

Having considered the report of the inaugural Conference of the Chief Executives of regional and subregional institutions sponsored by the Commission, 42/

Aware of the crucial role which multinational, regional and subregional institutions can play in the physical, economic and social integration of the African region as a means of achieving sustained economic and social development in order to improve the quality of life of the African people,

Recalling that the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity has given special recognition to this fact in the Lagos Plan of Action, 43/

Appreciative of the material and financial support given by member States to institutions sponsored by the Commission, and particularly by those hosting such institutions, as well as by members of the international community and by the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Fund for Population Activities and other donors,

Realizing that no regional and subregional institution can be viable without the full commitment of its members and, in particular the host Government,

Noting, however, the difficulties being experienced by these institutions as a result of the inadequate support extended to these institutions by member Governments as evidenced by low membership and the delay in payment and non-payment of contributions,

41/ See chapter III, paragraphs 70 and 71 above.

42/ E/CN.14/793.

43/ A/S-11/14, annex I.

1. Appeals to member States which have not already joined such institutions to take all possible measures to do so as soon as possible;

2. Appeals further to all member States to pay, as a matter of urgency, their current and past contributions due and to ensure that appropriate provisions are made in their national budgets to cover financial support to these institutions;

3. Requests the Executive Secretary to re-examine the proposals related to membership and contributions by member States and to submit new proposals thereon for consideration at the eighth meeting of the Conference of Ministers;

4. Expresses its appreciation to all Governments which host institutions sponsored by the Commission and appeals to them to continue their support and to do all in their power to assist the Executive Secretary through the use of their good offices in order to ensure the achievement of universality of membership and maximum financial support;

5. Expresses its appreciation to the Executive Secretary for initiating and convening the inaugural Conference of Chief Executives of these institutions and hopes that similar Conferences will be held regularly;

6. Requests the Executive Secretary to :

(a) Take all necessary steps to make the work of such institutions better known to member States by disseminating information on their programme activities and services in order to ensure that all member States and donor Governments are fully aware of the capability of each of these institutions in their respective fields and the specific benefits to be derived by member States from the operations of these institutions;

(b) Give the fullest institutional support to these institutions by providing in a systematic manner, legal, administrative management and audit service to these institutions, if requested;

(c) Explore the feasibility of establishing a buffer fund to advance monies to tide established institutions over temporary periods of financial difficulty and to report thereon at the eighth meeting of the Conference of Ministers;

7. Directs the Executive Secretary to submit biennially a consolidated report on regional and subregional institutions sponsored by the Commission;

8. Expresses its gratitude to the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Fund for Population Activities and to donor Governments for their continuing financial support of most of these institutions.

217th meeting,
10 April 1981.

410 (XVI). Conclusions and recommendations of the Regional Seminar on the International Year of Disabled Persons 44/

The Conference of Ministers,

Having considered the report of the Regional Seminar on the International Year of Disabled Persons, 45/

Conscious of the major causes of disability and the magnitude of the problems of the disabled in Africa,

Recalling General Assembly resolutions 2856 (XXVI) of 20 December 1971 and 3447 (XXX) of 9 December 1975 containing the declarations on the rights of the mentally retarded and of disabled persons respectively,

Considering that, because of the nature of the problem and in particular the underlying causes of disability, the countries of the region must discharge their obligations to society and undertake appropriate action with a view to facilitating the integration of the disabled into society,

Considering also that the nature and problem of disability in Africa imply that the international community should discharge its moral and social obligations and make an effective contribution, particularly as the causes of disability are often imposed on Africa by external phenomena such as decolonization, struggles for liberation, aggression and socio-economic conditions resulting from an unjust international economic order,

Observing that the commendable efforts undertaken by African States are not generally developed and incorporated in the framework of socio-economic planning and that isolated action in this area often entails a waste of available resources,

1. Endorses the report, findings and resolutions of the Regional Seminar on the International Year of Disabled Persons as approved by the third Conference of African Ministers of Social Affairs;

2. Requests the Executive Secretary to ensure that proper follow-up to the activities recommended or embarked upon in favour of the disabled at the national, subregional and regional levels is given by all United Nations bodies concerned with disability prevention and rehabilitation so

44/ See chapter III, paragraphs 61 to 66 above.

45/ E/CN.14/786.

that the International Year of Disabled Persons becomes the starting point of a process intended to ensure proper rehabilitation actions, social integration of the disabled and adequate prevention of disability;

3. Further requests the Executive Secretary to report periodically on United Nations follow-up activities relating to the International Year of Disabled Persons.

217th meeting,
10 April 1981.

411 (XVI). The consequences of the racist and apartheid policy
in front-line States 46/

The Conference of Ministers,

Deeply concerned that the racist and apartheid policy of the regime in Pretoria with its practices of torture, imprisonment and armed aggression constitutes one of the principal causes of the increase in the number of disabled persons among the population of the front-line States,

Aware that daily aggression which results in economic destruction causes malnutrition which leads to growth problems and mental retardation, not to mention the sense of inferiority, harassment and social insecurity experienced by the population of front-line States,

Aware that the front-line States, Lesotho and Swaziland, are the targets of attacks and bombings by the racist and apartheid regime of South Africa in its attempts to stop those States from supporting the liberation struggle in South Africa and Namibia,

1. Condemns the racist regime of South Africa, which is the bastion of apartheid for:

(a) Its frequent attacks against front-line States as well as Lesotho and Swaziland;

(b) The atrocities which are at the root of the ever growing number of disabled persons;

2. Appeals to the organs of the United Nations, the Organization of African Unity and the international community to provide the front-line States as well as Lesotho and Swaziland with the necessary resources for the rehabilitation and the technical and vocational training of disabled persons;

46/ See chapter III, paragraphs 61 to 66 above.

3. Appeals to the United Nations Development Programme to provide the necessary financial means to enable the front-line States as well as Lesotho and Swaziland to face the results of South African aggression.

217th meeting,
10 April 1981.

412 (XVI). Strengthening of national capabilities for environmental legislation, assessment and management as a development strategy ^{47/}

The Conference of Ministers,

Recalling General Assembly decision 33/427 of 20 December 1978, the concerns of which are repeated in the International Development Strategy ^{48/} for the third United Nations Development Decade, stressing the need for increased environmental protection activities through the incorporation of environmental principles into development strategies,

Recalling also its own resolution 332 (XIV) of 27 March 1979 on the Development Strategy for Africa within the context of international economic co-operation in the establishment of a New International Economic Order,

Bearing in mind its resolution 378 (XV) of 12 April 1980 on the establishment of a programme within the Commission for (i) a survey of major environmental problems in member States for national priority programming, (ii) the establishment of national environmental machineries, technical and manpower capabilities and institutional framework, and (iii) environmental assessment and management in development-oriented activities,

Aware that environmental perspectives, principles and priorities are being gradually accepted by most Governments, as the development effort in the developing countries generally results, among other things, in serious environmental degradation that demands the mobilization of all available environmental capabilities for the protection of the environment,

Recognizing that the achievement of eco-development (ecologically oriented development) in terms of a healthy and balanced environment depends on the adoption of appropriate technological processes operated by adequately skilled manpower, that often demands regional co-operation especially for transnational environmental problems,

^{47/} See chapter III, paragraphs 70 and 71 above.

^{48/} General Assembly resolution 35/56 of 5 December 1980.

Recognizing further that environmental management capabilities are necessary to begin the process of environmental monitoring and assessment from the initial stage so as to achieve high cost-benefit returns in the long run,

1. Endorses the report 49 of the Seminar for Lawyers on Development of Environmental Protection Legislation in the African region, held in Addis Ababa from 29 September to 3 October 1980 under ECA/UNDP sponsorship;

2. Urges member States which have not already done so to enact the necessary legislation for an institutional framework for the development of environmental protection legislation and for the incorporation of environmental provisions and policies into their development planning efforts;

3. Further urges member States which have not already done so to enact the necessary legislation supported by regulations and administrative measures for the enforcement of environmental protection legislation for land use planning, wildlife and forest conservation, coastal zone and marine resources management, minerals development, water and air quality, solid waste and other toxic chemicals disposal, food and drug quality control and population migration;

4. Calls upon member States to provide intensive and sustained efforts in developing public education for promoting environmental consciousness in both the formal and the non-formal systems within the country and also to promote the dissemination of relevant environmental information to enhance the rational management of the environment in development activities;

5. Further calls upon member States which have not already done so to legislate for the preservation, restoration, reconstruction and registration of items of historical sites, ancient monuments and relics, antiquities and artifacts from archeological excavations for the preservation of their cultural heritage and for the promotion of scientific study and tourism;

6. Directs the Executive Secretary, in collaboration with the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme to provide, on request, technical assistance to member States to develop their national capabilities for environmental legislation, assessment and management;

7. Invites member States, development finance institutions, the United Nations Environment Programme, the United Nations Development Programme and other countries outside the region to continue their financial support to the Commission to enable the regional programme on the environment to be implemented within the context of the Lagos Plan of Action.

217th meeting,
10 April 1981.

413 (XVI). Pan-African Documentation and Information System 50/

The Conference of Ministers,

Recalling its resolution 359 (XIV) of 27 March 1979 concerning the general design of a pan-African numerical and non-numerical data bank,

Recalling its resolution 377 (XV) of 12 April 1980 concerning the necessity for a sound documentation and information system for a self-sustaining and self-reliant Pan-African development policy which has among its primary objectives self-sufficiency in food, the development of natural and human resources, the promotion of intra-African trade, the intensification of industrial development and the improvement and creation of viable transport and communication continental links,

Taking into consideration the long-term goals presented in the Executive Secretary's report 51/ which indicates the year 1989 as the end of the preparatory and experimental phases for the African region and for all participating national, subregional, institutional and technical centres,

Noting that the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity at its extraordinary sessions held in Monrovia in July 1979 and at Lagos in April 1980 insisted on the necessity for a sound documentation and information system for viable integrated development policy in Africa,

1. Expresses its congratulations to the Executive Secretary on implementing phase I of the project almost a year ahead of schedule;

2. Notes with satisfaction that the Executive Secretary has taken the initiative to prepare and propose to member States a project document for the creation of their national documentation centres and that all the responses so far received have been largely positive;

50/ See chapter III, paragraphs 70 and 71 above.

51/ E/CN.14/789.

3. Invites the Executive Secretary to accelerate the effective creation of the national, subregional, institutional and technical participating centres;

4. Requests the Executive Secretary to continue his efforts to set up the Pan-African Documentation and Information System programme in general and the PADIS-Sat in particular for the teletransmission of documents without any slowdown of the speed of the implementation of the project;

5. Invites all member States to give their full support to the submission of the project to the European Economic Community as a regional project in order to mobilize the necessary regional funds needed for the implementation of the project;

6. Calls upon all member States which have not already done so to accelerate the establishment and operation of their national documentation and information centres in order to enable the project to build up a continental network as soon as possible;

7. Expresses its appreciation to the United Nations Development Programme, the International Development Research Centre and the African Development Bank for their financial support of phase I and calls upon them to continue their support of the project and in particular phases II and III thereof;

8. Notes with satisfaction the advanced stage of negotiations between the Commission and the United States Agency for International Development, the European Economic Community, the European Space Agency and the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany, France, Italy and the United Kingdom and calls upon them to concretize as early as possible their support to the project in order to accelerate the implementation of phases II and III;

9. Appeals to the Arab Bank for Economic Development in Africa and the various Arab funds to give financial support to the project and accordingly requests the Executive Secretary to make the necessary contacts with them as soon as possible;

10. Requests the Executive Secretary to submit and forward a progress report on the implementation of the Pan-African Documentation and Information System to the eighth meeting of the Conference of Ministers.

217th meeting,
10 April 1981.

414 (XVI). Statistical Training Programme for Africa : Regional funding by the European Economic Community 52/

The Conference of Ministers,

Noting the concern that has been shown by a number of Governments over the acute shortage of statistical personnel needed for the collection, processing and analysis of essential data for national planning and development.

52/ See chapter III, paragraphs 70 and 71 above.

Recalling that, in order to remedy the situation through intensified and co-ordinated training programmes, the Statistical Training Programme for Africa was established by a resolution of the former Executive Committee of the Commission in May 1978,^{53/}

Further noting the progress so far made in the implementation of the Programme, the problem of inadequate trainee fellowships and staffing of the centres, the recommendation ^{54/} of the meeting of directors of Programme centres to seek assistance for regional funding from the European Economic Community and the efforts so far made by the Commission to negotiate financial assistance for the Programme,

Noting with satisfaction the assistance so far given to the Programme by many donors, notably the United Nations Development Programme, the Commonwealth Fund for Technical Co-operation, the European Economic Community and various bilateral agencies,

Considering the fact that the full impact of the assistance so far given may not be felt if the aforementioned problems of fellowships and staffing are not removed,

Noting that the African, Caribbean and Pacific secretariat has already initiated negotiations with the European Economic Community for further financial assistance through the provision of regional funds to the programme,

Appreciating the efforts so far made by the African, Caribbean and Pacific secretariat in connexion with the project,

Taking note of the concern expressed by a certain number of Governments concerning the criteria used in the granting of scholarships to nationals of member States,

1. Endorses the proposals of the project document;
2. Urges the European Economic Community to give these proposals favourable consideration;
3. Requests the Executive Secretary to assist the African, Caribbean and Pacific secretariat to complete negotiations with the European Economic Community;
4. Invites the Executive Secretary to review the criteria for the distribution of student fellowships in co-operation with representatives of member States and the training centres concerned.

^{52/} E/CN.14/692-E/CN.14/ECO/143.

217th meeting,
10 April 1981.

^{54/} E/CN.14/STPA/7-E/CN.14/PSD.I/15, annex T.

415 (XVI). Statistical Training Programme for Africa : Special assistance to Portuguese-speaking African countries 55/

The Conference of Ministers,

Recognizing the special problems of the newly independent Portuguese-speaking African countries and the need to make provision for them within the context of the Statistical Training Programme for Africa,

Recalling Economic and Social Council resolution 2054 (LXII) of 5 May 1979 requesting the United Nations Development Programme to take a sympathetic view of the statistical training requirements of developing member States and increase the regional component of its funds to meet these requirements,

Having considered the report 56/ of the meeting of representatives of the Portuguese-speaking African countries,

1. Takes note of the report of this meeting;
2. Requests the Executive Secretary to take the necessary steps to extend technical assistance to Portuguese-speaking African countries within the framework of the Statistical Training Programme for Africa;
3. Requests the United Nations Development Programme to give adequate financial support to the national and regional projects to be proposed by the Portuguese-speaking African countries.

217th meeting,
10 April 1981.

416 (XVI). United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries 57/

The Conference of Ministers,

Recalling resolution 122 (V) of 3 June 1979 of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development endorsing the Comprehensive New Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries,

Recalling the relevant sections of the Lagos Plan of Action 58/ adopted by the second extraordinary session of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity in Lagos in April 1980,

55/ See chapter III, paragraphs 70 and 71 above.

56/ E/CN.14/TPCW.II/5.

57/ See chapter III, paragraphs 70 and 71 above.

58/ A/S-11/14, annex I.

Further recalling General Assembly resolutions 34/203 and 34/210 of 19 December 1979 on the convening of a Conference on the Least Developed Countries,

Recalling furthermore its own resolution 397 (XV) of 12 April 1980 on the role of the Commission in the development process of the African least developed countries,

1. Extends its gratitude to the Commission, the United Nations Development Programme and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development for the assistance they have provided to the African least developed countries in the preparation of the programme for the United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries;

2. Calls on the international community to participate actively in the United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries and in the country programme review meetings;

3. Calls further on the international community in general, developed countries, developing countries in a position to do so and international donor organizations in particular to provide adequate financial and technical resources necessary for the implementation of the Comprehensive New Programme of Action;

4. Requests the Commission, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and the United Nations Development Programme to continue to provide the necessary technical and financial assistance during and after the United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries.

217th meeting,
10 April 1981.

417 (XVI). The African Institute for Higher Technical Training and Research 59/

The Conference of Ministers,

Reaffirming its resolution 348 (XIV) of 27 March 1979, paragraph 2 of which called for the immediate establishment of the African Institute for Higher Technical Training and Research as a regional institution in the service of all African States,

59/ See chapter III, paragraphs 70 and 71 above.

Conscious of the commitment made by African Heads of State and Government by the adoption of the Lagos Plan of Action 60/ in April 1980 aimed at pursuing economic independence through co-operation and collective self-reliance,

Aware of the high priority that the Plan accorded to technology and technical manpower development for the achievement of sectoral development objectives and targets,

Convinced that the African Institute for Higher Technical Training and Research has a major role to play in developing African technological capabilities in the form of technical skills and innovative minds that are crucial in the strive for ultimate regional technological independence,

Appreciative of the support and interim institutional facilities that the Government of Kenya has extended to the Institute in order to make the latter become operational immediately,

Appreciative also of the financial assistance that the United Nations Development Programme has granted to the Institute for the preparatory work and hopeful of the further support of that Programme in the development of the Institute,

Concerned over the starting difficulties facing the Institute and the fact that only a restricted number of African States have so far subscribed to the Constitution of the Institute and still fewer States have paid their contributions to its 1980/1981 budget, both of which factors have made it extremely difficult for the Institute to become operational as soon as possible,

1. Urges all member States which have so far not done so to subscribe to the Constitution of the Institute as a matter of top priority and pay their contributions to the budget of the Institute as expeditiously as possible;

2. Calls upon all member States to give full and effective political, moral and financial support to the Institute and to sustain its establishment and development;

3. Appeals to member States in a position to do so to consider the possibility of seconding qualified and experienced nationals to fill posts at the Institute;

4. Requests the Executive Secretary to :

(a) Convene as soon as possible an extraordinary meeting of the Governing Council of the Institute in order to resolve the difficulties facing the Institute and consider ways to make the management machinery of the Institute operate effectively;

(b) Continue his efforts to make the Institute operational as soon as possible and to mobilize resources for the Institute's buildings and equipment.

217th meeting,
10 April 1981.

418 (XVI). Multinational Programming and Operational Centres 61/

The Conference of Ministers,

Recalling its resolution 311 (XIII) of 1 March 1977 which recognized that subregional and sectoral integration constitutes the foundation for the establishment of a regional common market and decided to set up a number of Multinational Programming and Operational Centres,

Further recalling General Assembly resolution 35/55 of 5 December 1980 which proclaimed the Third United Nations Development Decade and adopted the International Development Strategy for the Decade aimed at implementing the objectives and goals of the Declaration and Programme of Action on the Establishment of a New International Economic Order,

Recalling again the Lagos Plan of Action 62/ adopted by the second extraordinary session of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity in April 1980 which called for the establishment of subregional common market by 1990 as the first step towards the establishment of an African economic community by the year 2000,

Bearing in mind the increasing importance that African countries attach to the Multinational Programming and Operational Centres as means of attaining the objectives of economic integration that they are pursuing within the framework of the Lagos Plan of Action,

Considering that, to attain these objectives, the Multinational Programming and Operational Centres must be provided with adequate financial and human resources,

61/ See chapter III, paragraphs 70 and 71 above.

62/ A/S-11/14, annex I.

Further considering that, in addition to their operational activities, the Multinational Programming and Operational Centres constitute the operational arms of the Economic Commission for Africa in implementing its terms of reference, particularly as regards studies, research and the organization of consultations at the subregional level,

Reaffirming the need to harmonize and co-ordinate the work programme of the various Multinational Programming and Operational Centres and the intergovernmental organizations within the subregions,

Acknowledging the commendable efforts already made by the Executive Secretary to decentralize the activities of the Commission and strengthen the Multinational Programming and Operation Centres,

Recalling the recommendations and resolutions of the various Councils of Ministers of the Multinational Programming and Operational Centres calling on member States and the specialized agencies of the United Nations system to contribute to the implementation of Centre projects,

Appreciating the financial support which the United Nations Development Programme has extended to the Centres, without which the latter would have been unable to perform major tasks at the subregional level,

Taking cognizance of the forthcoming joint mission by the United Nations Development Programme and the Economic Commission for Africa to evaluate the Centres,

1. Reiterates the need to co-ordinate and harmonize the programmes of the Centres with those of the intergovernmental organizations pursuing the same objectives within the subregion;

2. Expresses its appreciation to the Executive Secretary for his efforts to strengthen the Centres, particularly by decentralizing the activities of the Commission;

3. Calls on the Executive Secretary to integrate, in so far as possible, experts from the Centres into the manning table of staff financed from the regular budget of the Commission;

4. Urges the Secretary-General to take whatever steps are needed to ensure that the operational staff of the Centres, and in particular the Director and two experts from each Centre, are covered by the regular budget of the United Nations;

5. Appeals to the States members of the Centres to make experts and consultants available;

6. Requests that, in using the unattached funds pledged to the United Nations Trust Fund for African Development, the Executive Secretary should take into account the needs of the Centres for implementing their specific priority projects;

7. Recommends that member States should take account of the needs of the Centres when they make pledges to the United Nations Trust Fund for African Development;

8. Thanks the United Nations Development Programme for the very significant assistance it has extended to the Centres to date;

9. Invites the United Nations Development Programme to increase considerably its financial aid to the Centres in the framework of its third five-year programming cycle;

10. Requests the Executive Secretary to contact the various donors (donor countries, financing institutions) so that they may extend assistance to the Centres;

11. Requests that the material and financial aid from all United Nations bodies to multinational projects for which the Commission is executing agency should be channelled through the Centres.

217th meeting,
10 April 1981.

419 (XVI). Medium-term plan for the period 1984-1989 63/

The Conference of Ministers,

Taking note of General Assembly resolution 34/224 of 20 December 1979 establishing guidelines for medium-term planning in the United Nations,

Taking note also of General Assembly resolution 31/93 of 14 December 1976 in which the Assembly inter alia requested the Secretary-General to take measures to involve more closely the sectoral, functional and regional programme-formulating organs, such as the Conference of Ministers of the Economic Commission for Africa, in the planning and programming process, and urged those organs to refrain from undertaking new activities not programmed in the medium-term plan and the subsequent programme budget unless a pressing need of an unforeseeable nature arose as determined by the General Assembly,

62/ See chapter III, paragraphs 70 and 71 above.

Taking further note of General Assembly resolution 32/206 of 21 December 1977 which requested such bodies (functional, sectoral and regional) to propose, through the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination, relative priorities to be accorded to the various subprogramme within their respective field of competence,

Bearing in mind that the medium-term plan from which biennial work programmes are derived is meant to be used as a guide and therefore does not require an assessment of budgetary resources,

1. Welcomes the explanation that the starting date for the implementation of the Plan and the extension of its duration were intended to provide more time in which to develop it and to harmonize the time period of the United Nations medium-term plan with the plans of the specialized agencies and the Lagos Plan of Action,^{64/} thus facilitating interagency programme co-ordination;

2. Renews its total support for the Monrovia Strategy,^{65/} which constitutes an appropriate way for Africa to establish a more equitable international economic order;

3. Recommends that the medium-term plan for 1984-1989 of the Economic Commission for Africa should be adopted;

4. Urges member States to bear the suggestions and recommendations contained in the Lagos Plan of Action in mind when drawing up their development plans and projects.

217th meeting,
10 April 1981.

420 (XVI). The United Nations Trust Fund for African Development ^{66/}

The Conference of Ministers,

Recalling its full support for the establishment and strengthening of the United Nations Trust Fund for African Development for the benefit of African Governments and people,

^{64/} A/S-11/14, annex I.

^{65/} Conference of Ministers resolution 332 (XIV) of 27 March 1979 (E/1979/50-E/CN.14/725).

^{66/} See chapter III, paragraphs 70 and 71 above.

Having examined the report on pledges and payments by member States as well as the progress report on project implementation and expenditures for the period 1977-1980 67/ and the report on resources required for the biennium 1982-1983, 68/

Appreciative of the goodwill of member States and African financial institutions as well as non-African Governments and institutions in contributing to the Fund,

Appreciative in particular of the generous contribution made to the Fund by the Government of India which is the first non-African developing country to have contributed to the United Nations Trust Fund for African Development in support of technical co-operation among developing countries,

Recognizing the efforts made by the Executive Secretary to ensure the collection of pledged contributions,

1. Urges member States and African financial institutions to make prompt payment of their unpaid pledged contributions as soon as possible in order to ensure, without further delay, the implementation of the priority projects approved by the Commission;

2. Encourages the Executive Secretary to continue his efforts in negotiations with other developing and developed countries to contribute to the Fund;

3. Appeals to all member States and African financial institutions as well as non-African Governments and institutions to continue to contribute generously to the United Nations Trust Fund for African Development in order to provide the resources needed for the implementation of the high priority work programme adopted by the Commission within the framework of the Lagos Plan of Action.

217th meeting,
10 April 1981.

421 (XVI). Staff and administrative questions 69/

The Conference of Ministers,

Having taken cognizance of the report 70/ of the Executive Secretary on staff and administrative questions,

67/ E/CN.14/791.

68/ E/CN.14/796.

69/ See chapter III, paragraphs 70 and 71 above.

70/ E/CN.14/794.

Noting the satisfactory results of the actions taken in the field of the Africanization of the staff and the use of Arabic in the same way as English and French,

Appreciating the efforts of the Executive Secretary to ensure that competent staff members are recruited in the secretariat and that their working and living conditions are such that their legitimate requirements are satisfied,

Further appreciating the steps already taken by the Secretary-General in this regard,

1. Expresses its satisfaction to the Executive Secretary for his policy of Africanizing the staff of the secretariat and encourages him to continue his efforts in that direction;

2. Urges States members of the Commission that are either not represented or are under-represented in the secretariat to provide their quota of staff by making available to the Commission secretariat competent nationals from those States;

3. Expresses deep concern about staff conditions arising from cost of living;

4. Urgently appeals to the competent authorities of the United Nations to take the appropriate steps with a view to ensuring stability in employment and improving the working and living conditions of the staff of the Commission and preventing staff losses;

5. Expressly invites the Secretary-General to reconsider the cost of living survey undertaken for the Commission's duty station in order that the required corrective measures are taken.

217th meeting,
10 April 1981.

422 (XVI). United Nations Transport and Communications Decade in Africa 71/

The Conference of Ministers,

Recalling its resolution 291 (XIII) of 26 February 1977, Economic and Social Council resolution 2097 (LXIII) of 29 July 1977 and General Assembly resolution 32/160 of 19 December 1977 on the United Nations Transport and Communications Decade in Africa,

71/ See chapter III, paragraphs 67 to 69 above.

Further recalling its resolution 391 (XV) of 12 April 1980, which reiterated its appeal to member States to give highest priority to the transport and communications projects adopted for the programme of the first phase of the Decade, requested African States to take the initiative of submitting to the various sources of finance requests for the financing of the projects adopted for the first phase and requested the Executive Secretary to organize, with groups of donor countries and the financing institutions, consultative technical meetings for the purpose of finding the additional financial resources necessary,

Noting with satisfaction resolution CM/Res.806 (XXXV) adopted at Freetown in July 1980 by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity, and Economic and Social Council resolution 1980/46 of 23 July 1980 on the Transport and Communications Decade in Africa,

Further noting with satisfaction General Assembly resolution 35/108 of 5 December 1980 on the organization of technical consultative meetings for the purpose of raising additional financial resources for the Decade programme,

Considering the results of the second Conference of African Ministers of Transport, Communications and Planning 72/ held at Addis Ababa from 16 to 18 March 1981 and the relevant resolutions adopted at that Conference,

Recalling the role of the Commission as lead agency in the implementation of the United Nations Transport and Communications Decade in Africa as defined in paragraph 111 of the global strategy 73/ for the Decade and in paragraphs 210 to 248 of the Lagos Plan of Action, 74/

Considering the need to update the programme for the United Nations Transport and Communications Decade in Africa regularly,

Taking account of the fact that the programme for the second phase which covers the period 1984-1988 should be very carefully prepared with the active participation of member States and that its preparation should not be delayed so as to enable it to be considered by donors,

1. Notes with satisfaction the progress so far made on the implementation of the first phase of the United Nations Transport and Communications Decade programme (1980-1983);

72/ E/CN.14/812/E/CN.14/TRANS/160.

73/ E/CN.14/726-E/CB.14/TRANS/147.

74/ A/S-11/14, annex I.

2. Expresses its appreciation to the General Assembly for the financial resources which it has made available to the Commission for the preparation of the first phase of the Decade programme and for the organization of the technical consultative meetings with donors;

3. Also expresses its appreciation to the United Nations Development Programme for the substantial support it has given to the Commission, enabling the latter to prepare the programme for the first phase of the Decade;

4. Further expresses its appreciation to donor countries and financial institutions for the assistance so far given to member States for the implementation of the first phase of the Plan of Action of the Decade programme;

5. Endorses the decision of the second Conference of African Ministers of Transport, Communications and Planning, authorizing the Executive Secretary to organize the following technical meetings between member States and African intergovernmental organizations concerned and donors :

(a) Meeting on roads, air transport, telecommunications and postal services for the West African subregion;

(b) Meeting on roads and inlandwaterways for the Central African subregion;

(c) Meeting on maritime transport and ports for those countries of the West and Central African subregions which are members of the Conference of Ministers responsible for maritime transport;

(d) Meeting on railways for all countries of the region;

6. Notes with satisfaction the progress made so far by the Executive Secretary, in consultation with member States, in organizing these technical consultative meetings with donor countries and financial institutions;

7. Expresses its appreciation to the Governments of Togo, the Ivory Coast, the United Republic of Cameroon and the Upper Volta for agreeing to host these four technical consultative meetings;

8. Invites member States and intergovernmental organizations concerned to participate fully in the preparation and organization of these technical consultative meetings and to take all necessary measures to ensure their success;

9. Appeals to bilateral donor countries and financial institutions to participate fully and positively in the forthcoming technical consultative meetings;

10. Invites in particular the World Bank, the African Development Bank, the Arab Bank for Economic Development in Africa and the various Arab funds to participate fully and positively in these technical consultative meetings;

11. Also invites non-African third-world countries to express their solidarity with African countries by participating in these technical consultative meetings;

12. Requests the Executive Secretary to submit a report on the outcome of these technical consultative meetings to the eighth meeting of the Conference of Ministers;

13. Directs the Executive Secretary to update the programme for the first phase of the Decade regularly in consultation with member States and relevant United Nations specialized agencies and African intergovernmental organizations;

14. Further requests the Executive Secretary, in collaboration with the Secretary-General of the Organization of African Unity, to embark as early as possible on the preparation of the Plan of Action for the second phase of the Decade;

15. Calls upon the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme to provide adequate resources to the Commission in the United Nations Development Programme's third programming cycle for the preparation and implementation of the second phase of the Decade programme;

16. Requests the Secretary-General to provide the Commission with the necessary resources to enable it to discharge effectively its mandate as the lead agency for the implementation of the programme of the United Nations Transport and Communications Decade in Africa.

217th meeting,
10 April 1981.

423 (XVI). Social implications of the Lagos Plan of Action 75/

The Conference of Ministers,

Having considered the report 76/ of the third Conference of African Ministers of Social Affairs, held at Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, from 8 to 10 October 1980,

75/ See chapter III, paragraphs 61 to 66 above.

76/ E/CN.14/785-E/CN.14/AMSA/III/Rpt-CM/1095 (XXXVI)AMSA/III/1980.

Recalling the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade 77/ which identifies the key social aspects of development and emphasizes the importance of extending and strengthening the basic social services in order to reduce income inequalities and enhance the capacity of society for economic and social progress,

Recalling further that the Monrovia Strategy, 78/ which is in consonance with the International Development Strategy, emphasizes the need for the establishment of self-sustaining development and economic growth based on collective self-reliance and aimed at improving the standards of living of the mass of the African people,

Noting that, in adopting the Lagos Plan of Action 79/ for the implementation of the Monrovia Strategy for the Development of Africa, member States instructed the Secretary-General of the Organization of African Unity in collaboration with the Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa to take all necessary measures to facilitate the implementation of the Plan of Action,

Recognizing the important role of the Conference of African Ministers of Social Affairs in the implementation of the Monrovia Strategy for the Development of Africa,

1. Expresses its appreciation and thanks to the third Conference of African Ministers of Social Affairs, for the detailed analysis and elaboration of the social implications of the Lagos Plan of Action;

2. Endorses the final report of the third Conference of African Ministers of Social Affairs and the recommendations contained therein;

3. Urges member States to report to the fourth session of the Conference of African Ministers of Social Affairs on actions taken to implement the recommendations pertaining to the social implications of the Lagos Plan of Action;

4. Further urges member States to give particular consideration to the adoption and implementation of the following measures prescribed in the final report of the third Conference of African Ministers of Social Affairs and annexed hereto.

77/ General Assembly resolution 35/56 of 5 December 1980.

78/ Conference of Ministers resolution 332 (XIV) of 27 March 1974.
(E/1979/50-E/CN.11/725)

79/ A/S-11/14, annex I.

Annex

I. Measures to improve the demographic and health situation

Whereas the present age structure of the African population is such that on average close to 44 per cent of the total population is below the age of 15,

Whereas such an age structure implies a high dependency ratio which in turn depresses the propensity of the labour force to save and exerts pressure on Governments to increase expenditure on social services,

Whereas this low propensity to save militates against a nation's ability to mobilize sufficient resources for investment,

Whereas low life expectancy at birth shortens the productive life span and therefore entails low returns on investment, education and training,

It is, therefore, recommended that member States should :

1. Formulate, elaborate and implement population and family policies appropriate to the realities of their countries so as to :

(a) Reduce the dependency ratio over time;

(b) Strike a balance between population and resources;

(c) Reduce the burden of excessive childbirth on women, thereby reduce the detrimental effects of this on the health of the mother and thus make it possible for women to participate effectively in general development efforts;

(d) Reduce the unacceptable high rate of infant mortality which is still to some extent associated with the low level of resources available for health in African countries, and the high fertility rate;

2. (a) Organize and strengthen their national health systems and include in such systems primary health care as defined by the Alma Ata Conference, the objective being "Health for all by the Year 2000";

(b) In this context, pay special attention to the vulnerable groups, namely mothers and children, by stressing :

(i) Pre-natal and post-natal care to and supervision of mothers;

(ii) Family life education and responsible parenthood so as to

enable parents to make informed decisions about the number of children they want and can afford;

(iii) Education of parents and parent substitutes about nutrition for family members of various ages with particular reference to the nutritional requirements of children;

(iv) Improvement of community health through the promotion of primary health services.

II. Measures to improve the quality of human resources

Whereas the illiteracy rate among the African population is unacceptably high,

Whereas this state of affairs has a direct bearing on the productivity of the work force,

Whereas significant proportions of the primary and secondary school age populations have no chance of acquiring an education,

Whereas the proportion of girls attending primary and secondary school is much lower than that of boys,

Whereas curricula at both the first and the second levels are heavily biased towards the arts and are lacking in vocational and technical content resulting in a situation where children leave school for one reason or another with little or no practical skill,

It is, therefore, recommended that :

1. Member States should mobilize all available resources (material and human) to eradicate illiteracy among adults within as short a time as possible in order to increase their absorptive capacity and thereby improve their productivity;

2. Parallel and concomitant with the above, reading materials must be prepared and made available to neo-literates via such mechanisms as community libraries and centres. These materials should be of such a nature that they deal with problems of life in general and must impart knowledge and skills on such matters as health, family life, production, etc. Intellectuals should make efforts to translate scientific knowledge into reality in Africa;

3. Increased efforts should be made by member States to ensure the universalization of opportunities for education for all children regardless of sex, religion, ethnic affiliation and place of residences;

4. Special efforts should be made to reform the curricula content at the first and second levels of education with a view to increasing their vocational and technical content and to making them more relevant to local needs and circumstances;

5. Orientation systems must be created which will make it possible to direct children and youth into vocational streams in line with their interests and aptitudes;

6. At the higher level, science and technology should be given greater prominence than is the case at present;

7. Due importance should be attached to the teaching of African history, culture and civilization so that young Africans should continue to feel an attachment to authentic African values and thus find a better ground for mutual comprehension and understanding.

III. Measures to improve the status of women and increase their opportunities for involvement in national development efforts

Whereas the engagement of women in a variety of non-domestic activities is affected by traditional behaviour patterns, social attitudes and taboos,

Whereas the limitations set by some traditional values and religious doctrines on the right of women to education have a direct bearing on the practice of assigning women to low-status occupations,

It is, therefore, recommended that :

1. African Government and educational institutions should launch campaigns to change present attitudes towards the place of women in society and take concrete measures to change the status of women in society;

2. Governments should increase efforts to achieve the equalization of educational opportunities for both sexes;

3. Governments should take immediate measures to abolish discriminatory policies and practices in employment, wages and conditions of work. The principle of equal opportunity for employment, promotion and the extension of equal protection to all workers regardless of sex, colour and tribal affiliation must be accepted both de facto and de jure;

4. Since early marriage and adolescent maternity cause a whole range of social, physical and psychological disabilities etc., the legal age of marriage should be raised significantly and family life education and related services should be made available in adequate scope and quality to young people. In this connexion, centres should be established in the rural areas to offer family life education for rural women in order, inter alia, to prevent early marriage;

5. Organizations such as the Pan-African Women's Organization, which play advocacy roles in promoting policies to improve the economic, social and political status of women in Africa as well as the regional and subregional machineries for the integration of women in the development process of the African Training and Research Centre for Women must receive political, material and financial support from member States so that they will perform their tasks adequately and effectively;

6. In order to enhance the quality of their participation in development efforts and in order to improve their levels of productivity, opportunities for non-formal education focusing on imparting new skills such as in agriculture, animal husbandry, home management etc., should be opened to women;

7. In order to give women the opportunity to participate in wage-earning occupations in the formal sector, Governments should establish a network of creches, day-care centres, etc.;

8. In order to help to relieve women from the drudgery of their daily tasks at home and outside, programmes should be undertaken for the development, production and marketing of simple and inexpensive labour-saving devices so as to free them for more effective participation in development;

9. In order to ensure that women participate to the full in development activities, ways should be found effectively to alleviate their family tasks by giving them access to technologically appropriate work tools and training them in the use of such tools;

10. A certain percentage of seats on established bodies and in planning and execution services should be made available to or reserved for women so that they can assume their full role and discharge their share of responsibility in national development.

IV. Measures to deal with problems of youth unemployment

Whereas there are large but indeterminate numbers of both girls and boys who are prematurely out of school for a variety of reasons,

Whereas upon leaving school they are not adequately equipped with specific productive and marketable skills, owing to the fact that most educational systems are elitist in character,

Whereas if opportunities are not found for creative and productive outlets for their pent-up youthful energies they are likely to drift towards antisocial and defiant behaviour representing a threat to the social fabric,

It is, therefore, recommended that :

1. African Governments should create a network of skill and vocational training facilities in order to prepare out-of-school youth, both male and female, for productive employment in appropriate sectors of the national economy;

2. Governments should create opportunities for continuing education for both boys and girls who have left school prematurely, through evening institutes in urban areas and through correspondence education and the mass media for those who live and work in remote areas;

3. Governments should consider the establishment of national youth service programmes where they do not exist and strengthen those which are already in existence with a view to tapping the energy of boys and girls for development purposes;

4. The Organization of African Unity should pay special attention to youth movements on the continent and workers' organizations (the Pan-African Youth Movement and the Organization of African Trade Union Unity) by extending financial support for the implementation of their various programmes.

V. Measures to deal with the problems of refugees and displaced persons

Whereas refugees and displaced persons represent a manpower drain and impose a heavy burden that holds grave financial and social consequences for African countries,

Whereas, it is necessary for States members of the Organization of African Unity to assume collective responsibility for the well-being of persons who have become refugees and displaced persons as a result of economic, social and political problems and natural and man-made disasters in their own land, as well as aggression or threat of aggression by one member State against another,

Whereas it is necessary for the Organization of African Unity and the appropriate bodies of the United Nations to safeguard fundamental rights and to provide for the basic human needs of persons in refugee status and to assist displaced persons to start a new life, whether they are on the continent or outside it,

It is, therefore, recommended that :

1. Member States should intensify their efforts to improve the economic, social and other conditions that tend to serve as push factors for refugees and displaced persons;

2. Member States should intensify collective efforts to force racist and expansionist regimes to change their policies towards African populations radically and to desist forthwith from committing aggression against their neighbours, especially the front-line States;

3. The Organization of African Unity should use all available means to promote peace, stability, security and good neighbourly relations among African countries by ensuring that member States abide strictly by the principles and relevant decisions of that Organization, the United Nations and the non-aligned movement, and in particular the principles of sovereign equality and territorial integrity of States, inviolability of State frontiers acquired at the time of independence, non-interference in the internal affairs of other States, non-use of force and the settlement of disputes by peaceful means;

4. Material and technical assistance should be extended to front-line States in Southern Africa, in conformity with the relevant decisions of the Organization of African Unity, so that they can effectively discharge their responsibility to the national liberation movements and provide adequate care to victims of the apartheid regime;

5. Member States which have not yet done so should accede to the 1951 United Nations Convention 80/ and the 1967 Protocol 81/ relating to the Status of Refugees and the 1969 Convention of the Organization of African Unity 82/ Governing the Specific Aspects of Refugee Problems in Africa in accordance with resolution CM/Res.814 (XXV) of the Organization of African Unity, since that would contribute to resolving the problem of refugees in Africa;

6. Member States should recognize the peaceful and humanitarian nature of granting asylum and must strictly abide by the provisions of article 3 of the aforementioned Convention of the Organization of African Unity;

7. Efforts should be made by the Organization of African Unity, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and other appropriate United Nations agencies to facilitate the placement of refugees in ways that will fairly distribute the burden across the continent, in accordance with the recommendations of the 1979 Arusha Conference on the Situation of Refugees in Africa, and with other relevant decisions and resolutions of the Organization of African Unity and in particular resolution CM/Res.727;

80/ United Nations Treaty Series, No. I:2545, vol. 189, page 150.

81/ Ibid., No. I:8791, page 267. vol. 606, page 267.

82/ See Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 30.

8. Agencies should be established at the regional and subregional levels to :

(a) Build an information bank about employment and training possibilities in various parts of the continent;

(b) Serve as first stage reception and processing centres and make initial arrangements for temporary care;

(c) Assess skill levels of recently arrived refugees with a view to using this assessment as a basis for exploring placement possibilities in potential countries of asylum;

(d) Provide refugees destined to go to a given country with orientation and counselling about the political, economic and social conditions of the country of asylum in order to facilitate the adjustment of the new refugees to the new environment;

(e) Work towards the eventual integration of refugees with the host society through such means as opening up access of refugee children to the educational system and whenever possible promoting the residential integration of refugees in the larger community;

9. A special resolution should be adopted on urgent and imperative need to free all political detainees being held prisoners in southern Africa and particularly Nelson Mandela.

VI. Social policy measures to be taken in anticipation of adverse social consequences of the implementation of the Lagos Plan of Action

A. Agricultural development

Whereas, as a result of the low priority accorded to agriculture in development planning and the great emphasis placed on cash crop production in the past, the food situation in Africa is assuming serious proportions, as a result of which Africa has now become a net importer of food,

Recognizing the fact that the modernization of agriculture is given prominence in the Lagos Plan of Action,

Convinced that, by and large, nothing but benefits could accrue from the efforts to promote agricultural development,

Whereas at the same time it is important to recognize that the production techniques (capital or labour-intensive) which must be adopted will affect the labour use pattern and hence will have an impact on rural unemployment and underemployment,

Whereas it is important to recognize that there are institutional impediments such as landlord-tenant relations and uneconomical and fragmented land-use techniques that contribute to stagnation in the agricultural sector,

Considering the high proportion of food losses due to spoilage,

Considering that man is at the centre of the development process and benefits or suffers from the social costs of development and therefore needs to be in a good physical and mental state,

It is, therefore, recommended that :

1. Member States should formulate and implement far-reaching agrarian reform programmes with utmost urgency;
2. Governments of the region should create research programmes and facilities to adapt production technologies to make them suitable for African realities;
3. Governments should formulate and implement, with utmost urgency, policies concerning soil conservation, the tapping of underground water and reforestation so as to restore and maintain ecological equilibrium in rural areas;
4. Governments should formulate and implement improve range-management programmes which focus on making nomadic pastoralists sedentary by gradually circumscribing areas of movement and simultaneously creating the basic and necessary social infrastructure such as schools, health facilities, housing, markets, etc.;
5. In order to enhance the efficient functioning of society and promote productivity, Governments should launch massive campaigns aimed at eradicating illiteracy among the agricultural population using all available manpower including students and the military;
6. Governments should take prompt and decisive measures to promote the co-operative movement to ensure that it covers the food production subsector;
7. Governments should accord priority in rural development schemes to the expansion of small-scale and cottage industries with a view to solving the problems of rural unemployment and underemployment;
8. Governments should become directly involved, via State entrepreneurship, in large-scale production of food, using appropriate technology with a view to increasing food reserves;

9. Governments should launch mass education programmes designed to change traditional customs, taboos and attitudes concerning the utilization of food;

10. Governments should organize a sustained campaign using agricultural extension and community development type of strategies to educate the agricultural population in improved methods of cultivation, harvesting, storage and processing of agricultural produce;

11. Governments should wage educational campaigns against traditional customs and taboos which militate against production;

12. Governments should adopt credit policies conducive to making credit available to the farming population;

13. To motivate farmers to produce more, Governments should adopt equitable price policies and expand marketing facilities for agricultural products;

14. Governments should create food distribution systems that will help to make products available to all sectors of the population;

15. Governments should expand general health services to cover, as far as possible, all sectors of the population;

16. Member States should intensify research into food conservation and popularize the results of such research;

17. In each State, social workers should be involved in the preparation, execution and evaluation of specific development programmes whether of an agricultural or industrial nature.

B. Industrial development

Whereas the second extraordinary session of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity called for decisive measures to be taken to stimulate the rapid industrialization of this continent,

Whereas the Heads of State and Government stressed, at the said meeting, that industrialization policy should focus primarily on meeting the basic material needs of the populations of this continent,

Whereas they also underscored the central role of industrialization as an effective instrument of winning for Africa its rightful place in the world market,

It is, therefore, recommended that :

1. Governments should increase control over raw materials and natural resources as a prerequisite for industrialization in developing countries;

2. Governments should adopt an industrialization policy based on considerations of relative and competitive advantage in terms of available raw materials;

3. In developing industrialization policies, Governments should take into account opportunities for job creation in addition to returns on investment;

4. Governments should consider the impact of the creation of new industrial establishments in agriculture;

5. Governments should adopt a physical planning policy that forms an integral part of the national development plan based on the principle of regional balance which means, in particular, that industrial activities should be decentralized so as to :

(a) Narrow the gap in life styles between urban and rural populations;

(b) Reduce the pressure on employment opportunities and the supply of other services in rural areas;

(c) Use industrialization as a means of rationalizing and modernizing economic activity in the agricultural sector;

6. To realize the goals of a geographically decentralized industrial system, Governments should undertake the task of advance planning in terms of :

(a) Determining suitable sites for new industries;

(b) Planning the physical layouts of the site on the basis of accepted zoning practices;

(c) Providing housing and other social facilities such as schools, health centres, markets, recreational areas and so forth;

7. Governments should set standards for the disposal of industrial waste so as to protect the environment from pollution;

8. Governments should promulgate regulations that ensure the protection of workers from occupational diseases and industrial accidents;

9. Governments should adopt a system of remuneration that will stimulate motivation and discipline in work so as to encourage high productivity.

C. Science and technology

Whereas one of the major causes of Africa's underdevelopment is backwardness in technology,

Whereas technology transferred reluctantly and without being adapted to the needs of the receiving country is not generally in the interest of developing countries,

Whereas it is necessary to adapt science and technology to African social, cultural and economic realities,

It is, therefore, recommended that :

1. Governments should mount research programmes in the adaptation of science and technology to the realities and needs of their respective countries;

2. Governments should actively promote the acceptance by the public of technologies adapted to the relevant situations which affect the social and economic life of their countries;

3. Efforts should be made to produce and market improved equipment at costs affordable by the average person;

4. Government should encourage and support service and producer co-operatives in employing scientific developments in agriculture and production inputs such as fertilizers, pesticides, fungicides, etc.;

5. In order to improve the health status of the general population, the quest for simple and yet efficient methods of providing adequate water supplies for personal use should be increased. In this respect the use of wind mills should be explored.

D. Measures to be taken to maximize the social benefits of the proposed expansion of an intra-African network of transport and communications

Whereas the second extraordinary session of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity affirmed the usefulness of expanding a continental network of transportation and communications as a means of advancing the cause of collective self-reliance among African countries by encouraging free movement of people and goods across national boundaries,

Whereas this is recognized as an effective means of promoting African unity,

Whereas it is also important to realize that at the same time this is likely to have adverse consequences on existing patterns of population and manpower distribution,

It is, therefore, recommended that :

1. Governments should :

(a) Accord high priority to this worthwhile goal;

(b) Study policies of migration which would contribute to solving social problems arising out of migration in Africa and their impact on the economies of African countries;

(c) Encourage the exchange of video-taped and other programmes depicting social life, culture, important news and events in different African countries, until such time as an intra-African satellite communication system makes live broadcasting a reality;

2. Partners should :

(a) In the case of joint economic projects such as heavy industries located in the territory of one of the partners, make labour allocations classified by skill on the basis of a quota allocation proportionate to the share of inputs to the project;

(b) In the case of joint economic projects as defined under 2(a) above, sign an agreement concerning the rights of the workers employed by reason of the partnership;

3. In order to promote greater understanding among the people of Africa and to advance the cause of African solidarity, tourism by Africans within Africa should be actively promoted by working out international agreements among national transport - particularly air transport - systems about low-cost travel packages;

E. Measures to be taken to maximize the social advantages of the possible discovery of alternative sources of energy

Considering the constant deterioration in the terms of trade, the low price level of raw material exports and the steady increase in the cost of imported manufactures and services which among other things lead to fluctuations in energy prices,

Considering the need to establish the new international economic order as rapidly as possible,

Stressing the importance and urgency of reducing Africa's excessive dependence of foreign sources of energy,

Whereas it is important to realize that, in spite of the economic advantage of a breakthrough in the development of reliable energy sources, there are likely to be social costs in the form of the disturbance of existing patterns of population settlement and adverse effects on the environment,

It is, therefore, recommended that :

1. Governments should undertake advanced planning for the resettlement of people who will be affected by the location of new oil fields, coal mines, hydroelectric projects and nuclear plans;

2. Since the opening up of new sources of energy or the expansion of existing ones involves large inflows of labour from outside, the likely size of this inflow should be estimated in advance as part of the general feasibility study and arrangements made for their settlement including planning and implementation of programmes of social services such as housing, education, health and recreation services, markets, etc.;

3. Standards for safety and ventilation and other protective measures should be set in order to protect workers and communities from such hazards as result from coal dust, toxic fumes, radiation and other pollutants.

VII. International co-operation in social development

Whereas the guiding principle and basic strategy in the war against underdevelopment is collective self-reliance,

Whereas it is realized that, individually, African countries lack sufficient resources to deal with crucial dimensions of social development needs such as the training of high-level manpower and the building of a data bank in the fields of science and technology,

Whereas it is recognized that, by reason of their educational preparation and training, African development planners tend to prescribe development strategies which are void of their social dimensions and which are meaningless within the African context,

It is, therefore, recommended that :

1. Since no single university can attain excellence in all fields of training for high-level manpower, some universities should, through sub-regional pooling of resources, be designated to undertake the training of high-level manpower to meet, even if only modestly, the high-level manpower requirements of countries in the subregion;

2. Centres for basic and applied research should be established in each subregion where scholars in the social sciences may engage in research activities aimed at increasing knowledge and understanding about the economic, social and cultural characteristics of African societies, the patterns and dynamics of changes that are taking place, and the implications of these for development policy;

3. The educational and research facilities specified under (1) and (2) above should be financed by contributions from member countries and subsidized through financial and technical assistance from bilateral and multilateral donor agencies;

4. As part of the effort to promote international co-operation in the training of social development personnel, African Governments, through their ministries of social affairs, should extend technical and material assistance to the Association for Social Work Education in Africa which has been serving as a regional co-ordinating body and information clearing house since 1971;

5. Assistance should be given to Zimbabwe to enable that country to cope with the considerable requirements resulting from the complex situation which it is facing, both by African Governments and by the international community.

217th meeting,
10 April 1981.

124 (XVI). Vote of thanks to the Government and People
of Sierra Leone 83/

The Conference of Ministers,

Deeply grateful to H.E. Dr. D.R. Siaka Stevens, President of Sierra Leone, and to the Government of Sierra Leone for their most generous hospitality in providing the necessary facilities which have enabled the Economic Commission for Africa within the past three weeks, to hold two important meetings in Freetown, namely, the sixteenth session of the Commission and seventh meeting of the Conference of Ministers, and the second meeting of the Technical Preparatory Committee of the Whole,

Conscious of the fact that the facilities afforded by the host Government of Sierra Leone for holding these two meetings in Freetown have provided a momentous opportunity for the legislative organs of the Commission to consider various aspects of the economic and social conditions of Africa particularly matters concerned with the implementation of the Lagos Plan of Action,84/ and to take positive action for the mobilization of resources

83/ See chapter III, paragraph 110 above.

84/ A/S-11/14, annex I.

and concerted efforts by African Governments for the implementation of the work programme of the Commission for the biennium 1982-1983,^{85/} and thereby demonstrate in a concrete manner that spirit of self-reliance which is a prerequisite for the rapid advancement of the African region and its peoples,

Noting with appreciation the inspiring address of H.E. Dr. Siaka Stevens, President of Sierra Leone, and particularly his penetrating analysis of the factors needed for the implementation of the Lagos Plan of Action,

1. Addresses its gratitude to H.E. Dr. Siaka Stevens, President of Sierra Leone as well to the Government and people of Sierra Leone for their warm hospitality and for the physical and other facilities generously provided for the meetings and their participants;

2. Requests the Executive Secretary to transmit the present resolution to the Government of Sierra Leone.

217th meeting,
10 April 1981.

ANNEX I

**FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS OF DRAFT RESOLUTIONS FOR ACTION BY THE ECONOMIC
AND SOCIAL COUNCIL AND CONFERENCE OF MINISTERS RESOLUTIONS**

1. Draft resolution A on new and renewable sources of energy

This resolution, inter alia, urges member States to be represented at the United Nations Conference on New and Renewable Sources of Energy at the highest level possible and, acting on the basis of the guidelines set out in the regional paper endorsed by the Conference of Ministers to ensure that their views are fully and equitably reflected in the International Declaration or Plan of Action to be drawn by the Conference. It also calls upon the Secretary-General to strengthen the Energy Resources Unit of the Commission and allocate the funds required for carrying out the various tasks related to the promotion and implementation of the Plan.

The financial implications of ECA's role as the main general economic and social development centre within the United Nations system for Africa is elaborated hereunder:

(a) Participation of five staff members at the United Nations Conference on New and Renewable Sources of Energy to be held at Nairobi from 10 to 21 August 1981

This Conference will be preceded by one week of pre-Conference consultations and it would be important and useful to assist some African countries in all the deliberations. The functions to be performed entail travel costs and subsistence in the amount of \$US 10,000.

(b) Follow-up activities of the United Nations Conference and assistance to African developing countries in identifying projects and the undertaking of executing agency responsibilities

It is well known that the Commission secretariat has never had adequate staff to carry out the operational aspects of its responsibilities; there is a need for a body of core staff to strengthen the Energy Resources Unit so that the latter may assist member States in developing their potential in new and renewable sources of energy.

	<u>\$ US</u>
Additional staff resources required 3 P-4, 1 GS-9	150,000
Consultancy services (annually)	50,000
Travel (annually)	25,000
Study tours in China and in India	60,000

The total financial commitment is estimated at \$US 285,000 between 1 August 1981 and 31 July 1982.

2. Draft resolution C on the implications of General Assembly resolutions 32/197 and 33/202 on restructuring the economic and social sectors of the United Nations system for the regional commissions

This resolution, inter alia, calls upon the Economic and Social Council to request the General Assembly to make available to the Commission the necessary resources so as to enable it fully to play its role under the authority of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council as the main general economic and social development centre within the United Nations system for the African region. It also appeals to the Secretary-General to intensify his efforts to decentralize the relevant activities and redeploy the associated manpower and financial resources to the secretariat of the Commission as to strengthen the capacity of the secretariat to respond effectively to the growing requests from member States particularly in relation to the international development strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade.

Helping member States to implement the Lagos Plan of Action will be the key task of the Commission over the next several years and will involve all aspects of the widened role mandated by the General Assembly in resolutions 32/197 and 33/202. The financial implications of ECA's widened role as the main general economic and social development centre within the United Nations system for the African region is elaborated hereunder:

(a) Team leadership and strengthening relations among other regional commissions and the organizations of the United Nations system

These functions are to be carried out largely through the MULPOCs with central support from the Cabinet Office of the Executive Secretary. At present, the MULPOCs are financed largely by the United Nations Development Programme. The MULPOC in North Africa is the only Centre financed from resources of the United Nations regular budget. All MULPOCs should have a core staff, at least equal to the North African one, financed on a predictable, continuous and assured basis. The functions to be performed entail a substantial amount of travel.

Additional staff resources required: 1 D-2, 4 D-1, 3 P-5, 4 P-4, 3 P-3, 4 P-2, 24 GS.

Travel (annually) \$US 200,000.

(b) Assistance to developing countries in identifying projects and the undertaking of executing agency responsibilities

These functions will be carried out through a combination of effort by the secretariat and the MULPOCs. In this connexion, it must be recognized that ECA has never been staffed to carry out the operational aspects of these responsibilities. Quite apart from project support services which ECA as an executing agency will be required to provide and for which overhead income is currently received at the rate of 14 per cent of project delivery, there is need for a body of core staff to

ensure proper technical support for projects. In addition, a core of specialists is required to provide assistance to member States in carrying out feasibility studies.

Additional staff resources required:	15 P-5, 25 GS
Consultancy costs (annually):	\$US 25,000
Travel (annually)	\$US 75,000

(c) Inputs to global policy-making processes

These functions will continue to be absorbed within available resources to the extent possible. There will, however, be a continuing attendant cost for travel estimated at \$US 100,000 annually.

(d) Interregional co-operation

These functions will continue to be absorbed within available resources to the extent possible. There will, however, be a continuing attendant cost for travel estimated at \$US 20,000 annually.

Summary

The total annual cost of the additional resource requirements is estimated at \$US 3,500,000 at current prices.

3. Conference of Ministers resolution 422(XVI) on the United Nations Transport and Communications Decade in Africa

The resolution, inter alia, endorses the decision of the second Conference of African Ministers of Transport, Communications and Planning, authorizing the Executive Secretary to organize technical consultative meetings between member States and African intergovernmental organizations.

- On roads, air transport, telecommunications and postal services for the West African subregion;
- On roads and inland waterways for Central African subregion;
- On maritime transport and ports for countries members of the Conference of Ministers responsible for maritime transport in the West and Central African subregions.

The resolution further requests the Executive Secretary, in collaboration with the Secretary-General of OAU, to embark as early as possible on the preparation of the Plan of Action for the second phase of the Decade.

The resolution requests the Secretary-General of the United Nations to provide the Commission with the necessary resources to enable it to discharge effectively its mandate as the lead agency for the implementation of the programme of the United Nations Transport and Communications Decade in Africa.

The financial implications of ECA's role as lead agency for the implementation of the United Nations Transport and Communications Decade are as follows:

(a) Strengthening of the Transport, Communications and Tourism Division

It will be necessary to provide the Transport, Communications and Tourism Division with two additional posts:

- One P-4 Transport economist;
- One P-4 Financial analyst.

The financial analyst will perform the following duties

- Collect and analyse data concerning the financing of projects included in the Decade programme, assist in preparation of financial aspects of papers and reports for meetings and conferences on the Decade and for discussions with donors, prepare briefing papers and examine draft reports prepared by short-term consultants on all financial aspects of projects to be included in the second phase of the Decade, and undertake other activities as may be required for the preparation and implementation of the Decade programme.

The transport economist will perform the following duties:

- Collect and analyse data concerning the implementation of projects included in the Decade programme, assist in preparation of papers and reports for meetings, conferences and discussions with donors, prepare briefing papers and examine draft reports prepared by short-term consultants, in particular to ensure a balanced approach to the development of various transport modes, on a national, subregional and regional basis.

(b) Co-ordination Unit for the Transport and Communications Decade

The UNDP project RAF/80/42 provided financing for the creation and functioning of an Co-ordination Unit at the ECA level to ensure follow-up action in the promotion and search for financing for Decade projects and in promoting awareness of the Decade strategy and programme including the establishment of an information machinery and the organization of technical consultative meetings with potential donors and groups of beneficiary countries.

To maintain the Co-ordination Unit in operation for the five-year period 1982-1986, the following international staff is required to continue their activities: Co-ordinator, deputy co-ordinator in the field of transport, deputy co-ordinator in the field of communications and consultants to assist the project staff in all transport and communication subsectors.

The total cost of operating the Co-ordination Unit during five years is \$US 3,500,000.

A detailed description of the project as well as cost estimates are presented in the project document submitted to UNDP covering the amount of \$US 3,000,000 for financing the operations of the Co-ordination Unit.

Additional financing required: \$US 500,000.

(c) Preparation of the programme for the second phase of the Transport and Communications Decade

The aim of this project is to identify and formulate national and multinational projects which should be included in the second phase of the Decade, including descriptions of identified projects and cost estimates.

To this end a team of consultants will be recruited, in all modes of transport and means of communications. The team will visit all African countries, and prepare a report on the situation and needs in transport and communications and a programme of action for the second phase consisting of a list of projects to be implemented during the second phase of the Decade.

The total cost of the project including consultants, travel preparation of reports, translation, etc. is \$US 1,500,000.

A detailed description of the project and cost estimates are given in the project document submitted to UNDP.

UNDP is expected to provide \$US 1,000,000 for the project.

Additional financing required is \$US 500,000.

Annex II

ANNEX II

MEETINGS OF SUBSIDIARY BODIES HELD DURING THE PERIOD UNDER REVIEW

Body and officers	Meetings or session	Document symbol
<p>- Conference of African Ministers of Social Affairs</p> <p><u>Chairman:</u> Mr. Kassa Kebede (Ethiopia)</p> <p><u>Rapporteur:</u> Mrs. Antoinette Oliviera (Gabon)</p>	<p>Addis Ababa (Ethiopia) 8 - 10 October 1980</p>	<p>E/CN.14/785</p>
<p>- Conference of Ministers of Transport, Communications and Planning</p> <p><u>Chairman:</u> Mr. Yusuf Ahmed (Ethiopia)</p> <p><u>Rapporteur:</u> Mr. Amadou Lamine Ba (Senegal)</p>	<p>Addis Ababa (Ethiopia) 16 - 18 March 1981</p>	<p>E/CN.14/812</p>
<p>- Second meeting of the Technical Preparatory Committee of the Whole</p> <p><u>Chairman:</u> Mr. David A.B. Minah (Sierra Leone)</p> <p><u>Rapporteur:</u> Mr. J.K. Mollo (Lesotho)</p>	<p>Freetown (Sierra Leone) 24 March - 2 April 1981</p>	<p>E/CN.14/TPCW.II/2</p>

ANNEX III
LIST OF DOCUMENTS

E/CN.14/782	Report of the second meeting of the Intergovernmental Regional Committee on Human Settlements
E/CN.14/783 and Rev.1	Provisional agenda of the sixteenth session/seventh meeting of the Conference of Ministers
E/CN.14/784	Report of the Seminar for Lawyers on Development of Environmental Protection Legislation in the ECA Region
E/CN.14/785	Report of the third Conference of African Ministers of Social Affairs
E/CN.14/786	Report of the Regional Seminar on the International Year of the Disabled Persons (IYDP)
E/CN.14/787	The World Conference of the United Nations Decade for Women
E/CN.14/788	Operational support to the statistical training programme for Africa 1981-1985
E/CN.14/789	Pan-African Documentation and Information System (PADIS)
E/CN.14/790	Programme of work and priorities for 1982-1983
E/CN.14/791 and Corr.1	United Nations Trust Fund for African Development; Progress report on pledges and payments by member States, project implementation and expenditures, 1977-1980
E/CN.14/792	Progress report on the African Institute for Higher Technical Training and Research, Nairobi
E/CN.14/793	Report of the Inaugural Conference of the Chief Executive of ECA-Sponsored Regional and Subregional Institutions
E/CN.14/794 and Add.1	Staff and administrative questions
E/CN.14/795	Draft Convention on the Law of the Sea
E/CN.14/796	United Nations Trust Fund for African Development - Third Pledging Conference
E/CN.14/797	Assessment of the eleventh special session and of the thirty-fifth regular session of the United Nations General Assembly from the point of view of the African region

E/CN.14/798	Biennial Report of the Executive Secretary 1979-1980
E/CN.14/799	New and renewable sources of energy in Africa
E/CN.14/800	Report of the Regional Preparatory Meeting on New and Renewable Sources of Energy
E/CN.14/801	Implementation of the Lagos Plan of Action - Some proposals and recommendations for the guidance of member States by the ECA secretariat
E/CN.14/802	Survey of Economic and Social Conditions in Africa 1979-1980
E/CN.14/803	Operational Plan for the Implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action
E/CN.14/804	Final report of the Regional Conference of the Development and Utilization of Mineral Resources in Africa
E/CN.14/805	UNDP regional programme for Africa
E/CN.14/806	Draft medium-term plan for the period 1984-1989
E/CN.14/807	The public sector and the implementation of the Lagos Plan of Action
E/CN.14/808	Nairobi recommendations for a programme of technical co-operation among African countries
E/CN.14/809	Report of the second meeting of the Africa Regional co-ordinating Committee for the Integration of Women in Development
E/CN.14/810	Progress report on preparations for the first meeting of the ECA Conference of Ministers of the African Least Developed Countries (27-31 July 1981) and the United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries (1-14 September 1981)
E/CN.14/811	Development and international economic co-operation
E/CN.14/812	Report of the second Conference of Ministers of Transport, Communications and Planning
E/CN.14/813	Report of the second meeting of the Technical Preparatory Committee of the Whole