



ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR AFRICA

ANNUAL REPORT

11 April 1981 - 30 April 1982

**ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL
OFFICIAL RECORDS, 1982**

SUPPLEMENT No.11

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.

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ABBREVIATIONS

ATPO	-	Association of African Trade Promotion Organizations
CP	-	African, Caribbean and Pacific countries
DB	-	African Development Bank
FPLAN	-	Regional Food Plan for Africa
HSCP	-	African Household Survey Capability Programme
RCC	-	Africa Regional Co-ordinating Committee for the Integration of Women in Development
RCT	-	African Regional Centre for Technology
TRCW	-	African Training and Research Centre for Women
EAEC	-	West African Economic Community
CEPGL	-	Economic Community of the Great Lakes Countries
ILSS	-	Permanent Inter-State Committee for Drought Control in the Sahel
ECDC	-	Economic Co-operation among Developing Countries
ECLA	-	Economic Commission for Latin America
ECOWAS	-	Economic Community of West African States
ESARIPO	-	Industrial Property Organization for English-speaking Africa
FAO	-	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
GATT	-	General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade
GSTP	-	Global System of Trade Preferences
IATA	-	International Air Transport Agreement
ICAO	-	International Civil Aviation Organization
IFORD	-	Institut de formation et de recherche démographiques
ILO	-	International Labour Organisation
IMF	-	International Monetary Fund
IOC	-	Inter-governmental Oceanographic Commission

- MULPOC - Multinational Programming and Operational Centre
- OAU - Organization of African Unity
- ODA - Official Development Assistance
- PADIS - Pan-African Documentation and Information System
- PTA - Preferential Trade Area
- RECTAS - Regional Centre for Training in Aerial Surveys
- RIPS - Regional Institute for Population Studies
- SIDA - Swedish International Development Agency
- SNPA - Substantial New Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries
- TCDC - Technical Co-operation among Developing Countries
- UDEAC - Central African Customs and Economic Union
- UNCTAD - United Nations Conference on Trade and Development
- UNDP - United Nations Development Programme
- UNEP - United Nations Environment Programme
- UNESCO - United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
- UNFPA - United Nations Fund for Population Activities
- UNFSSTD - United Nations Financing System for Science and Technology for Development
- UNIDO - United Nations Industrial Development Organization
- UNTFAD - United Nations Trust Fund for African Development
- USAID - United States Agency for International Development
- WFC - World Food Council
- WHO - World Health Organization
- WMO - World Meteorological Organization

INTRODUCTION

1. The present annual report of the Economic Commission for Africa covers the period from 11 April 1981 to 30 April 1982. It has been prepared in accordance with paragraph 18 of the Commission's terms of reference and was adopted by the Conference of Ministers of the Commission on 30 April 1982.

CHAPTER I: ISSUES CALLING FOR ACTION BY THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL OR BROUGHT TO ITS ATTENTION

2. At its two hundred and twenty-second meeting held on 30 April 1982 the Conference of Ministers of the Commission unanimously approved the following draft resolutions for submission to the Economic and Social Council for action.

A

New statutes of the Regional Institute for Population Studies, Accra, and the Institut de formation et de recherche démographiques, Yaoundé 1/

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling resolution 393 (XV) of 12 April 1980 of the Conference of Ministers of the Economic Commission for Africa, 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,

Further recalling resolution 426(XVI) of 10 April 1981 of the Conference of Ministers of the Economic Commission for Africa, which submitted the new statutes to the General Assembly through the Economic and Social Council,

Recalling also its decision 1981/189 of 24 July 1981 by which it endorsed the new statutes of the institutes and recommended that the General Assembly should approve them at its thirty-sixth session, in order to enable the two institutes to become operational as soon as possible,

Noting decision 36/450 taken by the General Assembly at its thirty-sixth session in which the Conference of Ministers of the Commission was requested to revise the draft statutes so that they comply with the United Nations rules and procedures,

Recommends that the General Assembly should approve the revised statutes of the two institutes 2/ at its thirty-seventh session.

1/ See chapter III, section C, paragraphs 138 to 155 and chapter V, resolution 429 (XVII).

2/ E/ECA/CM.8/22/Corr.2.

B

Demographic data collection and analysis 3/

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling its resolutions 1279(XLIII) of 4 August 1967, 1672(LII) of 2 June 1972 and 1763(LIV) of 18 May 1973,

Taking note of the report of the second session of the Joint Conference of African Planners, Statisticians and Demographers 4/ and, in particular, of the decreasing shares of assistance being made available by the United Nations Fund for Population Activities and other multilateral and bilateral donor agencies to States members of the Economic Commission for Africa and to the Commission itself for demographic data collection, processing, evaluation, analysis and dissemination,

1. Requests the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the Executive Director of the United Nations Fund for Population Activities to take the necessary measures in order to alleviate the current reduction in resources for the regional population programme;
2. Appeals to the General Assembly to allocate the necessary infrastructure posts to the Economic Commission for Africa to enable it to meet its increased responsibilities in the field of population.

C

Combating desertification in Africa 5/

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 36/190 of 17 December 1981 on the implementation of the United Nations Conference on Desertification's Plan of Action to Combat Desertification,

Taking note of the review report 6/ on the implementation of the Plan of Action to combat desertification in Africa, which covers the activities of the United Nations system, interested intergovernmental bodies and donor aid countries,

3/ See chapter III, section C, paragraphs 133 to 155 and chapter V, resolution 431 (XVII).

4/ E/ECA/CM.8/22.

5/ See chapter III, section C, paragraphs 133 to 155 and chapter V, resolution 446 (XVII).

6/ E/ECA/CM.9/21.

Deeply concerned that, in spite of the massive efforts made to combat desertification and the size of the financial commitments invested in programme activities, desertification in Africa continues to be a serious threat as the deserts encroach on arable land every year at an alarming pace,

Recommends to the General Assembly the establishment of an institutional machinery responsible for combating drought and desertification in Eastern and Southern African subregion.

D

Regional programming, operation, restructuring
and decentralization issues 7/

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling General Assembly resolutions 32/197 of 20 December 1977, 33/202 of 29 January 1979 and 34/206 of 19 December 1979 on the restructuring of the economic and social sectors of the United Nations system, which process was affirmed as an integral part of the efforts required to ensure the equitable, full and effective participation of the developing countries in the formulation and application of all decisions with the United Nations system in the field of development and international economic co-operation and which assigned specific additional tasks to regional commissions including the task of being the main general economic and social development centres for their respective regions, providing team leadership and responsibility for co-ordination and co-operation at the regional level and acting as executing agencies,

1. Resolves to consider devoting a regular agenda item to United Nations system co-ordination problems and needs at the regional level;
2. Calls upon the Secretary-General of the United Nations to institute arrangements to simplify and expedite technical assistance recruitment procedure with a view to decentralizing fully recruitment functions to the Economic Commission for Africa;
3. Urges the Secretary-General to strengthen the status and functions of the Regional Commissions Liaison Office at United Nations Headquarters to better enable it to carry out its representation responsibilities;
4. Appeals to the Secretary-General to provide the necessary regular budget resources to ensure that the Multinational Programming and Operational Centres are suitably staffed and equipped to carry out their basic functions, inter alia, the over-all direction and management of their programmes; the organization of annual meetings; the preparation of studies, the collection, synthesis and dissemination of information, and general research into development questions.

7/ See chapter III, section C, paragraphs 138 to 155 and chapter V, resolution 449 (XVII).

E

Financing of the Commission's Multinational Programming and
Operational Centres on an established basis 8/

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling resolution 311 (XIII) of 1 March 1977 of the Conference of Ministers of the Economic Commission for Africa which, in reaffirming that sectoral and subregional integration constituted the foundation for the creation of an African Common Market, established the Multinational Programming and Operational Centres,

Keenly aware of the comments made by the Joint Inspection Unit in its report on the Economic Commission for Africa as regards the inadequacy of the human and financial resources available to the Centres as a result of which their very existence is threatened, 9/

Having considered the draft of the report by the Secretary-General on the financing of the Commission's Multinational Programming and Operational Centres on an established basis 10/ prepared pursuant to paragraph 4 of General Assembly resolution 36/178 of 17 December 1981,

1. Requests the Secretary-General to submit the recommendations contained in the draft report to the thirty-seventh session of the General Assembly in accordance with resolution 36/178 mentioned above;

2. Recommends to the General Assembly that the necessary regular budget resources should be provided to ensure the implementation, on a continuing basis, of the basic functions of these Centres, inter alia, the over-all direction and management of their programmes; the preparation of studies; the collection, synthesis and dissemination of information; and general research into development questions.

8/ See chapter III, section C, paragraphs 138 to 153 and chapter V, resolution 450 (XVII).

9/ JIU/REP/82/1, paragraphs 83 to 96.

10/ E/ECA/CM.8/26.

F

Expansion of the conference facilities of the Commission
at Addis Ababa 11/

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling General Assembly resolutions 2616 (XXIV) of 17 December 1969 and 2745 (XXV) of 17 December 1970 which recognized the inadequacy of the conference facilities at the headquarters of the Economic Commission for Africa and the responsibility of States Members of the United Nations for the solution of that problem,

Recalling also its resolution 1981/65 of 24 July 1981 on the expansion of the conference facilities of the Economic Commission for Africa,

Further recalling General Assembly resolution 36/176 of 17 December 1981 requesting the Secretary-General to undertake a study on the inadequacy of the existing conference facilities,

Recognizing the need for adequate conference facilities at the headquarters of the Economic Commission for Africa to service regional, subregional and interregional conferences, symposiums and seminars for the increasing number of participants from the enlarged membership of the Commission as well as participants from other regions and United Nations bodies,

Recommends that the General Assembly at its thirty-seventh session should approve the project submitted by the Secretary-General in accordance with paragraph 2 of resolution 36/176 and make the necessary provision so that construction work can begin in 1983.

3. The financial implications of the above resolutions are given in annex I to the present report.

11/ See chapter III, section C, paragraphs 138 to 155 and chapter V, resolution 454 (XVII).

CHAPTER II: WORK OF THE COMMISSION SINCE 11 APRIL 1981

A. Activities of subsidiary bodies

4. The list of meetings of the subsidiary bodies held during the period under review is contained in 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 1982-1983, as well as in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council and the Conference of Ministers, are described below.

Development planning, projections and policies

6. During the period under review, the secretariat completed the Survey of economic and social conditions in Africa for the period 1980-1981 covering developments during the year 1980 as well as prospects for the year 1981, (E/ECA/CM.8/17).

7. In the area of planning and projections, the work focused on the preparation of the Conference of African Planners, Statisticians and Demographers held in Addis Ababa from 3 to 17 March 1982. An account of the deliberations of the Conference is contained in document E/ECA/CM.8/22.

8. The secretariat was able to give high priority to the Conference of Ministers of African Least Developed Countries, thanks to a UNDP grant, without which it would not have been possible to carry out the programme. The main activities were the following: the first meeting of the Conference of Ministers of African Least Developed Countries held in Addis Ababa from 27 to 30 July 1981 (for the report see document E/ECA/CM.8/10); the preparation of, and participation in, the United Nations Conference on Least Developed Countries held in Paris from 25 August to 14 September 1981; and the Second meeting of the Conference of Ministers of African Least Developed Countries held at Tripoli from 26 to 28 April 1982 (E/ECA/CM.8/28).

Industrial development

9. The OAU, ECA and UNIDO secretariats established a joint committee to draft an action programme for the United Nations Industrial Development Decade for Africa 1980-1990, and to enhance their respective roles in assisting African countries in the implementation of the Decade Programme and the Lagos Plan of Action from which the former is derived.

10. In this connexion an inter-governmental meeting of experts, sponsored by ECA, OAU and UNIDO, was convened in Addis Ababa from 19 to 23 October 1981, to examine the documents on the Action Programme for the Decade and make

recommendations for consideration by the sixth Conference of African Ministers of Industry, which approved the Programme (for the report of the Conference, see document E/ECA/CM.8/2).

11. A Seminar of African Businessmen on Development of Industrial Entrepreneurial Capabilities in Africa was organized in Addis Ababa from 9 to 14 November 1981.

12. In the field of institution-building, preparatory activities were undertaken towards the establishment of an African Regional Centre for Industrial Consultancy and Management Services, including an exploratory mission. Concerning the subsectoral programmes, the secretariat organized two inter-governmental meetings of experts on the establishment of an iron and steel industry in the Eastern and Southern African subregion to prepare recommendations on ways and means of integrating and implementing national iron and steel projects.

13. The secretariat also organized two meetings on the chemical industry programme, one for Eastern and Southern African countries and another for West African countries, which prepared recommendations for their respective subregions on the priority projects and modalities for implementing them.

14. In the promotion of industrial co-operation, assistance was given, on request, to UDEAC countries and the Niger River Basin Authority for restructuring policies, strategies and instruments as a basis for facilitating subregional industrial development and co-operation among the countries concerned.

Statistics

15. During the year under review, the Joint Conference of African Planners, Statisticians and Demographers, which is the principal means of co-ordinating African statistical activities, continued to seek ways of improving the relationship between data producers and users (see document E/ECA/CM.8/22 for the report of the Conference).

16. The Statistical Training Programme for Africa made good progress particularly in efforts to improve the financing of its member centres and develop their teaching staff and curricula.

17. The national accounts project, which is aimed mainly at assisting least developed and newly independent African countries, acquired a new senior adviser and also a second expert in 1981. However the demand for services in this area is increasing and two other staff members also undertook country assignments in collaboration with the World Bank.

18. Limited advisory work was also undertaken in industrial statistics which need considerable improvement in most African countries. A workshop was organized at ECA headquarters for the English-language group in January 1982 by the Munich Centre for Advanced Training in Applied Statistics in collaboration with UNIDO and ECA.

19. The compilation of industrial, agricultural, transport and communications, external trade, national accounts, tourism, distribution, price, and public, finance statistics continued and the material is gradually being incorporated in the statistical data base.

20. In the field of demographic and social statistics, two studies on concepts, definitions and classifications for internal and international migration statistics in Africa have been completed and will be published in the next two issues of the Statistical Information Bulletin for Africa,

21. Advisory services on demographic statistics have continued with funds provided by UNFPA.

22. The African Household Survey Capability Programme (AHSCP) is a component of the global National Household Survey Capability Programme which aims at ensuring that all developing countries have permanent field survey organizations for the continuous production of integrated economic, social and demographic statistics at the household and other levels. Detailed project proposals have so far been prepared for 15 African countries.

23. Although African statistical services have shown consistent improvement in technical capability and most have clear ideas of what they ought to achieve, there is nevertheless a serious shortfall in output which is demonstrated by delays in data dissemination. The position was carefully considered by the October 1981 working group on statistical organization and staffing and it concluded that there was a management problem: African statistical services can produce much better results with existing resources if they take the trouble to organize their work properly.

Food and agriculture

24. In line with the Regional Food Plan for Africa (AFPLAN) and the Lagos Plan of Action, an evaluation of the on-going development programmes and projects of 40 African inter-governmental organizations was undertaken. The objective was to help in reorienting them, if necessary, and laying down guide-lines for new programmes and projects involving financial and technical assistance.

25. With regard to forestry, the activities of the project on forestry resources development and conservation centred on the finalization of the full-scale project document which was later circulated to member States for endorsement.

26. Considerable advice and assistance in the field of agricultural statistics was given to the countries of the region in connexion with the formulation of their programmes in general and with the agricultural aspects of household surveys in particular. Advisory missions were undertaken to Kenya, Ethiopia, Rwanda and Zambia. Assistance was given in the organization of a workshop on household surveys methodology and to the ninth session of the African Commission on Agricultural Statistics.

27. Follow-up action in connexion with the project for the improvement and development of agricultural statistical institutions and services was initiated but had to be abandoned because of lack of funds.

28. Regarding the promotion of integrated rural development and improvement of agricultural institutions and services, the secretariat continued to provide assistance to the Lusaka MULPOC in connexion with the implementation of the integrated rural development project covering the United Republic of Tanzania and Zambia. Furthermore, assistance was given to that MULPOC in the preparation of a feasibility study for the establishment of a subregional maize research centre.

29. In connexion with programmes on food expansion, the secretariat assisted the Gisenyi MULPOC by preparing a project document for a feasibility study on multinational co-operation in seed production, multiplication and distribution for rice, beans and soya for the Great Lakes MULPOC countries.

30. In co-operation with FAO the secretariat initiated studies to collect background information on the situation of the small farmer in Africa and on the identification of institutional problems of small farmers with respect to farm investments and uses of improved inputs. Reports have been completed and circulated on Rwanda, the United Republic of Tanzania and Zambia.

31. As a follow-up to the recommendations of the World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development, the secretariat participated in the work and activities of the ACC Task Force on Rural Development under the leadership of FAO.

Population

32. The secretariat continued to implement its work programme in spite of a net decrease in the financial resources made available by UNFPA which led to the postponement of population projects previously approved.

33. In collaboration with United Nations Headquarters, the secretary undertook a series of estimations of population variables in order to establish the assumptions for the 1982 round of population projections by the United Nations family.

34. The work on the Zambia/ECA field survey on infant and childhood mortality was also successfully completed. The pertinent papers and reports for a feedback seminar on the results of the survey scheduled for April 1982 were prepared.

35. Several studies, reports and research projects were completed. These included the analysis of demographic household survey data for the Nigerian capital city, three studies on the comparative analysis of world fertility survey data and a study on international migration in Africa, etc.

36. The on-going research projects and studies include demographic data sheets for ECA member States, the Demographic Handbook for Africa, comparative analysis of world fertility survey data, demographic estimates and projections (1980-2000), review of age-sex distribution from African censuses and sample surveys and a review of population policies in relation to development.

37. Consultancy and advisory services also continued and the secretariat provided assistance to a number of member States or institutions including Benin, Ethiopia, Guinea, the Ivory Coast, the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Lesotho, Mali, Niger, Rwanda, Sierra Leone, Uganda, Zambia, Zimbabwe, the East African Statistical Training Centre and the Niger Basin Authority.

38. In the field of training, the secretariat has been actively implementing ECA Conference of Ministers resolutions on the full regionalization of RIPS and IFORD, monitoring their activities and dealing with the administrative management of these two projects (see draft resolution A in chapter I above and resolution 429 (XVII) in chapter V below).

Cartography

39. The secretariat provided technical backstopping to the Regional Centre for Training in Aerial Surveys (RECTAS) as well as to the Regional Centre for Services in Surveying and Mapping. Assistance was given to the Association of Cartography by providing it with conference services which enabled the third session of the Council to take place.

40. Collection of data and preparation of maps for ten out of a set of 12 atlases of the Cartographic Inventory for Africa were completed. The Map Documentation and Reference Centre received 470 maps, charts and other cartographic documents. More maps were prepared during the period than in the preceding year.

Mineral resources

41. The secretariat continued to provide assistance to the Eastern and Southern African Mineral Resources Development Centre based in Dodoma, the United Republic of Tanzania. Similarly it continued to promote the signing by member States of the agreement for the establishment of a similar centre in Brazzaville, the Congo, for the Central African subregion. The preparation of geological, mineral resources, oil and gas maps of Africa was completed and these maps will be distributed to member States during the first half of 1982.

Water resources

42. As a follow-up to the Regional Meeting on Problems and Needs of Africa in Drinking Water Supply and Sanitation, convened from 4 to 8 August 1980, a synthesis of the country reports was compiled.

43. The secretariat organized a Seminar and Study Tour on Water Resources Development in Arid Zones in Tashkent, in the USSR, from 3 June to 12 July 1981.

44. A joint ECA/WMO mission visited Burundi and the United Republic of Tanzania during the period under review with the objective of reviving interest of the riparian countries in the formation of a joint lake basin commission for the development of Lakes Tanganyika and Kivu basins. An advisory mission from the secretariat visited the Niamey MULPOC from 9 to 24 October 1981 to assist the office in preparing project documents for their water resources development activities in the subregion and, on request from the Ethiopian Government, advisory services were rendered concerning the identification of a potential ground water field for the extension of the existing water supply of the town of Jijiga.

Energy

45. Activities relating to the planning and optimum development of conventional, new and renewable sources of energy in Africa covered technical assistance to selected member States in the formulation of policies regarding the development and utilization of hydropower resources, advisory services to West African countries regarding co-operation and training in the field of electricity, participation in and preparation of meetings such as the third and fourth sessions of the Preparatory Committee for the United Nations Conference on New and Renewable Sources of Energy in New York and the Conference itself in Nairobi, etc. These activities also covered preparation of projects and studies, implementation of training programme and routine work on energy resources.

Science and technology

46. The secretariat organized a meeting of the Inter-governmental Committee of Experts for Science and Technology Development from 2 to 6 November 1981 which inter alia reviewed the progress in the implementation of the science and technology chapter of the Lagos Plan of Action at the national and regional levels (for the report of the Committee, see document E/ECA/TPCW.3/3).

47. Substantive support was provided by the secretariat to the African Regional Centre for Technology (ARCT) and the Industrial Property Organization for English-speaking Africa (ESARIPO) in programme formulation and execution as well as in various promotional activities.

48. Pursuant to the bilateral grant provided by the Indian Government, the secretariat elaborated the main activities for the development, demonstration and acquisition of appropriate technologies for rural areas.

49. As for the financing of science and technology, comprehensive project proposals for the conduct of a feasibility study leading to the establishment of pilot training and production workshops in African least developed countries were submitted to UNDP.

50. The secretariat completed a study and assessment, in selected African countries of the impact of local R and D efforts in the development of agriculture with particular reference to food production, preservation and storage.

Transport, communications and tourism

51. The secretariat's activities aimed at implementing resolutions ECA/UNTACDA/81/12 to 22 adopted at the second meeting of the Conference of Ministers of Transport, Communications and Planning.

52. The fifth meeting of the Inter-agency Co-ordinating Committee, which the secretariat helped to organize in Geneva from 10 to 12 December 1981, resulted in the preparation of the plan of action for the elaboration of the second phase programme of the Decade.

53. The consultative technical meeting in Lome took place from 8 to 11 June 1981, and those of Ouagadougou and Yaounde took place from 19 to 23 January and 15 to 17 March 1982 respectively.

54. In the area of transport, the secretariat carried out a transport survey for Namibia (phase I) (project TF/NAM/79/005) and the final report was submitted to the Office of the Commissioner for Namibia. A workshop on further development of Namibia Nationhood Programme in the field of transport and communications was organized jointly by the secretariat and the Office of the Commissioner for Namibia.

55. In the area of maritime transport, a joint ECA/IMCO/UNCTAD mission to the Eastern and Southern African subregion has been carried out and a mission report has been prepared on port operations, protection of shipper interests, maritime legislation and safety.

56. As far as ports are concerned, a joint ECA/IMCO mission has been carried out and a report was prepared on the possible conversion of the Bandari College in Mombasa into a multinational port operation and management centre. Technical assistance has been provided to the United Republic of Tanzania and Kenya to assist the port authorities in their current management problems and a mission to the United Republic of Tanzania and Mozambique has been carried out to analyse the statistical data.

57. In the field of inland water transport, preparatory assistance has been rendered concerning the definition of type of vessels feasible for the Zambezi, Kafue, Kabongo and Luangwa rivers.

58. As for railways, a prefeasibility study on railway link between Togo, the Niger, the Upper Volta and Mali has been carried out.

59. In the area of roads and road transport, a project document has been prepared for a study on African Highway Master Plan which the Italian Government has agreed in principle to finance. Assistance has been provided

to the Lagos-Mombasa Trans-African Highway Authority to strengthen its capability to carry out a physical inventory of the Highway and improve its administrative and legal documents.

60. In the area of communications, work has centred on the joint ITU/ECA/OAU/UNDP/ADB/PANAFTEL network project study on a practical working model of a low-cost sound broadcasting system and on the feasibility of a rural telecommunications system including satellite communication technology for the region (see resolution 436(XVII) in chapter V below).

61. With regard to telecommunications, approximately 3,000 km of micro-wave system and six cross-border connexions have been brought into service. A further 4,500 km of route and seven cross-border connexions are at an advanced stage.

International trade and finance

62. Efforts have been geared mainly towards the expansion and promotion of trade among African countries. As part of continued assistance with the establishment of the Preferential Trade Area for Eastern and Southern Africa, the secretariat was involved in the preparation of documentation and substantive servicing of a number of meetings which culminated in the Conference of Heads of State of Eastern and Southern Africa held at Lusaka on 21 December 1981 to consider, adopt and sign the proposed Treaty for the Establishment of a Preferential Trade Area for Eastern and Southern African States. Eleven countries have now signed the Treaty.

63. As a joint undertaking with the Association of African Trade Promotion Organizations (AATPO), the secretariat organized a symposium of Presidents and Secretaries-General of African Chambers of Commerce on the promotion of intra-African trade in the light of the Lagos Plan of Action and the new international economic order. A regional workshop was also organized to bring together buyers and sellers of meat and meat products.

64. As regards intra-African financial co-operation, the secretariat assisted in the actual establishment of the Central African Clearing House in addition to its continued assistance to the West African Clearing House.

65. In the field of trade and financial relations with non-African countries, the secretariat, in co-operation with UNCTAD, executed a project on State trading organizations and on trade and economic co-operation between African countries and the Socialist countries of Eastern Europe. ECA, OAU and UNCTAD also organized an African regional seminar on meat within the framework of the Common Fund and a workshop on internal commodity issues of particular interest to the African region.

66. The second meeting of the Ministerial Follow-up Committee on International Trade and Finance for African Development was held from 25 to 28 January 1982 and followed from 1 to 3 February 1982 by the seventh session of the Conference of African Ministers of Trade (See documents ST/ECA/WP.1/17-OAU/ECA/ITF/Rappt. 1(II) and E/ECA/CM.8/13).

67. As far as transnational corporations were concerned, the secretariat, through the ECA/UNCTC Joint Unit on Transnational Corporations, undertook research studies on the social, economic, legal and political implications of the presence of transnationals in African countries. Nine studies were undertaken on the role of transnationals in the tobacco, sugar, cotton, banana, coffee, copper, tropical hardwood and bauxite industries in selected African countries. The role and impact of such corporations in the flow of monetary and financial resources to and from Africa also received top priority. The development and dissemination of information on transnationals in Africa continued to receive attention and to this end a list of major transnational corporations in Africa was also prepared.

Technical assistance co-ordination and operations

68. The secretariat continued its technical co-operation activities as an executing agency with funds made available by funding sources in the United Nations system as well as multilateral and bilateral programmes.

69. With funds from the United Nations regular programme, amounting to \$US 1,318,000 in 1981, the secretariat has provided regional and subregional advisory services.

70. In 1981, UNDP contributed \$US 8,274,000 to support projects in the fields of intra-African trade, statistics, national accounts, transport and communications, conservation and development of forest resources, co-ordination of the United Nations Transport and Communications Decade in Africa and technical support to least developed countries, the MULPOCs, IDEP and other ECA-sponsored institutes.

71. UNFPA's contribution for the period under review amounting to \$US 2,477,000 was utilized to maintain ECA's population infrastructure, regional advisory services and population institutes.

72. The Voluntary Fund for the United Nations Decade for Women provided an allocation of \$US 1,000,000 to strengthen the African Training and Research Centre for Women which was also provided support by UNICEF in the amount of \$US 233,000. The United Nations Environment Programme provided \$US 121,500 for ECA's Environment Co-ordination Unit. ECA also received direct grants from donor governments and organizations amounting to \$US 4,263,000 to cover the provision of expert services under non-reimbursable loan arrangements and bilateral technical assistance programmes.

73. Under the United Nations Trust Fund for African Development (UNTFAD), \$US 1,800,000 was utilized for the execution of projects in the fields of intra-African trade, manpower, industry, natural resources, building materials, agriculture and support for the MULPOCs.

Economic co-operation and integration

74. During the year under review, the greatest effort was devoted to strengthening the MULPOCs and assisting member States to establish or strengthen various institutional arrangements for economic and technical co-operation (see also the section above on international trade and finance, for developments concerning the Preferential Trade Area for Eastern and Southern Africa).

75. Other activities have included assisting countries members of the Southern African Labour Commission to formulate or review pertinent projects intended to improve the working conditions of migrant labourers in Southern Africa or to facilitate the fruitful reabsorption of those who return from the Republic of South Africa to their countries of origin.

76. The secretariat continued to provide legal and other advisory services to various institutions, regional and subregional. For example, it assisted in drafting model laws on patents and trade-marks for adoption by members of the Industrial Property Organization for English-speaking Africa and prepared draft rules and procedures for the Association of African Cartographers as well as a draft protocol for ECOWAS enterprises, etc.

77. Concerning Central Africa and the countries of the Great Lakes, the UDEAC evaluation mission submitted recommendations on the feasibility of enlarging economic co-operation. The recommendations were accepted by the Heads of State during their summit meeting in December 1981 during which they adopted a declaration of intent to establish a Central African Economic Community.

78. The secretariat continued its efforts to convene inter-governmental meetings of the Tangiers MULPOC and in November 1981 it managed to convene an experts meeting to discuss the re-orientation of the MULPOC programme. In March 1982, a meeting of plenipotentiaries of the Tangiers MULPOC was successfully convened and approved the new work programme.

79. The period under review also witnessed further studies in the secretariat's efforts to implement TCDC projects. In fact the secretariat continued to play its role in the joint ECA/ECLA TCDC project for the promotion of inter-regional co-operation in the fields of trade, manpower and science and technology.

Human settlements

80. During the period under review the secretariat's efforts were geared towards assistance to governments on request. Thus, at the request of one government an assistance project in the field of integrated rural development and improvement of rural settlements was elaborated and is being implemented with the assistance of United Nations Centre for Human Settlements and UNESCO.

81. In the area of development policy on housing construction the secretariat participated in the Conference on Housing in Africa organized jointly by USAID and the Government of Mauritius and in the fourth session of the Commission on Human Settlements in Manila and drafted annual on the organization and management of housing co-operatives.

82. As far as co-operation is concerned, the secretariat developed its co-operation with UNESCO in the field of human settlements programmes in the African region. A study tour to India was also organized and included a seminar on technical training for 16 African experts. In this seminar possibilities of decentralization and diversification of the production of building materials through the utilization of simple technologies likely to be adapted in Africa were identified.

83. An expert meeting comprising representatives of Benin, Guinea, the Ivory Coast, Mali, the Niger, Togo and the Upper Volta was held in Lome to consider the proposals of the secretariat for the conversion of the Building and Housing Centre (Centre de la Construction et du Logement) at Cacaveli, Lome, Togo, into a subregional research centre for building and building materials. A feasibility study was carried out to prepare the project document which will be submitted to the Governments concerned for approval. Another feasibility study was carried out for the creation of a common research centre for the CEPGL countries (Burundi, Rwanda and Zaire).

Education, training and manpower

84. During the period under review, the secretariat's work in education and training focused on five interrelated areas of formal and non-formal educational systems and practices, training for skills development and transfer of techniques, career planning, guidance and counselling, institution building and fellowships administration.

85. The secretariat organized and serviced technical-level and ministerial-level conferences on localization of professional training, examination, certification and accreditation for professional practice in English-speaking countries and on human resources planning, development and utilization.

86. In the field of manpower and employment planning, programme activities focused on trends, issues and practices in human resources assessment, projections, planning and programming their development and productive use. The programme equally focused on the current state and adequacy of institutions for human resources planning and development in relation to the national economies' absorptive capacity as well as strategies for proper identification, management and productive use of the entire human resources potential.

87. In line with the Lagos Plan of Action, high priority was accorded to manpower planning, the development of institutions and personnel for enhancing the region's self-reliance in ensuring (i) a planned approach to human resources assessment and programming their development and productive use; (ii) a

co-ordinated approach to their planning, development and utilization as well as integrating human resources into the over-all national socio-economic development planning; and (iii) development and sharing of information on manpower availability so as to promote intra-African co-operation in this area.

Public administration and finance

88. In the field of institutional, administrative and managerial capabilities development advisory missions were undertaken to Burundi, the Central African Republic, Chad, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, the Gambia, Lesotho, Liberia, Nigeria, Somalia, Togo, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

89. In the field of development and management of budgetary and taxation systems, activities were greatly constrained by the lack of staff resources. In the area of collection and dissemination of information, the preparation of a "Roster of African Taxation Experts" was initiated. One national training workshop on budgeting and financial management was conducted in Juba, the Sudan.

Environment

90. During the period under review the secretariat commented on the draft summary of consultants' reports for the ECA/UNESCO/IOC project on the development of marine science and technology in Africa in connexion with the workshop held at Addis Ababa from 8 to 13 June 1981. The outcome of the meeting was a draft action plan for the development of marine science research and training as well as for the development of adaptable technologies that will enable the countries of the region to exploit fully their marine resources.

91. The secretariat contributed the environmental components of the working papers prepared for the United Nations Industrial Development Decade in Africa programme, 1980-1990. Working papers were prepared jointly by ECA, OAU and UNIDO for two meetings, namely the Inter-governmental Meeting of Experts on the Programme for the Decade, held from 19 to 23 October 1981 and the sixth Conference of African Ministers of Industry held from 23 to 25 November 1981, both at Addis Ababa.

92. The secretariat completed a chapter on the environmental role of tropical forest ecosystems as a contribution towards the joint ECA/FAO/UNIDO Survey on African Timber Trends and Prospects, 1950-2000 being prepared by the Forest Industries Advisory Group based at ECA. It also delivered a paper on problems of desertification control and the protection of the environment to the Joint UNESCO/Department of Public Information Seminar for Educators held at Addis Ababa from 19 October to 6 November 1981. It continues to serve in an advisory capacity in the WHO Social and Economic Research/Scientific Working Group on tropical diseases.

93. The secretariat also participated in a joint UNEP/WHO/USSR Inter-regional Workshop on Air Pollution from Motor Vehicles, held in Moscow from 5 to 9 October 1981. The main purpose of the workshop was to promote a better understanding of the environmental, health, technological and policy issues in motor vehicles air pollution and its control.

Social development

94. The project on the use of the mass media as a strategy for rural transformation and rural and urban communities continued and is expected to end in May 1982 with completion of the training seminars for directors on the use of the mass media.

95. A Regional Inter-governmental Meeting on Aging was held in Addis Ababa from 1 to 5 March 1982. The purpose of the meeting was to promote an exchange of experience relating to existing policies and programmes for the aging and to provide a forum for launching a regional programme of action as an input into an international plan of action aimed at guaranteeing economic and social security to old persons, as well as opportunities to contribute to national development.

96. In the field of training the secretariat has trained women in several priority areas. A training workshop on the improvement of the quality of life of rural women was organized in Addis Ababa in May 1981 for trainers, planners and leaders from African Portuguese-speaking countries.

97. Meetings and seminars were also organized during the period under review among which were an expert group meeting for English-speaking personnel involved in the programme for out-of-school girls and a joint ATRCW/ILO/ARCT/SIDA seminar on the role and problems of women in marketing of foodstuffs in West Africa.

98. As far as income-generating projects were concerned, the activities were considered mainly under the joint ECA/ILO project and eight income-generating projects have been carried out in Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Lesotho, Somalia, and the Sudan.

99. The bureau of the subregional committees for the integration of women in development held meetings in their respective MULPOCs to review the implementation of their work programme and to prepare the third meeting of the Africa Regional Co-ordinating Committee (ARCC) held in Douala, the United Republic of Cameroon in March 1982 (E/ECA/CM.8/23).

C. Relations with other United Nations Programmes

100. The close relations maintained by the Commission with other United Nations programmes can be appreciated from the account of the activities of the Commission contained in section B above in such fields as industry, human settlements, transport and communications, economic co-operation, international trade and finance, food and agriculture, etc.

101. Special mention must however be made of the Commission's relations with UNDP, both as an executing agency for the latter and in terms of activities relating to the preparation of the third UNDP programming cycle, 1982-1986.

CHAPTER III: SEVENTEENTH SESSION OF THE COMMISSION - EIGHTH MEETING
OF THE CONFERENCE OF MINISTERS

A. Attendance and organization of work

1. The seventeenth session of the Commission and eighth meeting of the Conference of Ministers was held at Tripoli, Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, from 27 to 30 April 1982. The meeting was opened on 27 April 1982 by Mr. Sama S. Banya, outgoing Chairman of the seventh meeting of the Conference, who invited all participants to observe a minute of silent prayer or meditation. Opening addresses were delivered by Major Abdelsalem Jalloud, member of the leadership of the Great First of September Revolution of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, the Secretary-General of the Organization of African Unity, the Executive Secretary of the Commission and the outgoing Chairman. The United Nations Director-General for Development and International Economic Co-operation read out a message from the Secretary-General of the Organization. Mr. Hailu Yimenu, Senior Minister and Secretary-General of the Central Planning Supreme Council of Ethiopia, speaking on behalf of all participants, proposed a motion of thanks to the Leader and people of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya. Following his election, the current Chairman also made a statement (see section C below for summaries of those statements).
2. The meeting was attended by representatives of the following States members of the Commission: Algeria, Angola, Benin, Burundi, Chad, the Comoros, the Congo, Djibouti, Ethiopia, Gabon, Ghana, Guinea-Bissau, the Ivory Coast, Kenya, Lesotho, Mali, Mauritania, Morocco, the Niger, Nigeria, the Revolutionary People's Republic of Guinea, Rwanda, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Sierra Leone, the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Togo, Tunisia, Uganda, the United Republic of Cameroon, the United Republic of Tanzania, the Upper Volta, Zaire, Zambia and Zimbabwe.
3. In accordance with paragraph 9 of the Commission's terms of reference, observers were present from the following States Members of the United Nations not members of the Commission: Argentina, Austria, Czechoslovakia, Democratic Yemen, Finland, France, the German Democratic Republic, Germany, Federal Republic of, Hungary, India, Italy, Japan, the Netherlands, Poland, Romania, Spain, Sweden, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, the United Kingdom, Yemen and Yugoslavia. Observers for the Holy See, the Republic of Korea and Switzerland, States not Members of the United Nations, were also present.
4. Representatives of the following United Nations bodies attended the meeting: Office of the Director-General for Development and International Economic Co-operation, United Nations Department of Technical Co-operation for Development, United Nations Centre on Transnational Corporations, United Nations Regional Commissions Liaison Office, United Nations Sudano-Sahelian Office, United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, United Nations Environment Programme, United Nations Industrial Development Organization, United Nations Development Programme, United Nations Financing System for Science and Technology for Development, World Food Council, International Labour Organisation, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, International Civil Aviation Organization, World Health Organization, Inter-World Meteorological Organization and International Trade Centre.

5. The following inter-governmental organizations were represented in accordance with paragraph 11 of the Commission's terms of reference: Africa Regional Co-ordinating Committee for the Integration of Women in Development, African Centre for Applied Research and Training in Social Development, African Centre for Monetary Studies, African Development Bank, African Institute for Higher Technical Training and Research, African Regional Centre for Technology, African Training and Research Centre in Administration for Development, Arab Bank for the Economic Development of Africa, Association of African Trade Promotion Organizations, Institut de formation et de recherche démographiques, League of Arab States, Organization of African Unity, Pan-African Telecommunications Union and Regional Institute for Population Studies.

6. One non-governmental organization, the World Federation of Trade Unions, was represented by an observer in accordance with paragraph 14 of the Commission's terms of reference. 1/

7. The Committee unanimously elected the following officers:

Chairman:	Fauzi Ahmed Elshakshouki	Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya
First Vice-Chairman:	Boubacar Diallo	Revolutionary People's Republic of Guinea
Second Vice-Chairman:	Henry S. Meebelo	Zambia
Rapporteur:	Bieme Ngalisame Mokelo	Zaire

B. Agenda

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

1. Opening of the meeting
2. Minute of silent prayer or meditation
3. Election of officers
4. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work
5. Survey of economic and social conditions in Africa, 1980-1981
(E/ECA/CM.3/17)
6. World Bank report on accelerated development in sub-Saharan Africa:
An agenda for action: Joint comments by ECA, ADB and OAU
(E/ECA/CM.3/16)
7. A review of the developing international crisis and its implications
for Africa: Report and recommendations of the Technical Preparatory
Committee of the Whole (E/ECA/CM.8/15 and E/ECA/CM.8/31 and Corr.1)
8. Proposals for the formulation and implementation of a programme for
the Industrial Development Decade in Africa: Report and recommenda-
tions of the Technical Preparatory Committee of the Whole (E/ECA/
CM.3/2 and E/ECA/CM.8/31 and Corr.1)

1/ For the full list of participants, see E/ECA/CM.3/INF.5

9. Implementation of the Regional Food Plan for Africa: Progress, problems and prospects: Report and recommendations of the Technical Preparatory Committee of the Whole (E/ECA/CM.8/12 and E/ECA/CM.8/31 and Corr.1)
10. Report of the seventh meeting of the Conference of African Ministers of Trade (E/ECA/CM.8/13)
11. Report of the sixth meeting of the Conference of African Ministers of Industry (E/ECA/CM.8/2)
12. Report of the second meeting of the Conference of Ministers of African Least Developed Countries (E/ECA/CM.8/28)
13. Report and recommendations of the first meeting of the Conference of Ministers Responsible for Human Resources Planning, Development and Utilization (E/ECA/CM.8/3)
14. Report and recommendations of the Technical Preparatory Committee of the Whole (E/ECA/CM.8/31 and Corr.1):
 - (a) On selected matters:
 - (i) Development of human resources in Africa
 - (ii) Development of natural resources: Progress report
 - (iii) Report of the Inter-governmental Committee of Experts on Science and Technology Development
 - (iv) United Nations Transport and Communications Decade in Africa: Progress report and report of the technical consultative meetings
 - (v) ECA-sponsored regional and subregional institutions
 - (vi) Report of the Joint Inspection Unit on the Commission
 - (vii) Report of the ECA/UNDP evaluation teams on the MULPOCs
 - (viii) Report on full regionalization of regional training institutes for population studies in Africa
 - (ix) Pan-African Documentation and Information System: Progress report
 - (x) Report of the second meeting of the Joint Conference of African Planners, Statisticians and Demographers
 - (xi) Report of the third meeting of the Africa Regional Co-ordinating Committee for the Integration of Women in Development

- (xii) Report on the integrated regional training, research and advisory programme for the conservation and management of African wildlife
- (xiii) Implementation of the Nairobi recommendations on a programme of technical co-operation among African countries
- (xiv) Combating desertification in Africa
- (xv) Report of the Regional Inter-governmental Meeting on Aging
- (xvi) United Nations Development Programme 1982-1986 programming cycle
- (xvii) Expansion of ECA conference facilities
- (xviii) ECA Silver Jubilee Anniversary
- (xix) Follow-up action on Conference of Ministers resolutions and decisions
- (b) On the United Nations Trust Fund for African Development: Progress report on pledges and payments by member States and institutions, project implementation and expenditure, 1977-1981

15. Other matters

16. Date and place of the ninth meeting of the Conference of Ministers and the fourth meeting of the Technical Preparatory Committee of the Whole

17. Consideration and adoption of the report and resolutions of the meeting

18. Closure of the meeting.

C. Account of proceedings

Opening addresses

9. In his opening address to the meeting, Major Abdelsalem Jalloud, member of the leadership of the Great First of September Revolution of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, welcomed all participants to his country. He called attention to the economic and social problems affecting the world and their adverse consequences for Africa and indicated that the crisis which was rampant in Africa was the result of the foreign stranglehold on Africa's vast potential, to the detriment of Africans.

10. He stressed the fact that, while Africa appeared to be politically independent, that was not true economically, socially and culturally, since it was influenced by the industrialized countries which continued to dominate and exploit it. Developed countries were plundering Africa's natural resources, which served solely as a reserve of raw materials for the industrialized countries. It was those countries which benefited from them, since it was they that fixed the prices of raw materials by means of a monetary system that was unfavourable to Africa. He therefore appealed to all African States to show the joint political will and determination needed to combat the foreign monopolies and install a just new world economic order. He hoped that the eighth meeting of the Conference of Ministers would be the first step in the long economic struggle for the true liberation of Africa.

11. He also appealed for genuine Afro-Arab co-operation before any Arab-European dialogue, since Africans and Arabs constituted the same economic, political, social and cultural grouping. That common identity called for effective integration of the economies of the two groups to combat vigorously the adverse effects of the foreign stranglehold and the "muscle" dollar, particularly since the Western countries would never surrender their grip voluntarily.

12. He added that the World Bank report, entitled "Accelerated development in sub-Saharan Africa: An agenda for action", was unacceptable because it offered nothing that could relieve Africa of its burden of economic dependence on foreign countries, but would in fact only bind it more closely to the developed countries.

13. The United Nations Director-General for Development and International Economic Co-operation read out a message from the Secretary-General of the United Nations. In that message, the Secretary-General said that he attached very great importance to the work of the Commission in promoting the development of the continent. Current economic and social conditions in Africa were a cause of serious concern, and the task before the Conference was therefore to review ongoing efforts to implement the Monrovia Strategy for the Economic Development of Africa and the Lagos Plan of Action. Appropriate action was urgently needed at the national, subregional and regional levels to implement them.

14. Despite progress in many respects, the General Assembly had still not succeeded in overcoming the difficulties preventing the launching of global negotiations. The substantive problems that the negotiations were required to address were much too urgent for them to be repeatedly postponed. He was deeply interested in strengthening the Commission secretariat to enable it to continue to perform its duties as the main centre for general economic and social development in Africa within the United Nations system and attached considerable significance to the need to strengthen the ECA's Multinational Programming and Operational Centres (MULPOCs), given their relevance to the development of the African region.

15. In his statement, the Secretary-General of the Organization of African Unity said that the economic situation of Africa continued to remain a difficult one, as did that of the world as a whole. In the West, one quarter of total industrial capacity remained unused, and unemployment in the OECD countries had reached 20 million. In the Socialist bloc, unemployment had begun to appear and financial dependence on the West had increased, as shown by that Group's debt to the West of some \$US 74 billion in 1981. Finally, in the developing countries, the annual rate of growth in food production was only 3.1 per cent, so that grain imports had increased considerably. Although those countries' share in world industrial production had increased by 7 to 10 per cent, that appeared to be the result of the transfer, by the developed countries, of some of their production to the developing countries. There had been a marked increase in the debt burden of the developing countries, and the cost of servicing that debt had risen to the incredible amount of \$US 111 billion.

16. The Cancun Conference in October 1981 had been supposed to give a fresh start to the North-South discussions on a new international economic order, but the real impact of that Conference must remain doubtful because of the unco-operative attitude and hostility of some of the major economic Powers. In fact, the economic war between the developed and developing countries had become fiercer.

17. The rate of population growth in Africa had risen from 2.5 between 1965-1970 to 2.9 per cent between 1975-1979, thus rendering the living conditions of the African peoples even more precarious, since African agriculture had failed to make any progress and yields remained low. The African economy was still dominated by foreign Powers, particularly in the tertiary sector, where banks, insurance, maritime and air transport, etc., remained in foreign hands. Thus, none of the evils from which Africa suffered - malnutrition, hunger, disease, unemployment, and the rest - had decreased appreciably. Indeed, certain diseases that had been eradicated had reappeared, juvenile delinquency and crime were increasing and the migration of the rural population to the towns was adversely affecting food production.

18. The OAU general secretariat believed that the Lagos Plan of Action was Africa's economic charter and, for that reason, had difficulty in accepting the World Bank report, which was really an attempt to harness African countries more firmly to the economies of foreign Powers. He could only deplore the fundamental failings of a document that did not accept the aim of self-sustained and self-reliant development.

19. Traditionally, the African countries had played the role of suppliers of cheap raw materials; they refused to go on doing so and were determined to choose the path of industrialization. The ECA and OAU secretariats had therefore signed an agreement on 21 February 1982 on co-operation in implementing the Lagos Plan of Action; that co-operation had already assisted in the economic unification of Africa, as shown by the establishment of the Preferential Trade Area for Eastern and Southern Africa and the move to establish a Central African Economic Community.

20. The Lagos Plan of Action called for an integrated industrial system based on the enormous domestic market constituted by the 500 million-strong African population, which could not be achieved without a transformation of the existing world economic order; Africa was ready at any time for global negotiations with a view to bringing that transformation about.

21. In his statement, the Executive Secretary thanked the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya for its kindness and hospitality in hosting the meeting. He said that the meeting of the Conference was the last in a succession of five ECA meetings hosted by the Jamahiriya over the previous two weeks, one of which had been the second meeting of the Conference of Ministers of African Least Developed Countries.

22. As the agenda before the meeting showed, the implementation of the Lagos Plan of Action was still and, in his view, would long remain, the heart of present and future African development efforts at the national, subregional and regional levels. The economic crisis to which he had referred the previous year had worsened and it seemed likely to continue for a long time. As in 1980, so in 1981, African countries had suffered from food deficits, droughts, rising prices of imported energy, adverse terms of trade, balance-of-payments deficits and a heavy burden of external debt. In fact, during 1981, both oil-exporting as well as non-oil-exporting African countries had experienced difficulties, the latter because of a sharp fall in the demand for oil in the industrialized countries.

23. Africa's external indebtedness had now topped the \$US 47.8 billion mark. In 1981, the cost of debt servicing had represented 12 per cent of the total outstanding debt and 14 per cent of Africa's exports of goods and services. More and more countries had been compelled to resort to IMF borrowing despite the stringent and harsh conditions attached to it.

24. The persistent nature of the crisis was particularly disturbing. He did not believe, as some did, that the crisis was a transient one. Short-term palliative measures - which he called a soft option - taken on the assumption that the crisis was temporary, would lead only to disillusionment and to the perpetuation of dependence on external factors. On the other hand, the raison d'être of what he termed the hard option was the realization that the world economy required a fundamental structural change to bring it to an equitable long-term equilibrium. But that could not come about without costly sacrifice on the part of African countries, which would have to weaken gradually the external links on which they had traditionally and for too long depended.

25. The Executive Secretary stressed two further points. The first was the fact that the de-linking of African economies from outside economies meant, in effect, waging an economic war; and war was not, of course, costless. The second was that intra-African co-operation in general and Afro-Arab co-operation in particular constituted essential weapons in waging the war for economic survival. Yet, since the Afro-Arab Summit of March 1977, few or no opportunities of Afro-Arab co-operation had been exploited. He suggested

that there was ample scope for fruitful co-operation in such fields as food production and trade, joint exploration and exploitation of industrial raw materials, development of integrated transport and communications, promotion of technical co-operation in science and technology, and co-operation in industrial development. He appealed to African and Arab leaders to make the best of such opportunities.

26. In conclusion, he urged African countries to make a virtue of necessity and declare an economic war for survival. Time was not on Africa's side, and the battle for self-reliance and political integrity had to begin at once.

27. Speaking on behalf of all participants, the Senior Minister and Secretary-General of the Central Planning Supreme Council of Ethiopia proposed a motion of thanks to the host country, in which he expressed appreciation to the Leader and people of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya for the facilities they had generously made available to the Conference and to Major Jalloud for delivering the opening address on behalf of the Jamahiriya.

28. The Jamahiriya was playing an effective role in international economic affairs as could be seen from its commitment to the establishment of the new international economic order and the implementation of the Lagos Plan of Action. It was an impressive example of the progress that was possible when a country took control of its own wealth and used it for the benefit of the people. However, the economic pressures designed to frustrate its development could easily be extended to other developing countries, and hence all African countries should realize the need for unity in such difficult times.

29. The Minister of Development and Economic Planning of Sierra Leone, out-going Chairman of the Conference, said that he had been greatly impressed by the efforts of the secretariat in promoting socio-economic development in Africa during his term of office. Member States too often appeared to think of adopting resolutions as an end in itself and cared little about implementing them, as in the case, for example, of Conference of Ministers resolution 404 (XVI) on the Survey of economic and social conditions in Africa. The secretariat had had to continue its previous policy of sending staff to countries to collect the necessary information for the Survey because of the failure of member States to provide it.

30. Among other activities by the secretariat, he referred to the preparations for the second meeting of the Joint Conference of African Planners, Statisticians and Demographers, for the first meeting of the Conference of Ministers of African Least Developed Countries and for the United Nations Conference on Least Developed Countries. The secretariat had also established a joint committee with OAU and UNIDO to assist African countries in implementing the programme of the Industrial Development Decade for Africa. In addition, many activities had been undertaken within the framework of the Transport and Communications Decade in Africa.

31. One of the greatest achievements of the secretariat was the establishment of the Preferential Trade Area for Eastern and Southern Africa, and the secretariat had already responded to a request from the Central African countries to establish an economic community in that subregion.

32. Referring to the report of the Joint Inspection Unit on the Commission, he pointed out that, while the Inspectors had found that the Commission was active in almost all the major areas of United Nations activities, they had also noted that that diversity meant that ECA's staff and financial resources were spread rather thinly across a broad spectrum of programmes. ECA's responsibilities over the past decade had multiplied tenfold, but its budget had increased by only about 1.7 per cent annually over the same period. The Inspectors had also found that, while the MULPOCs had made ECA programmes more relevant to the needs of member States, their staff and resources were too weak for them to be fully effective. The Inspectors had concluded that ECA activities were at a critical stage, since the lack of authority and financial resources jeopardized ECA's role in implementing the Lagos Plan of Action.

33. The World Bank report "Accelerated development in sub-Saharan Africa: An agenda for action" was a good technical document and a valuable contribution to the diagnosis of the African economic condition. Nevertheless, some of its recommendations were not in harmony with the Lagos Plan of Action. In particular, the emphasis on an agriculture-based and export-oriented strategy left much to be desired. The document failed to discuss adequately the role of external factors as obstacles to development, and its advice that industrialization and regional co-operation should be seriously considered only at some stage in the future ignored two of the instruments that had been identified for implementing the Lagos Plan of Action. Finally, to relegate food production to second place in relation to agriculture was to belittle one of the main concerns of that Plan.

34. The current Chairman said that his election was a sign of the meeting's appreciation of the pioneer role of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya in the development of Africa. Although Africa was rich in natural resources, international monopolies had turned it into a source of supply of raw materials for the development of the industrialized world. Africa therefore had to seek its own solutions to its development problems rather than wait for outside help and thus had to mobilize all its potential resources. Bearing in mind Africa's poor economic performance and the deteriorating terms of trade, Africa could never implement the Lagos Plan of Action unless it started to establish a common market and industries based on the use of its raw materials within the framework of co-operation and economic complementarities.

35. Co-operation between the African continent and the Arab world would be a key element in the development efforts of the two groups of countries. In that regard, the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya was striving to ensure the well-being of the sons of Africa as could be seen from the fruits of the Great First of September Revolution.

36. In conclusion, he thanked the secretariat of the Commission for the way in which it had prepared the meeting of the Conference and welcomed all participants to the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya.

General debate (items 5 to 9)

- (a) Survey of economic and social conditions in Africa, 1980-1981
- (b) World Bank report on accelerated development in sub-Saharan Africa: An agenda for action: Joint comments by ECA, ADB and OAU
- (c) A review of the developing international crisis and its implications for Africa: Report and recommendations of the Technical Preparatory Committee of the Whole
- (d) Proposals for the formulation and implementation of a programme for the Industrial Development Decade in Africa: Report and recommendations of the Technical Preparatory Committee of the Whole
- (e) Implementation of the Regional Food Plan for Africa: Progress, problems and prospects: Report and recommendations of the Technical Preparatory Committee of the Whole

37. The representatives of the following States members of the Commission made statements in the general debate: Burundi, the Congo, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Nigeria, Rwanda, Tunisia, the United Republic of Tanzania, Zaire, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

38. The representative of Burundi recalled that his country was among the African countries suffering from a litany of ills: land-lockedness, desertification, worsening terms of trade, over-population, etc. Burundi was also one of the African least developed countries.

39. He stated that ECA had taken many steps in recent years to make African countries aware of the continental dimensions of the problems of underdevelopment, and that awareness had culminated in the adoption of the Lagos Plan of Action. After stressing that the Plan had to be implemented at all levels - regional, subregional and national - he pointed out that the MULPOCs had been called upon to play a major role in the implementation of the Lagos Plan of Action. At the same time, he deplored the fact that the MULPOCs were not provided with adequate staff and lacked financial resources. He appealed to UNDP and other donors to provide financial support for the implementation of MULPOC projects. His country was very much interested in the system of Preferential Trade Area such as the one established in Eastern and Southern Africa and expressed the hope that UNDP and other donors would assist in setting up the Central African Economic Community as proposed in the Libreville Declaration.

40. The representative of the Congo stated that the situation prevailing in Africa was cause for concern; in fact, African economies were marked by greater dependence on foreign countries, increased foreign debt, deteriorating terms of trade, slower growth rates, rural exodus, increased unemployment and many other ills. The crisis was particularly serious in a continent where the relationship between natural resources and the population was the

most favourable. The economic development of Africa could take place only by gradually but firmly breaking the ties with the world market to make development more inward-looking. The African market would thus have to be won and priority would have to be given to satisfying the needs of the African masses while taking into account the Lagos Plan of Action.

41. Referring to the World Bank report on accelerated development in sub-Saharan Africa, he stated that the collective response by Africans to the report was encouraging. African Governors of the Bank had recognized at Dakar that the report, which the Africans themselves had called for, contained some positive elements but it also contained some blatant contradictions with the Lagos Plan of Action, particularly with regard to the report's recommendation concerning export strategies based on export-oriented agriculture and its treatment of the public sector.

42. He then recalled the Libreville Declaration which recommended the establishment of a Central African Economic Community, an idea which demonstrated the application of the Lagos Plan of Action. In that regard he appealed to UNDP to provide increased financial assistance to the Yaounde MULPOC whose projects for the period 1982-1986 were of primary importance for the collective development of the economies of the Central African subregion. He also referred to his country's five-year plan which had just been launched and which had been based on the principles and philosophy of the Lagos Plan of Action and stressed that, if the Lagos Plan of Action was to succeed, sacrifices and compromises would be necessary and micro-nationalism would have to be abandoned.

43. The representative of the Revolutionary People's Republic of Guinea stated that he considered all the meeting's agenda items to fall within the scope of the implementation of the Lagos Plan of Action. However, it was unfortunate that, in view of the many difficulties encountered by Africa, a certain skepticism had arisen with regard to the efforts being made by Africans to liberate themselves from underdevelopment.

44. He noted that Africa had accumulated a vast wealth of experience and know-how and that it was time to proceed to a form of co-operation that would accelerate the development of the continent. He added that all human resources should be used judiciously for the development of Africa and appealed for solidarity among Africans. On behalf of all West African States, he commended the work done in that subregion by the Niamey MULPOC and stated that it was time to respond to the challenge of incompetence by having Africa rely first of all on its own physical and human resources to overcome underdevelopment. He appealed to UNDP and other aid donors to assist in the work of the MULPOCs.

45. He then gave an account of the development efforts and orientation of his country. It was well known that, in view of the importance of agriculture, his Government had given it priority. Over 70 per cent of school children were concentrating on agriculture-related subjects and in addition to the Ministry of Agriculture per se, a special Ministry had been established to deal specifically with agro-pastoral holdings. However, it was not a question of developing agriculture at the expense of industry

or vice versa. The fact was that both sectors needed each other. Hence, the importance of joint development of agriculture and industry as the basis of self-reliant and self-sustaining development, the only form of development that could respond to the political aspirations and socio-economic objectives of the people.

46. The representative of Guinea-Bissau said that the magnitude and duration of the international economic crisis showed that any effective and long-lasting solution would depend on the establishment of a new relationship between developed and developing countries, based on justice, equality and mutual advantage. Unfortunately, the developed countries, although apparently aware of that requirement, did not really accept its implications in international negotiations. For that reason, negotiations had never led to tangible results, and the problems were getting worse. It was deplorable that, eight years after the United Nations General Assembly resolutions on the new international economic order and the Charter of Economic Rights and Duties of States, African countries were still suffering from the enormity of the ever increasing gulf between rich countries and developing countries combined with the effect of a population explosion in the third world. In other words, in spite of hundreds of speeches, reports, meetings, conferences, joint commissions and tons of documents, the results were still negative.

47. The Lagos Plan of Action, designed and drawn up by experts on the African economy, contained positive features and guide-lines for the self-reliant and self-sustaining development of African economies. The existing economic order must be fought with energy and without hesitation in order to attain a new, more equitable order that would benefit all. Otherwise, Africa would be comprised only of countries that were externally oriented and served the interests of the developed world.

48. The representative of Nigeria said that it was clear from the Survey of Economic and Social Conditions in Africa 1980-1981, prepared by the secretariat, that economic and social development in Africa still had a long way to go. She fully shared the concern expressed by the OAU, ECA and ADB secretariats with regard to the World Bank report; any strategy that did not encompass the entire continent was unrealistic. In addition, African countries could not be diverted from the implementation of the Lagos Plan of Action. The African Governors of the World Bank would continue to study the Bank report and, in so doing, would take into account the comments of the three secretariats. Since the report did contain some positive features, it should be left to member States to take appropriate action on them.

49. With regard to the developing international crisis and its implications for Africa, most of the policy measures for dealing with the resulting problems were included in the Lagos Plan of Action. The need for African countries to exercise sovereignty over their natural resources and use them for the benefit of their people could not be over-emphasized.

50. Earlier efforts in the field of industrialization had yielded minimal benefits since it had been based largely on import substitution. To maximize those benefits, new strategies were needed, such as those based on the use of local resources. To that end, a resource survey of the whole country had recently been carried out in Nigeria. Industrialization was regarded as a sine qua non for sustained self-reliant development, and the Nigerian Government had therefore decided to set up a national co-ordinating committee to provide direction in implementing and monitoring the programme of the Industrial Development Decade for Africa.

51. Nigeria also supported the aim of African food self-sufficiency by the year 2000, and had begun to implement the Green Revolution programme, which gave the highest priority to food production. She was optimistic that food self-sufficiency would be achieved by the end of the current plan period. Nigeria recognized the importance of the integration of women in development, and research had been commissioned on the situation of women in the country and on laws and customs affecting women. She herself was Minister of National Planning, and two other women had been appointed as Ministers of State. Finally, she referred to the unsatisfactory situation of ECA-sponsored institutions, and urged member States to meet their financial obligations.

52. The representative of Rwanda underscored the fact that it was the least developed countries and particularly those which were also land-locked which bore the brunt of the consequences of the international economic crisis. He stressed the fact that African countries had committed themselves to the implementation of the Lagos Plan of Action and that they must be vigilant not to deviate from the Monrovia Strategy on which the Plan was based. He deplored the World Bank report on sub-Saharan Africa and said that, if followed, it would mean that Africa would for ever remain at the periphery of the world economy.

53. Turning to some of the agenda items, he stated that Rwanda attached great importance to African industrialization and fully supported the strategy of the Industrial Development Decade. Later in the year, his country would host a meeting of the Follow-up Committee, a subsidiary organ of the Conference of African Ministers of Industry, to discuss industrial projects. On the Regional Food Plan for Africa, he said that his country's national plan was in general conformity with its requirements. However, he expressed misgivings about the increasing number of multi-national institutions to which African countries were being asked to make contributions since those contributions were a serious burden. For that reason, his country could not support the creation of the Institute for future studies, proposed by the secretariat (see E/ECA/TPCW.3/2). Similarly, his country did not support the establishment of the buffer fund referred to in that document. Moreover, it could not accept membership of the Governing Council of IFORD since Rwanda was not yet a signatory to the agreement by which the Institute had been set up.

54. The representative of Tunisia said that, in view of the deterioration in the world economic situation and its repercussions on Africa, Africans should rely on themselves and on their own resources, along the lines indicated in the Lagos Plan of Action. However, all international agencies including the World Bank should support the implementation of the Plan. Africans needed greater frankness and objectivity and should no longer place total responsibility for the present economic crisis on external factors. In that connexion, they should subordinate national interests to those of the entire African region so as to promote economic integration. In that regard there was need to change people's mentality. Similarly, every effort should be made to bring about co-operation in industry and, as Tunisia was doing, establish joint ventures with neighbouring and other African countries. Special attention should also be given to the agricultural sector and to improving the conditions of the rural population with a view to improving the food situation. Finally, he expressed his appreciation of the PADIS programme; his country was prepared to support that programme, as well as the creation of a subregional centre for North Africa. He was glad to note that the North African MULPOC had restarted its activities, but stressed that it required more human and financial resources.

55. The representative of the United Republic of Tanzania pointed out that the Lagos Plan of Action and the Final Act of Lagos provided a solid framework for bringing about economic and social development in Africa. The task ahead was to translate the Plan into concrete action at the national, subregional and regional levels. He emphasized the fact that the deteriorating economic and social situation of Africa was primarily due to exogenous factors and that was why Africa was taking issue with the World Bank report on sub-Saharan Africa, which laid all the blame for the present crisis on internal factors. It was meaningless to produce more raw materials if they were to be sold at give-away prices. Similarly, the euphoria for the magic role of the private sector was at best a misplaced abstraction.

56. He reiterated the view of his delegation that Africa, through its established institutions, should continue to elaborate on its own perceptions at both the regional and the national levels in order to facilitate the implementation of the Lagos Plan of Action. It was therefore important for ECA and its institutions to strengthen their capabilities regarding the interpretation and articulation of the Lagos Plan. However, there was need for rational institution building rather than proliferation. He stressed the importance of economic co-operation among African countries as a vehicle for implementing the Lagos Plan of Action. Africa was ripe for evolving a dynamic development process through co-operation and the historic task of institutions like ECA and OAU in that regard was to identify all possible areas in which co-operation was feasible and could be instituted quickly. It was necessary to base all co-operation efforts on unreserved political will.

57. The representative of Zaire referred to the continuing deterioration in the economic situation of Africa and stressed that the necessity for co-operation among African countries had never been greater. He said that assistance from the international community was welcome, provided it was given in the context of the Lagos Plan of Action. His country had always

been a firm supporter of African co-operation and integration, and it was a signatory to the recent Libreville Declaration of Intent to create a Central African Economic Community. Zaire also gave solid support to the Gisenyi-based MULPOC believing that, in conformity with the Lagos Plan of Action, the MULPOCs would provide a solid basis for subregional common markets and ultimately for an African common market.

58. He commended the secretariat on its efforts to promote PADIS but cautioned against possible duplication of the work being done under the Transport and Communications Decade in Africa, especially as it related to telecommunications. Lastly, he recalled with appreciation the recent official visit to Zaire of the Executive Secretary of the Commission, during which a number of projects for promoting intra-African co-operation had been discussed and agreed upon.

59. The representative of Zambia, speaking also in his capacity as Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Eastern and Southern African MULPOC, said that the greatest achievement in economic co-operation in Eastern and Southern African subregion was the establishment of the Preferential Trade Area (PTA). The Treaty establishing the PTA embodied the aspirations and resolve of the Governments and peoples of the region to combat hunger, disease and ignorance. In the PTA, the region had an effective tool to continue the struggle for economic independence and the fight against apartheid and colonialism through regional co-operation and integration. The PTA also constituted a significant step towards the ultimate establishment of an African common market.

60. He said that the Eastern and Southern African MULPOC had proved its usefulness. Its role in the establishment of the PTA as well as in the development of other subregional programmes had been highly appreciated by the States of the subregion and in that regard he paid tribute to the Executive Secretary for his untiring efforts in promoting subregional co-operation and integration. The Council of Ministers of the Lusaka-based MULPOC, at its meeting held in Lusaka from 23 to 25 March 1982, had established priorities to ensure the accelerated integration of the subregion. Those priorities were agriculture, industry, transport and communications, manpower development, natural resources, social development and trade promotion.

61. The representative of Zimbabwe expressed concern for the worsening world economic environment. He noted that the developed countries were in the grip of a depression while Africa was experiencing an acute economic recession on all fronts, with unabated declines in production, increases in unemployment and an overwhelming level of indebtedness. To cope with the problems, various approaches had been advanced including the Lagos Plan of Action, the World Bank report on accelerated development in sub-Saharan Africa and the Cancun Conference. However, Africa's dedication was to the Lagos Plan of Action, which was important because it was Africa's own well considered approach and strategy for economic justice. As for the World Bank report, it was clear that Africa could not continue to be the provider of raw materials and a market for manufactured goods.

62. On regional co-operation efforts, he referred to the participation of his country in the Southern African Development Co-ordination Conference (SADCC), which also contributed to the realization of the Lagos Plan of Action at the subregional and regional levels.

63. In addition, he informed the meeting that his country had been, from the very outset, committed to the PTA for Eastern and Southern African countries although it had not signed the PTA Treaty in December 1981 because the Government had needed time to give the Treaty thought. It had now decided to do so. Further, he stressed his country's recognition of the important co-ordination and catalytic role of the MULPOCs. There was no contradiction between the MULPOC and the other subregional organizations in the area. It was therefore imperative for the United Nations General Assembly to be convinced of the important functions of the MULPOCs and to make adequate provision for them under the regular budget. UNDP should also find ways to continue its support for the MULPOCs.

64. In conclusion, he informed the Conference that Zimbabwe's three-year transitional national development plan was near completion. The plan was faithful to the Lagos Plan of Action and the Final Act of Lagos with its main thrust directed towards the removal of the colonial economic imbalances based on race. Zimbabwe had deliberately chosen the socialist way because the struggle for liberation was decidedly a people's struggle and, hence, the subsequent economic transformation had to be a people's effort.

65. Statements were also made by observers for the following States Members of the United Nations not members of the Commission: Federal Republic of Germany, France, India, the Netherlands, Romania, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the United Kingdom.

66. The observer for the Federal Republic of Germany stated that his presence at the Conference made it possible for his country to gain direct insight into African problems. It believed in the equitable distribution of wealth between the industrialized and the developing countries and hence its participation in the North-South dialogue aimed at the establishment of a global non-discriminatory economic order from which all States could gain. His country attached great importance to the Commission's work in Africa, including its efforts at promoting economic and technical co-operation. He cited figures to indicate that his country continued to provide substantial bilateral assistance to African countries and to multilateral agencies such as UNDP, which would receive DM 114 million in 1982.

67. In spite of the world economic situation, bilateral trade between the Federal Republic of Germany and Africa had increased in 1981 as had private investments in Africa with the concomitant transfer of skills and capital.

68. He stressed the applicability of the GATT rules to developing countries and stated that the sixth session of UNCTAD should constitute another milestone in North-South relations. His country supported the Common Fund for Commodities and the Nairobi Programme of Action as tools for the development of Africa. He concluded by calling for joint action by developed and developing countries to solve the problems of the African region.

69. The observer for France said that, whilst no group of countries had escaped from the current economic crisis, Africa was undoubtedly suffering the most. Nevertheless, the crisis had made Africa understand that it was futile to rely on the outside world. Despite the difficulties encountered, a beginning had been made in the implementation of the Lagos Plan of Action with such important achievements as the establishment of the Preferential Trade Area for Eastern and Southern Africa and the Libreville Declaration on the establishment of a Central African Economic Community.

70. While underlining the fruitful co-operation that existed between France and ECA in the fields of new and renewable sources of energy, remote sensing, PADIS and rail transport, he was pleased that ECA was becoming more operational and hoped that the United Nations would provide the necessary resources for the effective decentralization of responsibilities.

71. His main criticism of the World Bank report despite its undesirable richness and interest, was that it did not take fully into account the spirit of the Lagos Plan of Action; there was an imbalance in the allocation of responsibility for the African situation between the African countries and the outside world; and with regard to agriculture and self-sufficiency in food, it was up to each sovereign State to determine what combination of the various policies would be most beneficial to the country.

72. France would continue to extend assistance to African countries and had vowed to double its ODA between 1980 and 1988 since it believed that ODA was the best form of assistance for African countries south of the Sahara and, from 1985, it would devote 0.15 per cent of its GNP to the least developed countries. Africa was now the recipient of more than 80 per cent of France's bilateral assistance.

73. The observer for India stated that, by attending sessions of the Commission, his country wished to demonstrate its solidarity with Africa and other developing countries which shared similar problems. His country emphasized the importance of global negotiations because it believed that the deep economic crisis afflicting Africa and the other developing countries could be solved only in a world context. He therefore saw the need for African countries to step up intra-African co-operation and intensify South-South technical and economic co-operation, as stressed in the recent consultations at New Delhi. As an example of his country's solidarity with Africa, he recalled that India had been the first non-African country to contribute to the United Nations Trust Fund for African Development. Referring to the dynamic technical co-operation programme which India had with other developing countries, he identified a number of specific areas in which India could co-operate with Africa for their mutual benefit.

74. India had imported and adapted technology in the past 30 years, as well as developed its own indigenous technology. As a result, it now had a sound technological base for development, and a vast reservoir of expertise, know-how and trained manpower, all of which it had been sharing and would continue to share with other developing countries under its Indian technical

and economic co-operation programme. There was therefore ample scope for developing or intensifying horizontal co-operation between India and Africa with the assistance of ECA.

75. The application of technology to food and agricultural production had been beneficial to India since not only was India now in a position to feed its teeming population, but it was already exporting cereals. In that connexion, he believed that the information shown on the map attached to the secretariat's document on the progress, problems and prospects of implementing the Regional Food Plan (E/ECA/CM.8/12) did not reflect the actual situation in India. Agriculture was an important sector where African countries could benefit from the experience of India.

76. In conclusion, the observer for India confirmed that his country would step up its economic and technical co-operation with Africa and that ECA had a strong role to play in such expanded co-operation.

77. The observer for the Netherlands noted the good relationships that existed between his country and several African countries. Although it had become increasingly difficult for the Netherlands to maintain its present level of assistance, his country had decided to retain 1.5 per cent of its national income as its target for development co-operation. As part of its special assistance to Africa, the Government of the Netherlands had pledged 2 million guilders, about \$US 800,000 to the ECA programme of work for the 1980-1981 biennium; at present, it was considering the possibility and desirability of making another financial contribution in 1982.

78. In conclusion, he informed the meeting that in assessing the desirability of making any contribution for a special project of the Commission, an essential consideration would be whether or not there was a clear indication of support from national Governments.

79. The observer for Romania said that the present meeting was taking place under complex and contradictory international circumstances characterized by the arms race, the persistence of economic underdevelopment, the widening of gaps between States and unjust economic relations. Romania, which was a developing country itself, considered that the present international economic crisis could not be solved by partial and one-sided measures; a profound restructuring of international economic relations was necessary. It was important to begin global negotiations within the United Nations. Developed countries should end the policy of high interest rates, which was aggravating the current imbalance in the world economic order.

80. He emphasized the importance of the solidarity and unity of action of the Group of 77. Romania was taking concrete steps to implement the Caracas Programme within the framework of actions by the Group of 77 aimed at strengthening economic co-operation among developing countries. He invited African countries to the meeting on the training of qualified personnel for industry, which his country would host in May 1982. He finally underlined the importance Romania attached to the development of trade and co-operation with African countries.

81. The observer for the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics said that the present session was taking place at a time when conditions in the international environment were not conducive to the successful accomplishment of the tasks facing ECA, namely the acceleration of socio-economic development and the establishment of economic, scientific and technical co-operation among African countries. He said that imperialist forces were undermining détente and accelerating the arms race, and the Soviet Union was unswervingly following the course of durable peace and co-operation among nations regardless of their social and political systems.

82. The restructuring of international economic relations should be carried out on a democratic and equitable basis and should be supported by progressive social and economic transformations in the developing countries. It would be useful for the Commission to undertake a study of the outflow of financial resources and skilled personnel from the region, arising from the activities of transnational corporations and imperialist forces.

83. He informed the meeting that his country had provided assistance to Africa through ECA by organizing training courses in the transport, mineral and trade areas. His country had recently handed over to the secretariat a number of geological survey maps and oil and gas deposit maps of Africa, with explanatory notes attached.

84. He concluded by indicating that his country was ready to prepare studies on prospects for co-operation between the USSR and African countries in the development and utilization of mineral resources, the basic trends of commodity policies of African countries and problems and methods and economic consequences of integrating mineral resources in over-all development activities. It was also prepared to offer to ECA expert services in such critical areas as the development and utilization of natural resources in the national interest, interregional co-operation in the fields of trade and transport, and rational distribution and development of industrial activities.

85. The observer for the United Kingdom informed the meeting that his Government had studied the Lagos Plan of Action and had, as a consequence, a clearer idea of African aspirations and perceptions. It had also studied the World Bank report. Despite his country's economic difficulties, the Government was committed to maintaining a substantial programme of assistance to Africa. He outlined the nature and volume of assistance as well as the role played by the private sector. Although the assistance programmes were determined by the development priorities of recipient Governments, certain areas of great importance to the least developed countries had been identified. They included agricultural research, water supply, sanitation and preventive health care, energy resource planning and population programmes.

86. Representatives of the following United Nations bodies also spoke during the General debate: Office of the Director-General for Development and International Economic Co-operation, United Nations Centre on Transnational Corporations, United Nations Industrial Development Organization, United Nations Development Programme, World Food Council, International Labour

Organisation, Food and Agriculture Organization, International Civil Aviation Organization and International Trade Centre.

87. The Director-General for Development and International Economic Co-operation thought that it would not be going too far to say that Africa was passing through a major crisis affecting production and trade, industry and agriculture, infrastructure and raw materials.

88. The adoption of the Lagos Plan of Action bore witness to the commitment of Heads of State and Government to face the challenge that such a situation constituted. They should do everything to overcome, by themselves, the obstacles to economic development, although that did not mean that external assistance was unnecessary. To meet the crisis, international co-operation needed to be restructured, deepened and extended at all levels. As part of the fundamental role of the United Nations and ECA in overcoming the crisis, it was necessary to ensure that the follow-up to the Lagos Plan of Action and the review and evaluation process of the International Development Strategy for the third United Nations Development Decade complemented and strengthened each other.

89. He repeated his undertaking to contribute to the attainment of the objectives of the restructuring resolutions concerning the strengthening of the regional commissions. In that connexion, he referred to the role to be played by the MULPOCs in promoting economic co-operation and regional and subregional integration, provided that they received the necessary support.

90. African development efforts should not be restricted to food production, and infrastructure, but should also include the implementation of the recommendations of the United Nations Conference on New and Renewable Sources of Energy and industrial development, in conformity with the objectives of the Lima Declaration, and should be supported by broader and more integrated programming. As far as the problems of the African least developed countries were concerned, he informed the meeting of the activities undertaken within the framework of the Substantial New Programme of Action and he noted that external assistance to those countries would depend essentially on the resources available to the multilateral development agencies.

91. The representative of the United Nations Centre on Transnational Corporations said that, in the 1980s, the interaction between developing countries and transnational corporations was bound to increase in diversity and complexity. The Lagos Plan of Action called for a rigorous examination and monitoring of the role of transnational corporations to ensure that their activities were compatible with the development strategies of States. Thus, the challenge for the ECA region was to improve the capabilities of member countries in dealing with such corporations, which would to a large extent depend on their knowledge of the options available to them.

92. The Inter-governmental Working Group on the Code of Conduct for transnationals was scheduled to submit a draft Code to the 48-member Commission on Transnational Corporations in August-September 1982. The structure

which the Working Group had adopted for the Code comprised a chapter on the definition and scope of the Code; activities of transnationals; the treatment of transnational corporations in the host country; inter-governmental co-operation; and implementation. However, difficulties still remained unsolved regarding definition and treatment of transnationals in particular.

93. The Centre on Transnational Corporations, for its part, provided advisory, training, research and information services. It had responded to requests for advisory services and training workshops in a number of African countries and one important research project of interest to Africa related to the role of transnational corporations in primary export commodities.

94. In conclusion, he was sure that the Code of Conduct, together with an objective demystification of transnationals, would contribute significantly to the development of member States.

95. The Executive Director of UNIDO said that the diversity of agenda items before the meeting reflected the breadth of the problems facing Africa. Those problems constituted a major economic crisis for the continent. In the face of that situation, the development of Africa's natural and human resources was of cardinal importance. In that context, the Industrial Development Decade for Africa was of primary interest to UNIDO.

96. He recalled that the main objective of the Lagos Plan of Action was to ensure a rapid improvement in the well-being of the African people, and indicated that the industrial sector was the major sectoral engine for achieving the necessary growth and development in view of its linkages with the other sectors. It was of crucial importance to realize, however, that the strategy of self-reliance in industrialization implied the use of domestic resources and maximum reduction in dependence on external factor inputs and resources.

97. Nevertheless, in Africa, the least developed of the developing regions, an increased flow of external financial resources for accelerated industrialization was essential. For that reason, the sixth meeting of the Conference of African Ministers of Industry had been right to call on the UNIDO Industrial Development Board to convene an inter-governmental conference to consider the establishment of an International Bank for Industrial Development.

98. Co-operation between UNIDO, ECA and OAU was fundamental to the success of the Decade. To promote that co-operation, a joint committee of the corresponding secretariats had been established in November 1981; it would be concerned with assistance on substantive aspects and would also assist in the monitoring of the implementation of the Decade programme.

99. The value of the technical assistance delivered by UNIDO to Africa had reached the record level of \$US 34.3 million in 1981, but that contribution was a very modest one in the light of Africa's huge requirements. UNIDO was eager to do more, and he looked forward to its forthcoming conversion

into a United Nations specialized agency and therefore urged those African countries that had not already done so to ratify the new UNIDO constitution. Finally, he referred to the Regional Consultation Meeting on Agricultural Machinery, held at Addis Ababa from 5 to 9 April 1982, which indicated the kind of assistance that UNIDO could offer for industrialization in Africa.

100. The Assistant Administrator of UNDP and Director, Regional Bureau for Africa, referring to co-operation between UNDP and ECA, said that one recent major example was the joint preparation of the UNDP regional programme for Africa for the 1982-1986 programming cycle. Among UNDP executing agencies, ECA occupied second place, after FAO, in the volume of projects financed by UNDP in the African region. One of the main common concerns of UNDP and ECA, as also of the Joint Inspection Unit, was that of the future of the MULPOCs. The conclusion reached by the joint UNDP/ECA missions sent to evaluate the work of those bodies was that the MULPOCs should be able to continue their activities with the funds provided by the regular budget while UNDP should finance purely operational activities; it was only in that way that UNDP could continue its association with ECA in that field.

101. Preparation of the UNDP regional programme for 1982-1986 had been rendered difficult by the large number of requests for assistance that had been received. The priorities for that programme had been fixed in 1980 by the Conference of Ministers, but no detailed programme had been prepared for energy and industry. In the energy field, UNDP had undertaken to assist OAU in setting up the African Energy Commission. As far as industry was concerned, provision had been made to finance projects under the Industrial Development Decade for Africa. Provision had also been made for financing projects in the field of food security. Those subregions, such as Southern Africa, that had benefited only to a limited extent from regional funds during the two previous programming cycles, would be given a larger share of those resources during 1982-1986.

102. Member States should remember that there was no reason why national funds should not be used to finance a regional project. UNDP also recommended that African inter-governmental organizations should share costs; that would increase the likelihood of UNDP financing their programmes.

103. In conformity with the Nairobi recommendations on technical co-operation among African countries, and the Conference of Ministers resolution on the need for progress reports, UNDP had asked all African Governments for information on the progress made in that field. Few States had so far replied, but he hoped that more replies would be received after the Conference; that would enable UNDP to prepare the report required for the next meeting of the OAU Assembly of Heads of State and Government. The conference of African experts on technical co-operation among African countries, which UNDP had promised to organize, was scheduled to be held in Libreville, Gabon, from 2 to 12 August 1982.

104. With regard to the implementation of the Lagos Plan of Action, he welcomed the steps taken to establish large subregional organizations and the progress made in developing a number of major river basins. However,

the Plan should be the concern, above all, of each individual Government, and methods of evaluating its implementation by each of them did not seem to have been clearly defined. The Lagos Plan of Action gave priority to African food self-sufficiency; in his view, Africa possessed everything that was necessary to achieve that end, but there was a risk of failure if the condition of the rural population was not improved. Rural development must therefore be promoted and the flight from the land halted. In particular, he appealed to Governments to pay greater attention to the electrification of the rural areas, which would bring a whole series of benefits in its train.

105. The observer for WFC stated that more than ever before there was a need for an intensified and continuing effort to reverse the unfavourable trend in the African food situation, for the analysis of African problems revealed a constant deterioration in food production on the continent whose rate of growth was far outstripped by population growth. The decline in per capita food production had been 7 per cent in the 1960s, but 15 per cent in the 1970s. The outlook for the 1980s was grim, and hunger and malnutrition during the 1980s could be expected to become far more widespread. An assessment undertaken by WFC had revealed the serious inadequacy of efforts in the African food sector by all concerned. The deteriorating food trends in Africa, which were causing great suffering in human and economic terms, critically required urgent remedial measures.

106. Resolving Africa's food problem would take much more concerted action by African Governments and by development agencies and entailed higher priority for food and for policies and resources to back that priority.

107. To encourage higher priority and a more integrated approach to food issues at the national level, the Council had encouraged developing countries to adopt national food strategies as a means of strengthening their food policies and stepping up resource flows to the food sector for increased food production, improved consumption and food security. Over 20 of the 50 developing countries that were formulating food strategies with assistance mobilized by the World Food Council were in Africa.

108. WFC had succeeded in de-linking the Food Aid Convention from International Grains Negotiations and Africa received nearly half of total food aid. A joint WFC/FAO proposal to IMF for the establishment of a Food Financing Facility had now been approved by the IMF Board of Governors and two countries (one of them an African country) had already benefited from it. In conclusion, he said that WFC would continue to do all possible within its mandate and within the framework of the Lagos Plan of Action to help Africa in overcoming its critical food problem.

109. The observer for ILO recalled that his organization had always collaborated fully with African Governments and ECA in seeking a solution to the problems facing Africa and had consistently adapted its programmes to changing development trends and concepts of Africa. Specifically, ILO had reformulated its medium-term plan for 1982-1987 to take into account the requirements of the Lagos Plan of Action.

110. ILO was involved in many of the sectors covered in the Plan. While it did not deal with agriculture per se, it placed emphasis on rural development, employment and income distribution. It was in the process of determining how its technical co-operation programmes could promote Africa's industrialization and the Industrial Development Decade for Africa. Through its International Institute for Labour Studies, ILO was carrying out a study sponsored by OAU and financed by UNDP on the social consequences of the Lagos Plan of Action.

111. Human resources development in Africa was another area of ILO activity, with special attention being given to the training of vulnerable groups such as women, youth, migrant workers, refugees, members of liberation movements and the disabled.

112. There had been close collaboration between the Lusaka MULPOC and the Organization's Southern African Team for Employment Promotion, and it was hoped that further collaboration between ILO and the MULPOCs might take place. Note had been taken of the Joint Inspection Unit report and ILO hoped to co-operate with ECA and the inter-agency co-ordinating committee in the implementation of the programmes and projects of the Transport and Communications Decade and share its expertise with PADIS.

113. The observer for FAO said that his organization was translating its solid commitment to the Lagos Plan of Action into concrete programmes and projects, including the mobilization of resources for their implementation. Africa was already the focus of attention within FAO since 40 per cent of the budgetary resources of the Organization for the biennium 1982-1983 was for the exclusive benefit of the region. FAO's activities within Africa were being substantially expanded and reoriented in line with the provisions of the Lagos Plan of Action. Thus, priority was being given to food crop production, the prevention of post-harvest food losses, food security, the promotion of national seed production and protection programmes, livestock production, the development and management of fisheries, the development of national capabilities for the collection and use of agricultural statistics and follow-up of the recommendations of the World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development. Strategy review and programme development missions had been mounted in many African countries to assist Governments in formulating appropriate strategies and programmes in the food and agriculture sector. But, while his organization was thus doing its best to expand its substantive programme of assistance in the region, its resources were still grossly inadequate in terms of the magnitude and urgency of the needs in the region. He therefore appealed to member States to reflect the priority that the food and agriculture sector should be accorded in their allocation of domestic and external resources for development.

114. The observer for ICAO stated that, through its Regional Office in Dakar, his organization had been assisting African civil aviation administration in the past 18 years to identify problems on civil aviation. To that end, regional air navigational meetings were organized every five or six years. To help to improve ICAO services to African countries, there was a plan to establish in Nairobi, Kenya, a new regional centre in the near future to cater for the Eastern and Southern African States.

115. With regard to the situation of civil aviation in the region, he recalled his statement at the third meeting of the Technical Preparatory Committee of the Whole and informed the meeting about the findings of International Air Transport Association (IATA) that, in many airports in Africa, approach aids and runway lighting were deficient, and emergency services were weak or non-existent. Similarly, there were air traffic control centres which were unable to control, and flight information centres which were unable to provide information because of defective telecommunications systems as well as areas where aircraft could fly for hours without being able to communicate with the ground because of defective radio facilities. The avoidance of many mid-air near-misses had been due to the initiative and vigilance of pilots.

116. Yet, the air navigation plan drawn up over two years ago had yet to be implemented. The main problem was that most African countries could not afford to provide the facilities needed to improve air safety. He suggested that to avoid duplication of efforts and waste of resources, it was desirable to channel resources for African civil aviation development through ICAO, which had long experience in that field.

117. The observer for the International Trade Centre UNCTAD/GATT informed participants that the Centre was the focal point for United Nations assistance in such fields as trade promotion, rationalization of imports, development of exports and the related training programmes. Within these fields, the Centre had, during 1981, implemented 21 co-operation projects in Africa, of which 17 were national and four regional or subregional. The regional and subregional projects had all been implemented in co-operation with ECA, CEAO and ECOWAS and within the context of the Lagos Plan of Action. Contacts had been established with a number of African countries and with two ECA MULPOCs in the course of implementing those projects. He informed the meeting that a permanent International Trade Centre Liaison Office had been set up at ECA headquarters in Addis Ababa.

118. The observer for one inter-governmental body, the Africa Regional Co-ordinating Committee for the Integration of Women in Development (ARCC), also delivered a statement. In pursuance of resolution 375 (XV) of the sixth meeting of the Conference of Ministers, she reported on the activities of the Committee during the period 1981-1982 and recalled the role of ARCC in guiding, considering and evaluating the activities undertaken in the region with a view to promoting the integration of women in development. At the third meeting of ARCC, held in Douala in March 1982, ECA/ATRCW's activities had been considered, together with the Lagos Plan of Action, the progress of subregional programmes for women of the various MULPOCs, and finally certain specific questions relating to the integration of women.

119. In view of the conference to be held to mark the end of the United Nations Decade for Women, it was necessary to make a start immediately, in collaboration with OAU and the Pan-African Women's Organization, on preparations to ensure the success of that conference. It was in that context that the third Regional Conference on the Integration of Women in Development was to be organized. Similarly, it was intended to carry out

studies and implement programmes at the subregional level with a view, inter alia, to alleviating the food crisis in Africa, and on vocational training, job creation, and the improvement of the living conditions of women refugees.

120. Because of the inadequacy of the financial resources available for implementing those subregional programmes, resources should be decentralized to the MULPOCs, and States should allocate a part of their contribution to UNTFAD to women's programmes. Similarly, subregional programmes for women should remain an integral part of MULPOC activities. Finally, she expressed the wish that greater attention should be paid to women's programmes, and that those programmes should be given a bigger place in national development plans, and in the subregional and regional bodies concerned with the development of human resources.

Report of the seventh meeting of the Conference of Ministers of Trade
(item 10)

121. The Executive Secretary introduced document E/ECA/CM.8/13 containing the report of the Conference of Ministers of Trade on its seventh meeting, and said that the meeting had been organized jointly by ECA and OAU. It had dealt with the implementation of the trade chapter of the Lagos Plan of Action, the promotion of economic co-operation and of trade with the Socialist countries of Eastern Europe, arrangements for the all-Africa trade fair, UNCTAD's common fund agreement and commodity negotiations, preparations for the sixth session of UNCTAD and the launching of global negotiations under the auspices of the United Nations.

122. The Conference had concluded that the implementation of the trade and finance chapter of the Lagos Plan required the establishment of national machineries particularly with a view to increasing the volume and value of intra-African trade. With regard to co-operation, he noted that the Treaty establishing the PTA had now been signed by 11 countries and the representative of Zimbabwe had just indicated that his country would soon sign the Treaty. He pointed out that the first ministerial meeting of PTA would be held in June 1982 in Lusaka. The Conference had welcomed the Libreville Declaration on the establishment of an Economic Community for Central African States, which would cover 11 countries, including inter alia, the UDEAC and CEPGL countries. The countries concerned had established an inter-governmental working group to consider the draft treaty and protocols and he hoped that great progress would be made soon. The Conference had also discussed the debt burden of African countries and the renegotiation of debts, particularly as far as the least developed countries were concerned.

123. The Deputy Secretary-General of UNCTAD, referring to the preparations for the sixth session of UNCTAD, said that, following the decision of the Gabon Government not to host the Conference, the Conference would probably be held in Yugoslavia, but the final decision would be taken at the resumed session of the Trade and Development Board of UNCTAD in May 1982.

124. He also informed the Conference that the Meeting of Senior Officials in respect of the Global System of Trade Preferences (GSTP) among Developing Countries would be held under UNCTAD auspices in Geneva from 19 to 30 July 1982 and urged African countries in particular to participate. Similarly, he apprised the Conference of the outcome of the interregional symposium of State trading organizations (STOs) of developing countries to organize their own African regional STO meeting in order to elaborate modalities for co-operation among their STOs in accordance with the decisions of the African Regional ECDC Meeting held in Addis Ababa in December 1979. Although the funding problems had not been solved, every effort should be made to hold the meeting especially since both Latin America and Asia had held their respective regional meetings.

125. In conclusion, he urged African countries and all other countries which had not already done so to sign and ratify the Common Fund Agreement at the earliest opportunity. The countries which had ratified the Agreement would meet in May 1982 to decide on future action in that area.

126. The meeting took note of the report.

Report of the sixth meeting of the Conference of African Ministers of Industry (item 11)

127. The Executive Secretary introduced the report of the sixth meeting of the Conference of African Ministers of Industry, which had been organized jointly by OAU, UNIDO and ECA at Addis Ababa from 23 to 25 November 1981 (E/ECA/CM.8/2). With regard to the Industrial Development Decade for Africa, proclaimed under General Assembly resolution 35/66 B and OAU resolution CM/Res. 888 (XXXVI), the sponsors had drawn up a comprehensive programme for the Decade in four parts which had been considered by the Technical Preparatory Committee of the Whole after being approved by the Conference of Ministers of Industry.

128. In line with the priorities mentioned by the Executive Director of UNIDO, in his address to the eighth meeting of the Conference of Ministers, the programme focused on the main priorities in the industrial sector such as food processing, chemicals, engineering, construction and small-scale industry. Forward and backward linkages had been emphasized so as to break away from an isolated import-substitution type of strategy. In other words, the programme for the Decade covered those core industries which would lay the foundation for industrial take-off.

129. In accordance with the request made by the Conference of Ministers of Industry, the sponsors had prepared guide-lines for follow-up at the national, subregional and regional levels, which would be considered at the forthcoming meeting of the Follow-up Committee at Kigali.

130. The meeting took note of the report.

Report of the second meeting of the Conference of Ministers of African Least Developed Countries (item 12)

131. The representative of Guinea-Bissau, Chairman of the second meeting of the Conference of Ministers of African Least Developed Countries held at Tripoli from 26 to 28 April 1982, introduced document E/ECA/CM.8/28 containing the report of that meeting.

132. The meeting, which had been attended by 15 African least developed countries, had focused on five topics, namely, a review of current trends and prospects in the African least developed countries; evaluation of the substantial New Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries (SNPA) implications of SNPA for growth and development in the African least developed countries; review of the country presentations of African least developed countries in the light of the Lagos Plan of Action; arrangements for implementation, review and monitoring of the Substantial New Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries; and ECA programme of work for the African least developed countries, 1982-1983.

133. With regard to the second topic, the Conference had regretted that SNPA did not correspond to the aspirations of the least developed countries. The country presentations were found to be generally consistent with the Lagos Plan of Action but needed to be improved with the help of ECA. With regard to follow up, the necessary structures would have to be established for the implementation of the Paris Conference decisions and, in that regard, close co-ordination was essential among UNDP, UNCTAD and ECA in order to ensure the effective implementation of SNPA. With respect to the ECA work programme on least developed countries, the Conference felt that additional resources were required in order to make ECA more operational and appealed to UNDP for assistance in that regard.

134. Finally, the Conference had adopted three resolutions, one on the implementation, follow up and monitoring of SNPA, one on implementation of SNPA within the framework of national and collective self-reliance and one on financing.

135. The meeting took note of the report.

Report and recommendations of the first meeting of the Conference of Ministers Responsible for Human Resources Planning, Development and Utilization (item 13)

136. The Executive Secretary introduced document E/ECA/CM.8/3. The Conference had been organized in response to Conference of Ministers resolution 389 (XV) and had taken place at Monrovia in October 1981. It had been preceded by a Technical Preparatory Meeting, and had dealt with such issues as human resources implications of the Lagos Plan of Action; manpower and employment planning capability; reorienting education systems to the socio-economic needs and challenges of the African region; the development of career planning and educational and vocational guidance and counselling services; African "brain drain" and measures for encouraging the return

of talents to Africa; the performance of, and the need for support for the Expanded Training and Fellowship Programme for Africa; public administration and finance with special reference to the human resource aspects of development administration capability; the terms of reference of the Commission's institutional machinery for co-ordinating and harmonizing policies and programmes in the field of human resources; and specific project proposals for action.

137. The meeting took note of the report.

Report and recommendations of the Technical Preparatory Committee of the Whole (item 14)

138. The Chairman of the third meeting of the Technical Preparatory Committee of the Whole introduced the report and recommendations of that Committee (document E/ECA/CM.8/31 and Corr.1). He said that the report had been adopted unanimously by the Committee as had 27 draft resolutions attached to it. That, he said, indicated how seriously the Committee had taken its business.

139. However, he referred to draft resolution E/ECA/CM.8/L.10 (contained in annex I of the report of the Technical Preparatory Committee of the Whole the World Bank report entitled "Accelerated development in sub-Saharan Africa An agenda for action" on which reservations had been expressed by some delegations which did not want any reference made to resolution CM/Res. 921 (XXXVIII) of the OAU Council of Ministers. That matter had been referred to the Conference for a decision. Another matter for decision concerned the venue of the next meeting of the Conference of Ministers, which was to have been held in Maputo at the invitation of the Government of Mozambique, but which the Committee had now felt should be held at ECA headquarters in Addis Ababa in view of the fact that the Commission would be celebrating its Silver Jubilee in 1983. It had been hoped that Mozambique might have attended the Conference and its agreement to the change of venue obtained.

140. Concerning the report itself, one participant said that the report must be amended to ensure that the current names of countries were expressed correctly.

141. The representative of Rwanda referred to paragraph 155 of the report and said that it should be amended to take cognizance of the fact that his country would not be represented on the Governing Council of IFORD. The representative of Guinea-Bissau informed the meeting that the Comoros had been nominated to replace Rwanda on the Governing Council of IFORD.

142. The representative of Morocco and the representative of the Revolutionary People's Republic of Guinea objected to the reference to OAU resolution CM/Res. 921 (XXXVIII) in paragraph 33 of the report.

143. The representative of Senegal referred to paragraph 36 of the report and said that it was incorrect to say that the World Bank, by confining its report to sub-Saharan Africa, had deliberately wanted to divide Africa. The truth was that it had been requested to do so by the African Governors of

the World Bank and IMF. To reflect that historical truth, he proposed, and the Conference agreed, that the first two sentences of that paragraph should be replaced by the following sentence "A number of representatives pointed out that such a report should have covered the whole of the African continent, and consequently deplored the fact that it had covered only sub-Saharan Africa".

144. The representative of Mali said that at the meeting of the Governors of the World Bank and IMF held in Dakar in March 1982, a memorandum had been adopted, and it had been decided that any subsequent discussions of the subject should take cognizance of that memorandum. He regretted that that memorandum had not been made available to the Technical Preparatory Committee of the Whole.

145. In his capacity as Chairman of the Group I African countries, the representative of Sierra Leone confirmed what the representatives of Senegal and Mali had said.

146. The representative of Uganda stated that his country was still studying the World Bank report, and therefore reserved judgement on it.

147. At the instance of the observer for UNFSSTD, it was agreed that paragraph 80 of the report should read as follows: The representative of the United Nations Financing System for Science and Technology for Development (UNFSSTD) said that by resolution 36/183 the General Assembly had inter alia decided to establish the long-term arrangements of UNFSSTD; which were to become operative from 1 January 1982, and that the resources and programmes of the Interim Fund should be transferred to UNFSSTD as of that date. 1982 would be considered a transitional year during which a pledging conference should be held in the first quarter and an ad hoc Intergovernmental Group of the Whole should meet in March and April 1982 to negotiate the long-term arrangements for UNFSSTD.

148. With respect to paragraph 158, the Executive Secretary informed the meeting that, since the arrival of the Deputy Minister of Planning of Zimbabwe, the delegation of Zimbabwe and the secretariat had discussed and agreed that the paragraph should omit any reference to the consultative meeting of experts said to have met in Zimbabwe in February 1982. As a result of the agreement, the delegation of Zimbabwe had agreed to withdraw its reservation. The Deputy Minister of Planning of Zimbabwe confirmed the statement made by the Executive Secretary.

149. The representative of Kenya, referring to paragraph 242, stated that his country must not be included as being on either side of the dispute at the OAU Ministerial Conference in Addis Ababa since his country's President, as current Chairman of OAU, could not take sides. Therefore, the name of Kenya should not be associated with those of the countries which objected to reference to OAU resolution 921 (XXXVIII) in resolution E/ECA/CM.8/L.10.

150. After a fruitful exchange of views on draft resolution E/ECA/CM.3/L.10 - World Bank report entitled "Accelerated Development in sub-Saharan Africa: An agenda for action" the Conference decided to adopt a Declaration on the report to be called "Declaration of Tripoli on the World Bank report entitled 'Accelerated development in sub-Saharan Africa: An agenda for action'", instead of a resolution (see chapter IV below).

151. The representative of Uganda commented that the contents of draft resolution E/ECA/CM.3/L.29 - Worsening of the economic crisis and its adverse consequences for Africa - did not reflect the main observations of the Committee on the secretariat paper on the subject matter.

152. The representative of Mali made general observations on draft resolutions E/ECA/CM.3/L.22 - African Institute for Future Studies; E/ECA/CM.3/L.11 - Combating desertification in Africa; and E/ECA/CM.3/L.4 - United Nations Transport and Communications Decade in Africa. It was his view that, instead of creating a new institution as envisaged in the case of future studies, it would be better to strengthen existing ones. Similarly, instead of creating a new inter-governmental group of experts to deal with desertification, existing institutions which dealt with the problem should be used. As far as satellite communications were concerned, it was his view that the Pan-African Telecommunications Union (PATU), a specialized agency of the Organization of African Unity, should be the co-ordinating agency.

153. The representative of Zaire proposed that, at the end of operative paragraph 7 of draft resolution E/ECA/CM.3/L.5 - The African Institute for Economic Development and Planning, the following should be added "which would inform member States about the distribution of fellowships according to criteria which would first be worked out and approved by member States".

154. With respect to draft resolution E/ECA/CM.3/L.24 - Silver Jubilee Anniversary of the Economic Commission for Africa, the representative of the United Republic of Cameroon proposed that the second preambular paragraph should read only as follows Recalling further Economic and Social Council resolution 671A (XXV) of 29 April 1953, which established the Economic Commission for Africa" and said that the words "Calls upon" in operative paragraph 2 should be changed to "Requests".

155. The Conference then endorsed the report of the Committee (E/ECA/CM.3/31 and Corr.1), subject to the amendments proposed above.

Other matters (item 15)

156. No matters were raised under this agenda item.

Date and place of the ninth meeting of the Conference of Ministers and the fourth meeting of the Technical Preparatory Committee of the Whole (item 16)

157. The Conference decided that its ninth meeting (eighteenth session of the Commission, which was also the Silver Jubilee Anniversary session of the Commission) and the fourth meeting of the Technical Preparatory Committee of

the Whole should be held at the headquarters of the Commission, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, during the month of April 1983 (see resolution 455 (XVII) - Silver Jubilee Anniversary of the Economic Commission for Africa - operative paragraph 1 in chapter V below,

Adoption of the report of the meeting (item 17)

158. The draft report was introduced by the Rapporteur who briefly reviewed its structure and stressed that the focus of the report had been the decisions and recommendations of the meeting.

159. The Conference adopted the present report on the work of the seventeenth session of the Commission, eighth meeting of the Conference of Ministers and the draft resolutions prepared for it by the Technical Preparatory Committee of the Whole and the Conference of Ministers of African Least Developed Countries (see chapter V below). It unanimously adopted the Declaration of Tripoli on the World Bank report entitled "Accelerated development in sub-Saharan Africa: An agenda for action" (see chapter IV below) and a final communiqué on its work, both of which were read to the meeting by the Executive Secretary of the Commission. It also adopted a vote of thanks (see resolution 459 (XVII) in chapter V below).

Closure of the meeting (item 18)

160. In proposing the vote of thanks to the Leader of the Great El Fatah Revolution of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya and to the courageous and militant people of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya for their warm and fraternal reception and most generous hospitality, the representative of Benin noted that the superb facilities and the various kinds of services provided had enabled the Commission to hold four major meetings in Tripoli at which various aspects of the economic and social conditions of Africa had been discussed and measures for accelerating the harmonious socio-economic development of the continent had been proposed. He also recalled the eloquent and inspiring address of Major Abdelsalem Jalloud at the opening of the meeting of the Conference of Ministers and expressed the deep gratitude of the Commission to the leader of the Great El Fatah Revolution and to the people of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya (see resolution 459 (XVII) in chapter IV below).

161. In his closing speech, the Executive Secretary of the Commission indicated that the meeting had been a great success because of the wonderful arrangements made by the people of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya and the level of participation and the quality of contributions by participants as well as the spirit of unity which had prevailed throughout. He emphasized that the tone for the meeting had been set by the inspiring address delivered by Major Abdelsalem Jalloud and that the ministers and other representatives of member States had risen to the challenge. On behalf of participants and of the ECA secretariat, he thanked the people of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya in general and its civil servants in particular for their support.

162. He informed the meeting that three of the senior members of his staff - G.E.A. Lardner, Bax D. Nomvete and S.I. Edokpayi were attending the meeting of the Ministers for the last time as regular officers of the Commission since they were to retire in 1982. On behalf of the Commission, the secretariat and himself, he paid tribute to them for their past services and hoped that they would still be available for future services.

163. In conclusion, he expressed the hope of seeing all participants in Addis Ababa in 1983 at the ninth meeting and the twenty-fifth anniversary celebrations of the Commission and reiterated that the strength of the Commission depended on the member States.

164. The Chairman thanked participants for honouring the invitation of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya and appealed to them to overlook any shortcomings. The Commission had been playing a pioneering role in co-operation and the future of Africa lay in the economic field in which co-operation had a big role to play. He believed that the Conference had been very serious in its work, as shown by the Declaration and the number of resolutions adopted, which now had to be implemented by the member States. He concluded by thanking the officers of the Bureau, the Executive Secretary and the 'Unknown soldiers' for the excellent work they had done.

165. He then declared the seventeenth session of the Commission and the eighth meeting of the Conference of Ministers closed.

D. Programme of work and priorities

166. By resolution 428 (XVI) adopted on 10 April 1981, the Conference of Ministers approved the Commission's biennial programme of work and priorities for 1982-1983. The programme of work is contained in document E/CN.14/790/Rev.1.

CHAPTER IV. DECLARATION OF TRIPOLI ON THE WORLD BANK REPORT
ENTITLED "ACCELERATED DEVELOPMENT IN SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA:
AN AGENDA FOR ACTION"

WE, the African Ministers responsible for economic development and planning, assembled in Tripoli for the eighth meeting of the Conference of Ministers of the Economic Commission for Africa and the seventeenth session of the Commission, having carefully examined the World Bank report entitled "Accelerated development in sub-Saharan Africa: An agenda for action" in the light of the basic guidelines for the achievement of the objectives of self-reliant and self-sustaining development in our respective countries and in the African continent as a whole, conscious of the imperative need to reduce the present extreme dependence of our countries on the export of primary commodities and the import of almost all the strategic inputs required for promoting development and economic growth; and convinced that externally-oriented and primary-commodity-based strategies of development have hitherto not helped and cannot be expected to help our countries in the restructuring of their economies, in initiating the processes of internally-generated self-sustaining and reliant development and economic growth and in reducing progressively and finally eliminating the present burden of external debts;

WE DECLARE that the strategy recommended in the World Bank report, which emphasizes export orientation in general and primary commodity export in particular, regards industrialization and economic co-operation and integration in Africa as longer-term issues and completely disregards external factors as being major constraints on Africa's development and economic growth, and which adopts approaches, concepts and objectives which are divergent from those of the Lagos Plan of Action and the Final Act of Lagos is in fundamental contradiction with the political, economic and social aspirations of Africa;

WE FURTHER DECLARE our firm commitment to the promotion of multinational, subregional and regional economic co-operation as a major instrument for restructuring the economies of our countries and for the economic integration of our continent;

WE ACCORDINGLY AFFIRM that the goals and objectives defined by African countries for themselves in the Monrovia Strategy, the Lagos Plan of Action and the Final Act of Lagos remain the authentic and authoritative goals and objectives for Africa;

WE THEREFORE CALL upon all States members of the Economic Commission for Africa to continue with the full and effective implementation of the Lagos Plan of Action and the Final Act of Lagos at the national, subregional and regional levels;

WE HEREBY URGE the international community to provide aid and technical assistance to African countries within the framework of the goals, objectives and philosophy of the Lagos Plan of Action and the Final Act of Lagos;

WE MANDATE the Executive Secretary of the Commission to transmit this Declaration to the President of the African Development Bank for presentation to the Lusaka meeting of the Board of the African Development Bank and to the African Governors of the World Bank before the meeting of the Development Committee of the Bank in Helsinki in May 1982;

Finally, WE FURTHER MANDATE the Executive Secretary of the Commission to transmit this Declaration to the Secretary-General of the Organization of African Unity for presentation to the forthcoming meeting of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization for necessary action.

Done at TRIPOLI this 30th day of April 1982.

CHAPTER V. RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED BY THE CONFERENCE OF MINISTERS
AT ITS EIGHTH MEETING

- 29 (XVII) - New Statutes of the Regional Institute for Population Studies, Accra and the "Institut de formation et de recherche démographiques", Yaounde
- 30 (XVII) - African Household Survey Capability Programme
- 31 (XVII) - Demographic data collection and analysis
- 32 (XVII) - Financing of the Institut de formation et de recherche démographiques
- 33 (XVII) - African Institute for Economic Development and Planning
- 34 (XVII) - African Institute for Future Studies
- 35 (XVII) - United Nations Transport and Communications Decade in Africa
- 36 (XVII) - Appropriate telecommunications for the development of Africa
- 37 (XVII) - International Convention on Multimodal Transport of Goods
- 38 (XVII) - Pan-African Documentation and Information System
- 39 (XVII) - Worsening of the economic crisis and its adverse consequences for Africa
- 40 (XVII) - External Indebtedness of Africa
- 41 (XVII) - Development of Intra-African Trade
- 42 (XVII) - Formulation and implementation of a programme for the Industrial Development Decade for Africa
- 43 (XVII) - Development of Industrial and Technological Manpower in the African Countries
- 44 (XVII) - Institutional Machinery for the Review and Co-ordination of Programmes and Policies in Human Resources
- 45 (XVII) - Science and Technology Development in Africa
- 46 (XVII) - Combating Desertification in Africa
- 47 (XVII) - Women and Development: Action to the end of the Decade
- 48 (XVII) - Aging in Africa
- 49 (XVII) - Regional programming, operation, restructuring and decentralization issues

- 450 (XVII) - Financing of the Commission's Multinational Programming and Operational Centres on established basis
- 451 (XVII) - Consolidated biennial report of activities, 1980-1981, and approved programme of work and priorities, 1982-1983, of regional and sub-regional institutions sponsored by the Commission, and the buffer fund
- 452 (XVII) - The United Nations Development Programme's Regional Programme for Africa for the period 1982-1986
- 453 (XVII) - United Nations Trust Fund for African Development
- 454 (XVII) - Expansion of the conference facilities of the Commission at Addis Ababa
- 455 (XVII) - Silver Jubiles Anniversary of the Economic Commission for Africa
- 456 (XVII) - Implementation, follow-up and monitoring of the Substantial New Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries
- 457 (XVII) - Implementation of the Substantial New Programme of Action within the framework of national and collective self-reliance
- 458 (XVII) - Financing of programmes for the least developed countries
- 459 (XVII) - Vote of thanks to the leader and People of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya

429 (XVII). New statutes of the Regional Institute for Population Studies, Accra, and the "Institut de formation et de recherche démographiques", Yaounde 1/

The Conference of Ministers,

Recalling its resolution 367 (XIV) of 27 March 1979, which requested the Executive Secretary of the 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 its resolution 393 (XV) 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,

Further recalling its resolution 426 (XVI) of 10 April 1981 on the full regionalization of the regional training institutes for population studies in Africa, which submitted the new statutes to the General Assembly through the Economic and Social Council,

Noting with satisfaction the action taken by the Executive Secretary of the Commission 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,

Noting decision 36/450 taken by the General Assembly at its thirty-sixth session in which the Conference of Ministers of the Commission was invited to revise the draft statutes so that they comply with the United Nations rules and procedures,

Having revised the new statutes in the light of the institutes' status as subsidiary bodies of the Commission,

Recommends that the revised statutes 2/ be submitted for approval to the General Assembly at its thirty-seventh session through the Economic and Social Council.

222nd meeting,
30 April 1982.

1/ See chapter III, section C, paragraphs 138 to 155 above.

2/ E/ECA/CM.8/22/Corr.2.

430 (XVII). African Household Survey Capability Programme 3/

The Conference of Ministers,

Taking note of the report of the second session of the Joint Conference of African Planners, Statisticians and Demographers 4/ and realizing the importance of a national household survey capability in order to generate continuing data to plan socio-economic development and to assess the impact of such development on the quality of life of the population,

Recalling Executive Committee resolution ECO (XVIII)/Res.9 of 4 May 1978 which, inter alia, endorsed the regional component of the African Household Survey Capability Programme and urged the United Nations Development Programme, the World Bank, the African Development Bank and other multilateral and bilateral donor agencies to mobilize resources in support of statistical training and household surveys in the African region,

Recalling also Economic and Social Council resolution 2055 (LXII) of 5 May 1977 which drew the attention of developing countries to the possibility of using additional United Nations Development Programme funds to support the establishment of upgrading of national household survey capabilities as an important component of development infrastructures and requested the Secretary-General and the United Nations Development Programme, in co-operation with the World Bank and in consultation with other multilateral and bilateral donor agencies, to consider the modalities for carrying out this development activity,

Recalling further Economic and Social Council resolution 1979/5 of 9 May 1979 which strongly urged the developing countries to take maximum advantage of the Programme and to prepare long-term plans for survey data collection in a variety of areas in the context of their national and statistical development plans,

Realizing that the statistical information required for formulating, implementing and monitoring socio-economic plans in general and, in particular, the Lagos Plan of Action 5/ will be generated largely as an output of national household survey programmes,

Bearing in mind the substantial assistance African countries have received from the staff of the regional component of the African Household Survey Capability Programme based at the headquarters of the Commission in the field of project formulation, technical backstopping and standards implementation,

1. Reconfirms the importance it attaches to the African Household Survey Capability Programme which aims at building national household survey capabilities in African countries to enable them to collect, process and analyse on a continuing basis integrated demographic, social and economic data on households and household members;

3/ See chapter III, section C, paragraphs 138 to 155 above.

4/ E/ECA/CM.8/22.

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

2. Draws the attention of States members of the Commission to the need to give priority to statistical information and make adequate financial provision for their national household survey programme;

3. Urges the African representatives on the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme to stress at the next Council meeting the importance that African countries attach to the National Household Survey Capability Programme and the need for the United Nations Development Programme, in co-operation with the World Bank and in consultation with multilateral and bilateral agencies, to mobilize resources for the implementation of country projects under this programme;

4. Requests the Executive Secretary to seek the necessary resources from the United Nations Development Programme and other multilateral and bilateral donor agencies for the continuation of the regional component of the programme beyond 1982.

222nd meeting,
30 April 1982.

431 (XVII). Demographic data collection and analysis 6/

The Conference of Ministers,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 2211 (XXI) of 17 December 1966 which called upon the United Nations and the specialized agencies concerned to assist, when requested, in further developing and strengthening national and regional facilities for training, research, information and advisory services in the field of population,

Recalling also Economic and Social Council resolution 1279 (XLIII) of 4 August 1967, 1672 (LII) of 2 June 1972 and 1763 (LIV) of 18 May 1973,

Recalling further paragraphs 72 to 77 of the World Population Plan of Action and the Lagos Plan of Action for the accelerated development of Africa and noting the need for reliable socio-economic and demographic data for its implementation,

Noting that in 1977 the United Nations Administrative Committee on Co-ordination defined eight major groups in its standard classification of population activities, two of which were basic data collection and population dynamics,

Recalling its resolutions 366 (XIV) of 27 March 1979 and 400 (XV) of 12 April 1980 on priority population programmes of the Commission,

Taking note of the report of the second session of the Joint Conference of African Planners, Statisticians and Demographers 7/ and, in particular, of the decreasing shares of assistance being made available by the United Nations

6/ See chapter III, section C, paragraphs 138 to 155 above.

7/ E/ECA/CM.8/22.

Fund for Population Activities and other multilateral and bilateral donor agencies to States members of the Commission and to the Commission itself for demographic data collection, processing, evaluation, analysis and dissemination,

1. Notes with great concern the recent unilateral decision of the United Nations Fund for Population Activities to scale down dramatically its contribution to country and regional population programmes in Africa;
2. Draws the attention of the United Nations Fund for Population Activities to the priority which African nations accord to demographic data collection and analysis within their over-all population programmes;
3. Requests the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the Executive Director of the United Nations Fund for Population Activities to take the necessary measures in order to alleviate the current reduction in resources for the regional population programme;
4. Appeals to the General Assembly to allocate the necessary infrastructure posts to the Economic Commission for Africa to enable it to meet its increased responsibilities in the field of population;
5. Urges the African representatives on the Governing Council of the United Nations Fund for Population Activities to bring to the attention of the Council the concern of African countries about the decrease in the proportion of funds made available for data collection and analysis;
6. Appeals to States members of the United Nations to give generous support to the United Nations Fund for Population Activities to enable the Fund to increase its assistance to countries in the African region in the areas of basic data collection, analysis and research in population dynamics;
7. Requests the Executive Secretary of the Commission in co-operation with the Fund and in consultation with other multilateral and bilateral donor agencies to consider as soon as possible means by which the recent improvement in the state of demographic knowledge can be sustained and continued.

222nd meeting,
30 April 1982.

432 (XVII). Financing of the Institut de formation et de recherche démographiques 8/

The Conference of Ministers,

Recalling its resolution 426 (XVI) of 10 April 1981 on the full regionalization of the regional training institutes for population studies in Africa,

8/ See chapter III, section C, paragraphs 138 to 155 above.

Taking note of the report by the secretariat on the meeting of plenipotentiaries held at Yaounde in July 1981, 9/

Conscious of the urgent need to make available the necessary funds to allow the Institut de formation et de recherche démographiques to continue to function beyond 30 June 1982,

Urges the Governments of member States served by the Institut de formation et de recherche démographiques to take the necessary measures to pay as soon as practicable the advance of \$US 10,000 from their 1982 contributions, in accordance with the request sent by the Executive Secretary of the Commission to each member State in October 1981.

222nd meeting,
30 April 1982.

433 (XVII). African Institute for Economic Development and Planning 10/

The Conference of Ministers,

Recalling its resolutions 285 (XII) of 28 February 1975, 350 (XIV) of 27 March 1979 and 399 (XV) of 12 April 1980 on the African Institute for Economic Development and Planning,

Taking note of:

(a) The achievements of the Institute in its third phase of operation and its drive to develop an appropriate approach to the problems and needs of Africa's development planning and policy design through its training and research activities, as indicated in the Institute's five-year plan, 1982-1986,

(b) The fact that the growing activities of the Institute and the effect of inflation require additional financial resources, while the African countries' stipulated contributions have remained unchanged since 1975,

(c) The fact that African countries which have gained independence since 1975 should be added to the list of contributors to the Institute's finances,

(d) The fact that the meeting of the United Nations Development Programme Resident Representatives of the African region held in Mbabane, Swaziland, in January 1980 recommended that in order to facilitate training at the Institute, Governments should work together with the Resident Representatives to include fellowships for study at the Institute in their national programmes financed by the national indicative planning figures,

9/ See document E/ECA/CM.8/11.

10/ See chapter III, section C, paragraphs 138 to 155 above.

Considering that, at its twenty-first meeting held in Addis Ababa from 21 to 23 March 1980, the Governing Council of the Institute took note of the recommendations of the above-mentioned meeting of the Resident Representatives of the African region and requested the Joint Conference of African Planners, Statisticians and Demographers to prepare a resolution for submission to the Conference of Ministers urging the States members of the Commission to include in their national indicative planning figures the financing of fellowships for their nationals to study at the Institute,

Convinced that the Institute should play an even more important role in the development planning of Africa in the years to come, and particularly in the implementation of the Lagos Plan of Action, 11/

Conscious that there is a need for the United Nations Development Programme and African Governments to continue to contribute to the financing of the Institute during its coming five-year cycle,

1. Proposes to apply the indexation formulae agreed upon by States members of the Commission to the 1980 gross national product of all independent African countries in 1980;

2. Requests the African Governments concerned to pay their arrears to the Institute;

3. Invites African countries, which are in a position to do so, to make voluntary contributions to the Institute whenever possible;

4. Urges the United Nations Development Programme to continue its financial support to the Institute at least at the present level of \$US 1.3 million per annum;

5. Asks the Director of the Institute to intensify his efforts to raise funds from external sources whether in the form of voluntary contributions or technical assistance;

6. Requests member States to:

(a) Supply fellowships for training at the Institute financed out of their national indicative planning figures or other sources;

(b) Utilize fully the Institute's training capacity by insisting whenever possible that the manpower training components of capital projects be undertaken at the Institute;

(c) Make use of the Institute's advisory services capacity as a substitute for external consultants whenever possible;

7. Urges the Director to prepare a medium-term plan encompassing the mobilization of external resources for the financing of fellowships at the Institute and to present it as soon as possible to the Governing Council of the Institute.

222nd meeting,
30 April 1982.

434 (XVII). African Institute for Future Studies 12/

The Conference of Ministers,

Conscious of the virtual lack of effective institutional capabilities in African States for studying, analysing, and evaluating strategic issues as a necessary pre-requisite to policy-making, particularly in the fields of national economic policy and international economic relations, and of the need for Africa to build up such capabilities,

Recalling the conclusions and recommendations of the fifteenth meeting of the Executive Committee of the Commission 13/ held in Algiers in October 1976 to the effect that the proposal to establish a regional Centre for Public Analysis and Strategic Studies was of strategic importance and should be pursued,

Recalling further the endorsement by the Conference of Ministers at its fourth meeting held in Kinshasa 14/ of the proposal that the Commission should undertake, in collaboration with the Organization of African Unity, the necessary technical studies to serve as a basis for a decision on the establishment of the Institute,

Noting the recommendation of the Monrovia Symposium, organized jointly by the Organization of African Unity and the Commission with the co-operation of the United Nations Development Programme, on the Future Development Prospects of Africa towards the Year 2000, 15/ to the effect that Africa should develop its own institutional capabilities, including the creation of a Pan-African Future Studies Association, for determining a self-sustained and self-reliant pattern of development for the region,

Appreciative of the initiative and concerted effort of the Commission, the Organization of African Unity and the United Nations Development Programme in undertaking feasibility studies for the establishment of a regional Institute for Future Studies and the follow-up action in convening an expert group meeting in Addis Ababa in January 1982 to consider the principal features of, and suggest guide-lines for the design, establishment and operation of the Institute,

Convinced of the urgency of establishing the proposed Institute,

12/ See chapter III, Section C, paragraphs 138 to 155 above.

13/ E/CN.14/655 - E/CN.14/ECO/110.

14/ E/5941 - E/CN.14/683.

15/ E/CN.14/698/Add.2.

Further convinced also that the effectiveness of the proposed regional Institute depends to a great extent upon individual member States developing complementary national institutions and/or programmes in order to facilitate their participation in a network of African future studies institutions to be associated with the operations of the African Institute for Future Studies,

Expressing deep gratitude to the United Nations Development Programme for the financial support it has given for the initial preparatory work related to the proposal to establish the Institute,

1. Endorses the conclusions and recommendations of the aforementioned Expert Group meeting on the establishment of an African Institute for Future Studies 16/ and in particular the objectives and functions set for the Institute;

2. Resolves that an autonomous African Institute for Future Studies be speedily established; and that an endowment fund be also established to guarantee its effectiveness and independence;

3. Appeals in the spirit of the Lagos Plan of Action 17/ to all African countries, as well as regional and national development and financial institutions, and to African private enterprises and individuals to contribute voluntarily and generously to the Institute's Endowment Fund;

4. Appeals further to the United Nations Development Programme to contribute substantially to the Endowment Fund;

5. Requests the Executive Secretary of the Commission to:

(a) Continue to collaborate with the Organization of African Unity, the United Nations Development Programme and other appropriate African regional institutions in taking the necessary measures for the early establishment and operation of the Institute;

(b) Submit for the consideration of the ninth meeting of the Conference and eighteenth session of the Commission a progress report on the establishment of the Institute;

6. Invites all member States that do not as yet have well established national institutions or programmes for future studies to take early action to establish such institutions or programmes, so that they can participate effectively in the network of institutions associated with the work of the African Institute for Future Studies.

222nd meeting,
30 April 1982.

16/ E/ECA/TPCW.3/2.

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

435 (XVII). United Nations Transport and Communications Decade in Africa 18/

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 proclaiming the United Nations Transport and Communications Decade in Africa,

Further recalling its resolution 391 (XV) of 12 April 1980 in which it:

(a) Reiterated its appeal to member States to give the highest priority to the transport and communications projects adopted for the programme of the first phase of the Decade,

(b) Requested African States to take the initiative in submitting to the various sources of finance requests for the financing of the projects adopted for the first phase,

(c) Also requested the Executive Secretary to organize with groups of donor countries and the financing institutions, consultative technical meetings for the purpose of finding the necessary additional financial resources,

Noting with satisfaction resolution CM/Res.889 (XXXVII) adopted at Nairobi, Kenya, in June 1981, by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity, and Economic and Social Council resolutions 1980/46 and 1981/67 of 23 July 1980 and 24 July 1981 respectively on the United Nations Transport and Communications Decade in Africa,

Recalling General Assembly resolutions 35/108 and 36/177 of 5 December 1980 and 19 December 1981 respectively on the organization of consultative technical meetings for the purpose of raising additional financial resources for the Decade programme,

Referring to its resolution 422 (XVI) of 10 April 1981 which, in substance, stipulated that the Commission should:

(a) Organize four consultative technical meetings,

(b) Continue to monitor the progress of the programme of the first phase of the Transport and Communications Decade,

(c) Update that programme,

(d) Undertake the preparation of the programme of action for the second phase, 1984-1988,

18/ See chapter III, section C, paragraphs 138 to 155 above.

Noting that none of these consultative technical meetings covers the countries of North and East Africa as well as the island countries of the Indian Ocean,

1. Notes with satisfaction the progress so far made concerning the implementation of the first phase of the United Nations Transport and Communications Decade programme, 1980-1983, and in particular the holding of three of the four consultative technical meetings:

(a) At Lome, from 8 to 11 June 1981, for the States members of the Economic Community of West African States on roads, air transport, telecommunications/broadcasting and postal services;

(b) At Ouagadougou, from 20 to 23 January 1982, for the railway projects of the entire continent;

(c) At Yaounde, from 15 to 17 March 1982, on roads and inland water transport for the 10 countries of Central Africa; and their evaluation in figures; 19/

2. Expresses its appreciation:

(a) To the General Assembly for the financial resources which it made available to the Commission for the organization of the consultative technical meetings with donors;

(b) To the donor countries and financing institutions which participated in these three meetings and whose participants contributed to their success;

(c) To the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme for making available to the Commission financial resources under the Programme's third programming cycle for financing the Transport and Communications Decade in Africa;

3. Appeals once more to donor countries and financing institutions to participate fully and positively in the fourth meeting scheduled to be held at Abidjan from 3 to 5 May 1982;

4. Requests the Executive Secretary to submit a report on the outcome of the fourth consultative technical meeting to the summer session of the Economic and Social Council in July 1982;

5. Recommends that a fifth consultative technical meeting be organized during the second half of 1983 on roads, maritime transport and ports for the countries of North Africa, East Africa and the islands of the Indian Ocean;

6. Calls upon the Secretary-General to provide the Commission with adequate resources to enable it to organize the fifth consultative technical meeting;

19/ See document E/ECA/CM.8/7, part B.

7. Requests the Executive Secretary to monitor the follow-up of the first four consultative technical meetings by closely assisting the countries in their contacts with donors, and in formulating and presenting their requests for financing projects with a potential subregional or regional impact;

8. Reiterates its earlier request to the Executive Secretary to continue to intensify his efforts to assist member States in the full implementation of the first phase programme.

222nd meeting,
30 April 1982.

436 (XVII). Appropriate telecommunications for the development of Africa 20/

The Conference of Ministers,

Having examined the progress report 21/ on the efforts made by Africa, under the United Nations Transport and Communications Decade in Africa programme, to establish appropriate telecommunication systems, including the use of satellite communication technology, for the development of Africa,

Recalling its resolutions 278 (XII) and 281 (XII) of 28 February 1975 and 310 (XIII) of 1 March 1977 on the study and establishment of a possible African Regional Satellite Communication System for telephone, telex and other common-carrier services and for radio and television broadcasting,

Recalling also resolutions ECA/UNTACDA/Res.81/17 of the Conference of Ministers of Transport, Communications and Planning 22/ on the need to harmonize and integrate into one single project study all on-going studies related to the Decade project SAP-01 relating to the feasibility study on the African regional satellite system,

Recalling further resolution ECA/UNTACDA/Res.81/21 of the Conference of Ministers of Transport, Communications and Planning 23/ urging the development of rural telecommunications and its own resolution 321 (XIII) of 1 March 1977 on integrated rural development which, inter alia, invites the organizations and agencies of the United Nations system to assist member countries in the planning and implementation of integrated rural development programmes designed to increase gainful employment, incomes, conditions of living and quality of life of the rural population; and that Decade project No. TEP-05 on the rural telecommunication survey has been formulated with such goals in view,

20/ See chapter III, section C, paragraphs 138 to 155 above.

21/ E/ECA/CM.8/7 / part C.

22/ E/CN.14/812 - E/CN.14/TRANS/169.

23/ Ibid.

Noting the recommendations from the Inter-governmental Experts Meeting 24/ held in Addis Ababa from 22 to 26 March 1982 to examine the report on the pre-feasibility study on appropriate modern telecommunication technology for integrated rural development in Africa,

Considering the commitment made by the Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity and by the General Assembly of the United Nations to implement the programme of the United Nations Transport and Communications Decade in Africa, which is now an integral part of the Lagos Plan of Action, 25,

1. Endorses the following recommendations of the Inter-governmental Experts Meeting:

(a) On the harmonization and integration of all on-going pre-feasibility and preliminary studies such as those relating to appropriate modern telecommunication technology for integrated rural development in Africa, the African regional telecommunication satellite study and the regional satellite telecommunication system in Africa into a single regional project on appropriate telecommunication for the development of Africa;

(b) On the creation of the Inter-agency Co-ordination Committee to co-ordinate the implementation of a detailed feasibility study on appropriate telecommunications for the development of Africa composed of the Organization of African Unity, the Economic Commission for Africa, the African Development Bank, the Pan-African Telecommunications Union, the Union Africaine des postes et télécommunications, the African National Television and Broadcasting Union, the International Telecommunications Union and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization which shall have the responsibilities indicated in paragraph 7 of document AMTT/IRD No. 20/E of the aforementioned meeting;

(c) That African Governments shall examine the feasibility study project proposal to be circulated by the Inter-agency Co-ordination Committee and express as soon as possible their interest in participation, indicating the priority action to be taken on the project for its rapid implementation within the Decade programme;

(d) That bilateral donors and multilateral financing institutions should be invited to provide their assistance in a harmonized and complementary manner so as to avoid duplication of effort and wastage of resources;

2. Requests the Executive Secretary:

(a) To give every assistance possible, within the framework of the Decade programme, to the Inter-agency Co-ordination Committee in its work so that the study can be completed within the first phase programme period; and

24/ See E/ECA/CM.8/7/ part C.

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

(b) To submit a progress report on the implementation of this project to the Conference of Ministers at its ninth meeting;

3. Further requests the Executive Secretary, in collaboration with the Secretary-General of the Organization of African Unity, to submit the present resolution to the next Assembly of Heads of State and Government to be held in August 1982 in Tripoli, Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya.

222nd meeting,
30 April 1982.

437 (XVII). International Convention on Multimodal Transport of Goods 26/

The Conference of Ministers,

Having examined the report on the activities in the context of the implementation of the United Nations Transport and Communications Decade in Africa and on the status of the first phase of the programme, 1980-1983, 27/

Recalling the United Nations Convention on the Multimodal Transport of Goods 28/ adopted on 24 May 1980 under the auspices of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development,

Bearing in mind the tireless efforts of the African group during the seven-year period of negotiations on the United Nations Convention on the Multimodal Transport of Goods and specifically its recommendation that regional seminars on multimodal transport operations in Africa should be organized with the aim of examining the economic, legal, commercial and other implications of the Convention and its appropriate applicability and impact on African economies,

Noting with satisfaction the collective efforts of the Executive Secretary of the Commission, the Secretary-General of the Organization of African Unity and the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, and the concrete steps taken to organize seminars on multimodal transport operations in Africa scheduled to be held in 1982 and 1983,

1. Requests the United Nations Development Programme to provide the requisite financial resources from the unprogrammed portion of the regional indicative planning figures during its third programming cycle, 1982-1986, for the organization of the joint project on seminars on multimodal transport operations in Africa of the Organization of African Unity, the Economic Commission for Africa and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development;

26/ See chapter III, section C, paragraphs 138 to 155 above.

27/ E/ECA/CM.8/7, part A.

28/ See TD/MT/CONF/16.

2. Further requests the Executive Secretary of the Commission, in collaboration with the Secretary-General of the Organization of African Unity, to present a report on the implementation of this resolution at the ninth meeting of the Conference of Ministers.

222nd meeting,
30 April 1982.

438 (XVII). Pan-African Documentation and Information System 29/

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 also 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, development of natural and human resources, promotion of intra-African trade, intensification of industrial development, and improvement and creation of viable continental transport and communication links,

Further recalling its resolution 413 (XVI) of 4 May 1981 concerning the accelerated establishment of the national and subregional institutional and technical participating centres and requesting the international community to intensify its assistance to the project,

Noting that the sixteenth ordinary session of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity held in Monrovia, Liberia, in July 1979 and the second extraordinary session of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government devoted to economic matters, held in Lagos, Nigeria, in April 1980, insisted on the necessity for a sound documentation and information system for a viable integrated development policy in Africa,

Taking into account the resolution adopted by the first Inter-governmental Meeting of African Documentation, Computer and Information Scientists held in Salisbury, Zimbabwe, from 19 to 23 October 1981,

Taking into consideration the long-term goals of the project as set out in the Executive Secretary's report presented to the Conference of Ministers at its seventh meeting, 30/

29/ See chapter III, section C, paragraphs 138 to 155 above.

30/ E/CN.14/789.

Taking into consideration the Executive Secretary's report 31/ on the progress made in implementing the Pan-African Documentation and Information System programme,

1. Congratulates the Executive Secretary on the successful implementation of phase I of the project, particularly on the progress made towards the creation of national and subregional participating centres;

2. Expresses its appreciation to those member States which have already taken action toward the creation of national and subregional information and documentation centres and urges the remaining member States to take prompt action in this regard;

3. Requests the Executive Secretary to step up the mobilization of funds for the establishment of national and subregional centres and to identify and approach new sources of financial assistance;

4. Also requests the Executive Secretary to take due cognizance in the design and establishment of subregional centres of existing arrangements among member States for political, economic and technical co-operation;

5. Invites the Executive Secretary to widen the Conference of African Planners, Statisticians and Demographers to comprise not only producers and users of statistical data but also those who process, retrieve and disseminate information and data, i.e. African documentation, information and computer scientists;

6. Requests the Executive Secretary of the Commission in collaboration with the Secretary-General of the Organization of African Unity to ensure the speedy realization of the feasibility study on appropriate modern telecommunication project, including satellite communications, as recommended by the Meeting of the Inter-governmental Experts held in Addis Ababa in March 1982 and endorsed by Conference of Ministers resolution 436 (XVII) of 30 April 1982;

7. Requests the African Group of the African, Caribbean and Pacific countries in Brussels to take the necessary steps for the implementation of the project;

8. Urges the Executive Secretary, in collaboration with the Inter-agency Co-ordinating Committee on Satellite Communications to explore all possible sources of finance for the implementation of the single regional African satellite communications project;

9. Requests the industrialized countries to assist the project through the provision of efficient technologies, particularly software packages for the management of textual, statistical, factual and technological data bases;

10. Further requests the specialized agencies of the United Nations system, international organizations and all other agencies to make available to the Pan-African Documentation and Information System all information in their possession which may be useful for the social, economic and technological development of Africa;

11. Expresses its appreciation to the United Nations Development Programme, the International Development Research Centre and the African Development Bank for their financial contributions and calls for their continued support;

12. Recommends that African member States should make full use of the technical competence and advisory services available at the Central Co-ordination Office of the Pan-African Documentation and Information System;

13. Decides that the Executive Secretary should submit a progress report on the further implementation of the Pan-African Documentation and Information System to the ninth meeting of the Conference of Ministers.

222nd meeting,
30 April 1982.

439 (XVII). Worsening of the economic crisis and its adverse consequences for Africa 32/

The Conference of Ministers,

Recalling General Assembly resolutions 3201 (S-VI) and 3202 (S-VI) of 1 May 1974, containing the Declaration and the Programme of Action on the Establishment of a New International Economic Order, and resolution 3281 (XXIX) of 12 December 1974, containing the Charter of Economic Rights and Duties of States,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 36/180 of 17 December 1981 concerning the adoption of special measures for the social and economic development of Africa in the 1980s,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 35/36 of 5 December 1980, containing the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade,

Recognizing the primary responsibility of the African countries for their development and the importance of the mobilization of their national resources for their socio-economic development,

Concerned at the worsening of the world economic crisis and its devastating consequences for the economies of African countries,

Believing that Africans have the right to exercise permanent sovereignty over their natural resources so that they can utilize the income derived from the exploitation of those resources to foster their economic growth,

1. Affirms the right of African countries to exercise their sovereignty over their natural resources and to utilize them for the benefit of their peoples;

32/ See chapter III, section C, paragraphs 138 to 155 above.

2. Condemns the economic and social pressures exerted by the imperialist Powers and their transnational corporations which exploit the resources of African countries to the detriment of the economic and social interests of the peoples of the continent;

3. Urges all African countries to do everything possible to intensify their efforts, create a spirit of co-operation, and work towards the achievement of the goals and objectives of the integrated development of African countries in accordance with the Monrovia Strategy, 33/ the Lagos Plan of Action and the Final Act of Lagos. 34/

222nd meeting,
30 April 1982.

440 (XVII). External indebtedness of African countries 35/

The Conference of Ministers,

Noting with great concern the increasing trends in the industrialized countries towards more constrained and restrictive lending procedures and the prevailing very high interest rates which have resulted in severe balance-of-payments problems for African countries,

Mindful of the fact that, notwithstanding resolution 165 (S-IX) of 11 March 1978 of the Trade and Development Board of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development which called on the major creditor countries to cancel or reduce the debts of developing countries, there is marked reluctance on the part of the creditor countries to do so,

Mindful further of the need for African countries to harmonize their stands on the problem of external indebtedness and the alleviation of its impact on their economies,

Also mindful that the implementation of the Lagos Plan of Action 36/ may be adversely affected by the ever increasing burden of debt servicing if appropriate measures are not taken,

Calls upon the secretariat of the Commission, in collaboration with the general secretariat of the Organization of African Unity and the African Development Bank to organize a meeting of government ministries responsible for finance and economic development and planning with a view to examining carefully the problems associated with the external debt of African countries.

222nd meeting,
30 April 1982.

33/ Organization of African Unity resolution AHG/ST.3 (XVI)/Rev.1.

34/ A/S-11/14, annexes I and II.

35/ See chapter III, section C, paragraphs 138 to 155 above.

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

441 (XVII). Development of Intra-African Trade 37/

The Conference of Ministers,

Mindful of the cardinal importance which the Lagos Plan of Action 38/ attaches to the promotion of intra-African trade as a mainstay of the African strategy for socio-economic development,

Recalling the signing on 18 December 1981 by eleven Heads of State and Government of the Libreville Declaration on the establishment of an Economic Community of Central African States,

Recalling further the signing on 21 December 1981 at Lusaka, Zambia, by eleven countries of the Treaty on the establishment of a Preferential Trade Area for Eastern and Southern African States,

Noting the on-going efforts of the secretariat to assist States members of the West African Multinational Programming and Operational Centre in the harmonization of the trade liberalization provisions of the Economic Community of West African States, the West African Economic Community and Mano River Union Treaties,

Noting further the recommendation made at the recent meeting of the Council of Plenipotentiaries of the North African Multinational Programming and Operational Centre to the effect that the secretariat should undertake comprehensive studies on the promotion of intra-subregional trade,

Aware of the recent holding in Addis Ababa of the First Symposium of Presidents and Secretaries-General of African Chambers of Commerce and of preparations being made for a meeting of Presidents and Secretaries-General of African Chambers of Commerce due to be held in Salisbury, Zimbabwe, from 26 to 31 May 1982, with a view to paving the way for the establishment of a Federation of African Chambers of Commerce, as provided for in the Lagos Plan of Action,

Bearing in mind the key contribution made by the project financed by the United Nations Development Programme on the development of intra-African trade and monetary and financial co-operation in the achievement of the above-mentioned results and the need for further assistance to be given to the project over the next United Nations Development Programme programming cycle to economic co-operation groupings in the various subregions including the Preferential Trade Area and the proposed Economic Community of Central African States,

1. Commends the eleven signatories of the Libreville Declaration for their firm determination to establish the Economic Community of Central African States and wishes them full success in the conduct of the negotiations for the creation of the said Community;

37/ See chapter III, section C, paragraphs 138 to 155 above.

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

2. Expresses its appreciation to the Executive Secretary for the efforts already made and requests him to intensify his assistance and advisory activities towards the promotion of intra-African trade at both the intra-subregional and the inter-subregional levels;

3. Further commends the eleven States of Eastern and Southern Africa which have already signed the Treaty on the establishment of the Preferential Trade Area and urges them to ratify it as soon as possible and also urges those countries of Eastern and Southern Africa, which have not yet signed the Treaty, to do so without delay;

4. Requests the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme to earmark from the existing indicative planning figures resources for the newly established Preferential Trade Area for Eastern and Southern African States to promote intercountry trade within the Preferential Trade Area;

5. Takes note with appreciation of the efforts being pursued by the States members of the West African and North African Multinational Programming and Operational Centres towards the promotion of intra-subregional trade in their respective subregions;

6. Urges all African Chambers of Commerce and subregional associations of Chambers of Commerce to attend the forthcoming Salisbury meeting and take appropriate steps for the establishment of the Federation of African Chambers of Commerce;

7. Notes with satisfaction the results achieved by the project on the development of intra-African trade and monetary and financial co-operation during the period 1979-1981 and expresses its gratitude to the United Nations Development Programme for having provided the Commission with financial resources for the implementation of this project;

8. Further takes note with satisfaction of the positive recommendation made by the evaluation team composed of representatives of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the Commission and the United Nations Development Programme for the continuation of this project, and urgently appeals to the United Nations Development Programme to continue to provide financial assistance at the current or at an increased level for the duration of the Programme's programming cycle 1982-1986.

222nd meeting,
30 April 1982.

442 (XVII). Formulation and implementation of a programme for the Industrial Development Decade for Africa 39/

The Conference of Ministers,

Bearing in mind the decision of the Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity on accelerated industrialization in Africa as contained in the Monrovia Declaration, 40/ the Lagos Plan of Action and the Final Act of Lagos, 41/

Guided by and committed to the implementation of the Lagos Plan of Action which stresses the importance of the industrialization of the African region in general and of each individual African country in particular as a fundamental option in the total range of activities aimed at freeing Africa from underdevelopment and economic dependence,

Recognizing that the effective implementation of the Lagos Plan of Action will, to a large extent, hinge on the accelerated development of the industrial sector, as a supplier of essential inputs both to itself as well as to the other priority sectors in the Lagos Plan, namely agriculture, transport and communications, energy, trade and finance, and as a user of the outputs from these sectors,

Convinced of the vital significance for African countries of United Nations General Assembly resolutions 35/66 B of 15 December 1980 proclaiming the 1980s as the Industrial Development Decade for Africa and 36/182 part II of 17 December 1981 stressing the importance of the Decade for Africa,

Recalling resolution CM/Res.888 (XXXVII) of June 1981 adopted by the Organization of African Unity which, inter alia,

(a) Welcomes the proclamation by the General Assembly of the 1980s as the Industrial Development Decade for Africa;

(b) Requests all States members of the Organization of African Unity to take the necessary measures to draw up and implement specific programmes in the context of the Decade at the national, subregional and regional levels; and

(c) Urges all relevant international organizations, especially the United Nations Development Programme, to increase, in accordance with United Nations General Assembly resolution 35/66 B of 15 December 1980 their technical and financial assistance to African countries for the preparation and implementation of the Decade Programme,

39/ See chapter III, section C, paragraphs 138 to 155 above.

40/ Organization of African Unity resolution AHG/St.3 (XVI)/Rev.1.

41/ A/S-11/14, annexes I and II.

Recalling further resolution 1 (vi) of 25 November 1981 ^{42/} of the sixth meeting of the Conference of African Ministers of Industry on the adoption of proposals for the formulation and implementation of a programme for the Industrial Development Decade for Africa,

1. Endorses resolution 1 (vi) of the sixth meeting of the Conference of African Ministers of Industry and the establishment of the Joint Inter-secretariat Committee on the Decade comprising the Commission, the Organization of African Unity and the United Nations Industrial Development Organization;

2. Calls upon all member countries individually and collectively to take steps as a matter of urgency, including the establishment of national co-ordinating committees and focal points and the organization of national workshops with the participation of all the relevant sectors and institutions, to examine and adjust their development plans, with a view to incorporating, as appropriate, the concepts, guiding principles and objectives of the Industrial Development Decade Programme in their national economic perspective and development plans;

3. Further calls upon each member country, as a matter of urgency, to identify the group of strategic and core industrial projects at both the national and the multinational levels which, by virtue of their interrelations, promote each other's growth and development and which, through technical and economic linkages and complementarities, especially with priority sectors set out in the Lagos Plan of Action, would accelerate industrial and general economic development and growth;

4. Urges member countries to identify, assess and determine their industrial capacities and capabilities inter alia, for:

- (a) The preparation and implementation of projects;
- (b) The preparation, evaluation and negotiation of specifications, bids and contracts;
- (c) The procurement of technology, plant, and management and consultancy services;
- (d) Research and development and training; and
- (e) Production, marketing and distribution, which should be up-graded and integrated, to enable them individually and collectively gradually to meet their changing domestic needs for key consumer, intermediate and capital goods in accordance with the concepts, guiding principles and objectives of the Industrial Development Decade for Africa;

^{42/} See E/ECA/CM.8/2.

5. Recommends the adoption of a multinational approach and intra-Africa co-operation, as the most viable option in the African context, in the development of strategic and basic industries, particularly the metallurgical, chemical and engineering industries, which by virtue of their requirements for large markets and their role in providing key inputs for all economic activities, are crucial for self-reliant and self-sustaining development and economic growth;

6. Calls upon member countries to strengthen consultations among themselves with a view to facilitating collective action including consultations and negotiations with third parties and to establishing eventually an African mechanism for industrial consultations, negotiations and arbitration;

7. Calls upon member countries to provide information on arrangements for their national industrial workshops, as called for in paragraph 2 above to enable the secretariat of the Commission, the Organization of African Unity and the United Nations Industrial Development Organization to programme their technical support/assistance in response to any request from countries;

8. Recommends that the closest relationship among appropriate organs of government, including those dealing with external relationships, should be established at the national level with a view to ensuring that international industrial negotiations and co-operation truly reflect the imperatives of the Decade as set out in the proposals for the Decade Programme;

9. Calls upon the Executive Secretary to take, in collaboration with the Secretary-General of the Organization of African Unity, the Executive Director of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization and the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, vigorous steps to promote intra-African trade in industrial raw materials, intermediate and finished products in recognition of the crucial role of industrial trade in facilitating the implementation, at the national and multinational levels, of programmes and projects for the Industrial Development Decade for Africa;

10. Requests the Executive Secretary, the Executive Director of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, the Secretary-General of the Organization of African Unity and the executive heads of other international and African organizations to adjust their work programmes with a view to providing greater support to the member countries in their efforts to implement the Industrial Development Decade Programme and, in particular to:

(a) Assist member countries in undertaking appropriate realignment of their national development plans in the light of the Decade Programme, by providing guide-lines, organizing national, subregional and regional workshops, assessing natural resources and national capacities and capabilities and identifying core projects as provided in paragraph 3 above, that can be implemented at the national and/or multinational level;

(b) Assist Governments in strengthening existing, and developing new, capacities and capabilities in areas including those identified in paragraph 3 above for self-reliant and self-sustaining industrialization;

11. Urges the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme to increase, in accordance with the resolutions adopted by the General Assembly and the Organization of African Unity on the Decade, the amount of funds allocated to the industrial sector in its national and regional programme for Africa with a view to expanding the scope and volume of its assistance in the programming and implementation of the Decade programme at the national, subregional and regional levels;

12. Requests the Secretary-General of the United Nations to make available, in accordance with the relevant resolutions on the Decade, the necessary resources required to strengthen the secretariats of the Commission and the United Nations Industrial Development Organization and thus enable them to play their expected roles in assisting member countries to implement the Industrial Development Decade for Africa;

13. Calls upon the Executive Secretary to report regularly, in consultation with the Secretary-General of the Organization of African Unity and the Executive Director of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization to the meetings of the Commission through the Conference of African Ministers of Industry on the progress achieved in the implementation of the Industrial Development Decade for Africa.

222nd meeting,
30 April 1982.

443 (XVII). Development of industrial and technological manpower
in the African countries 43/

The Conference of Ministers,

Guided by the Lagos Plan of Action 44/ for the economic development of Africa which accords high priority, inter alia, to the development and utilization of African human resources,

Noting the resolution adopted by the African Ministers Responsible for Human Resources Planning, Development and Utilization 45/ at their conference held in Monrovia, Liberia, from 5 to 7 October 1981, which, among other things, calls upon African Governments to take a number of measures for the accelerated development of African human resources,

Taking into consideration the recommendations of the Conference of Vice-Chancellors, Presidents and/or Rectors of Institutes of Higher Learning in Africa 46/ held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, from 25 to 29 January 1982, which accord high priority to the rapid development of African technical manpower,

43/ See chapter III, section C, paragraphs 138 to 155 above.

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

45/ E/ECA/CM.8/3.

46/ E/ECA/TPCW.3/7.

Recalling resolution 1 (vi) adopted by the sixth meeting of the Conference of African Ministers of Industry 47/ in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, on 25 November 1981, on the formulation and implementation of a programme for the Industrial Development Decade for Africa which accords high priority, inter alia, to urgent action for the development of industrial and technological manpower in the African countries,

Conscious of the region's chronic shortage of technical manpower not only in quantity but also in diversity and skill levels,

Strongly convinced that the successful implementation of the Lagos Plan of Action in general, and the programme of the Industrial Development Decade for Africa in particular, depends predominantly on the success achieved by the African countries in rapidly developing the right type and quality of industrial and technological manpower and in sufficient quantity,

1. Reiterates the proposals adopted at various meetings in Africa, especially those of the sixth meeting of the Conference of African Ministers of Industry relating to the development of industrial and technological manpower within the framework of programme for the Industrial Development Decade for Africa;
2. Urges all African countries to accord special priority to industrial and technological manpower development;
3. Urges further all African countries and institutions of higher learning to adopt appropriate measures for the promotion of intra-African co-operation and to lend their full support to the regional institutions involved with industrial and technological manpower development;
4. Calls upon all member States to evolve, with the close participation of both private and public sector enterprises, programmes for the development of industrial and technological manpower, including the provision of adequate facilities for in-plant industrial training;
5. Appeals to the international community, especially the relevant United Nations organizations, organs and entities, to intensify and expand their programmes of technical and financial assistance to the African countries, institutions of higher learning and appropriate regional institutions in the development of industrial and technological manpower in Africa for the implementation of the Decade Programme;
6. Requests the Executive Secretary of the Commission, in consultation with member States, to initiate and operate, in collaboration with the Organization of African Unity, the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, the International Labour Office, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cul

Organization and other appropriate organizations, a specific training and fellowship programme for industrial and technological manpower development in Africa within the framework of the Industrial Development Decade and to submit periodic progress reports to member States and to the Conference of Ministers.

222nd meeting,
30 April 1982.

444 (XVII). Institutional machinery for the review and co-ordination of programmes and policies in human resources 48/

The Conference of Ministers.

Considering the Monrovia Declaration of Commitment of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity 49/ on guidelines and measures for national and collective self-reliance in economic and social development for the establishment of a new international economic order, and the importance given to human resources development and utilization in that commitment,

Recalling the Final Act of Lagos 50/ of April 1980 which, inter alia, called for full commitment to the Plan of Action 51/ adopted at the extraordinary session of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity for the implementation of the Monrovia Strategy for the economic development of Africa,

Conscious of the region's chronic shortages of skilled technical and managerial personnel at all levels and the prevailing underemployment and unemployment in African States,

Noting the ongoing African efforts to develop specialized national, regional and multinational training and research institutions, mobilize fellowships and scholarships for training in areas of critical manpower shortage, and to foster African co-operation in the development and use of training institutions,

Appreciating the assistance provided by bilateral and multilateral technical assistance agencies and donor Governments and organizations in support of African programmes and institutions for human resources development and utilization,

Bearing in mind the activities undertaken by the Organization of African Unity, the International Labour Office and the Conference of African Ministers of Social Affairs to develop human resources in Africa, as well as the technical co-operation programme in the areas of employment and human resources development adopted by the second Conference of Labour Ministers of non-aligned and other developing countries held at Baghdad in December 1981,

48/ See chapter III, section C, paragraphs 138 to 155 above.

49/ Organization of African Unity resolution AHG/ST.3 (XVI)/Rev.1.

50/ A/S-11/14, annex II.

51/ Ibid., annex I.

1. Adopts the report and recommendations of the first meeting of the Conference of African Ministers Responsible for Human Resources Planning, Development and Utilization; 52/

2. Further adopts as an interim measure the terms of reference established for the Conference of African Ministers Responsible for Human Resources Planning, Development and Utilization as an integral part of the Commission's institutional machinery in programme and policy formulation, evaluation and co-ordination, subject to a review in January 1984 of the operational relationship of the machinery vis-a-vis other subsectoral ministerial conferences dealing with specific aspects of human resource problems;

3. Accepts the following project proposals as a basis for national action and technical co-operation in human resources development and utilization:

- (a) The development of manpower and employment planning capability;
- (b) The re-orientation of education to facilitate development and effective exploitation of Africa's resource endowment;
- (c) The development of training and employee career planning capacity and capability;
- (d) The development of manpower capability in financial management; and
- (e) Administration and management improvement in Africa;

4. Calls upon African Governments to:

- (a) Accord high priority to planned development and use of human resources as an integral part of over-all national economic and social development planning, and to set up machinery and institutional arrangements for co-ordinated human resources and employment planning, within the framework of the Lagos Plan of Action;
- (b) Adapt to their national situation the project proposals in support of human resources planning, development and utilization accepted in paragraph 3 above;
- (c) Provide moral, political and regular financial support for, and make full use of national, regional and multinational training and research institutions in Africa;
- (d) Provide material and financial support for the Expanded Training and Fellowship Programme for Africa co-ordinated by the Commission;
- (e) Initiate appropriate national policies and programmes facilitating the return of qualified African personnel to their home countries, and to this end welcome the project proposal on the return of talents to Africa and invite the Commission secretariat, the Inter-governmental Committee for Migration and other agencies to collaborate in initiating and operating related regional and bilateral programmes;

(f) Adopt comprehensive national training policies that adequately provide the means and mechanism for manpower training in both public and private sectors on a sustained basis;

5. Appeals to multinational, bilateral and inter-governmental technical co-operation organizations and the specialized agencies of the United Nations system to co-ordinate their efforts with the Economic Commission for Africa in assisting African Governments in the development of the region's human resources; and to provide financial and material support for the implementation of the regional projects in human resources planning, development and utilization, and of programmes for the return of talents to Africa;

6. Requests the Executive Secretary, in collaboration with the Organization of African Unity, to:

(a) Convene the Conference of African Ministers responsible for Human Resources Planning, Development and Utilization in January 1984 and as may thereafter be decided to enable it to review the state of Africa's human resources and related policies, programmes and priorities, and study the operational scope of this body and the relations between its activities and those of other regional conferences of ministers dealing with specific aspects of human resources;

(b) Promote the effective co-ordination of human resources planning, development and utilization activities in the region; in this regard, the Commission should hold full consultations not only with the Organization of African Unity, but also with the specialized agencies of the United Nations system and other appropriate organizations operating in the region in this field in order to harmonize policies, consolidate programmes and maximize the effectiveness of their services to member States.

222nd meeting,
30 April 1982.

445 (XVII). Science and technology development in Africa 53/

The Conference of Ministers,

Recalling its resolution 385 (XV) of 12 April 1980 by which membership in the Inter-governmental Committee of Experts on Science and Technology Development was opened to all African States,

Also recalling that in the aforementioned resolution it was decided to establish working groups of the Inter-governmental Committee of Experts on Science and Technology Development to examine specific problems and issues in science and technology,

Taking note of the report of the Inter-governmental Committee of Experts on Science and Technology Development, 54/

53/ See chapter III, section C, paragraphs 138 to 155 above.

54/ E/ECA/TPCW.3/3.

1. Commends the Inter-governmental Committee on Science and Technology Development for its work and for its prompt establishment of three working groups on science and technology development, basic needs and industry, including energy, and transport and communications respectively;

2. Endorses the resolutions and recommendations of the Inter-governmental Committee of Experts on Science and Technology Development;

3. Urges, in particular, each member State to:

(a) Create new and/or strengthen existing central co-ordinating machinery for science and technology policy-making and implementation as outlined in programme element 1.1 of the science and technology chapter of the Lagos Plan of Action; 55/

(b) Ensure not only that national programmes are directly related to agricultural and industrial production but also that effective links are forged between research and development institutions and programmes; producers of equipment, materials and other supplies; and final users, both private and public, of the products of research and development;

(c) Support measures for financing science and technology activities within the United Nations system especially the United Nations Financing System for Science and Technology for Development;

(d) Ensure that at least 40 per cent of the anticipated permanent United Nations Fund for Science and Technology for Development is allocated to African national, multinational and regional programmes, especially those designed to establish and strengthen capabilities for the assessment, selection, acquisition and exploitation of indigenous and foreign technology and expertise and for the development of indigenous technology, and to the indigenous development of manpower resources, equipment, materials and infrastructures for science and technology;

3. Invites all member States to participate actively in the work of the Inter-governmental Committee of Experts on Science and Technology Development and to make an effective contribution to its work.

222nd meeting,
30 April 1982.

446 (XVII). Combating desertification in Africa 56/

The Conference of Ministers,

Recalling the relevant General Assembly resolutions, and in particular resolution 36/190 of 17 December 1981, on the implementation of the United Nations Conference on Desertification's Plan of Action to Combat Desertification,

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

56/ See chapter III, section C, paragraphs 138 to 155 above.

Further recalling its resolution 239 (XI) of 23 February 1973 on the Sahel drought, 264 (XII) of 28 February 1975 on solutions to the desertification problems in Africa, 332 (XIV) of 27 March 1979 containing Africa's strategy for development in the Third United Nations Development Decade and 398 (XV) of 12 April 1980 on the control of drought and desertification as priority areas of concern for the continent in the Lagos Plan of Action, 57/ and 412 (XVI) of 10 April 1981 on the need to review national environmental protection legislation for improved land use planning and for forest conservation and management, whereby the role of mismanagement of forests and land use in promoting the desertification process was recognized,

Aware of United Nations Environment Programme Governing Council decision 9/22 B of 26 May 1981 on the need to intensify desertification control measures in the Sudano-Sahelian region and on the seriousness of the desertification process for the peoples of the countries affected by it, 58/

Taking note of the review report 59/ on the implementation of the Plan of Action to combat desertification in Africa, which covers the activities of the United Nations system, interested inter-governmental bodies and donor aid countries,

Recognizing the effort of the United Nations Sudano-Sahelian Office for its planning and programming assistance to member States for the preparation of projects to combat desertification at the national and regional levels and also the efforts of that Office to seek financing from bilateral and multilateral sources for their implementation,

Taking note that the Inter-agency Working Group on Desertification, under the aegis of United Nations Environment Programme, is developing training programmes supported by teaching manuals for the improvement of indigenous manpower capabilities of member States to combat desertification, promoting research on the courses of desertification for a more effective means of control and also carrying out a short-term review (1977-1984) of the progress made so far on the implementation of the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification,

Deeply concerned that, inspite of the massive efforts made to combat desertification and the size of the financial commitments invested in programme activities, desertification in Africa continues to be a serious threat as the deserts encroach on arable land every year at an alarming pace,

1. Urges member States affected or threatened by desertification, i.e., those in the northern Saharan, Sudano-Sahelian, including the Horn of Africa, and Kalahari desert regions, to make a concerted effort to combat desertification by establishing a Regional Inter-governmental Committee to Combat Desertification in Africa with a view to harmonizing policies and activities in this area and promoting the exchange of information;

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

58/ See UNEP/CC.9/15 - Report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environmental Programme on the work of its ninth session, decision 9/22 B, page 153.

59/ E/ECA/CM.8/21.

2. Authorizes the Executive Secretary to assist the member States affected by desertification in Africa, to set up a Regional Inter-governmental Committee to Combat Desertification in Africa and designates the Environment Co-ordination Office as the secretariat of the Committee;

3. Decides that the main functions of the Regional Inter-governmental Committee to Combat Desertification in Africa will be to:

(a) Provide a forum for member States to examine successful projects for combating desertification with a view to mounting demonstration activities in similarly affected client countries;

(b) Promote co-operation in the training of local experts and middle-level technicians;

(c) Facilitate the development of environmental education materials for combating desertification from successful research and field work; and

(d) Reassess periodically the methodologies, strategies and programmes for combating desertification within the context of the recommendations in the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification; 60/

4. Appeals to the relevant United Nations organizations and entities (i.e. United Nations Development Programme, United Nations Environment Programme, United Nations Sudano-Sahelian Office, Inter-agency Working Group on Desertification, Conference on Desertification, Food and Agriculture Organization, World Meteorological Organization, United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and World Health Organization) and appropriate inter-governmental organizations such as the Organization of African Unity and the Permanent Inter-State Committee on Drought Control in the Sahel and non-governmental bodies such as the International Union for the Conservation of Nature and donor countries to support the activities of the Regional Inter-governmental Committee to Combat Desertification in Africa, as well as to assist individual member States to develop their national capabilities to combat desertification;

5. Requests the Economic and Social Council to recommend to the General Assembly the establishment of an institutional machinery responsible for combating drought and desertification in the Eastern and Southern African subregion.

222nd meeting,
30 April 1982.

60/ See Round-up, Plan of Action and Resolutions, United Nations Conference on Desertification, recommendations 12 and 13, 16 to 19 and 20 to 22, United Nations, New York, 1978.

447 (XVII). Women and development: Action to the end of the Decade 61/

The Conference of Ministers,

Recalling the recommendations of the second Regional Conference on the Integration of Women in Development 62/ held in Lusaka from 3 to 7 December 1979 and its programmes and strategies for 1980-1985 endorsed by Conference of Ministers in its resolution 375 (XV) of 12 April 1980 and incorporated in the Lagos Plan of Action, 63/

Noting its resolution 365 (XIV) of 27 March 1979 instructing the Africa Regional Co-ordinating Committee to convene a Regional Conference on Women and Development every three years,

Also recalling United Nations General Assembly resolution 35/136 of 11 December 1980 endorsing the Programme of Action for the Second Half of the United Nations Decade for Women and deciding to convene a world conference in 1985 to mark the end of the Decade,

Having taken cognizance of the reports and recommendations of the third meeting of the Africa Regional Co-ordinating Committee for the Integration of Women in Development 64/ held in Douala from 15 to 17 March 1982,

Recalling its resolution 407 (XVI) of 10 April 1981 on the mobilization of financial resources for the implementation of programmes for the integration of women in development,

Commending the efforts that have been made in this respect by African States that have made donations to the United Nations Trust Fund for African Development for the programme for the integration of women in development,

Noting with satisfaction the continued assistance given by the United Nations Development Programme to subregional programmes for women under the 1982-1986 cycle,

Commending the efforts made by the Executive Secretary to provide technical services to the Africa Regional Co-ordinating Committee to enable it to consider some of the critical issues facing African women, and to allocate part of the regular budget to the women's programme of the Commission,

1. Decides that the third Regional Conference on the Integration of Women in Development, which should cover preparations for the World Conference of the United Nations Decade for Women at the end of the Decade, will be held in 1984; and invites the Africa Regional Co-ordinating Committee to propose the date to the ninth meeting of the Conference of Ministers/eighteenth session of the Commission;

61/ See chapter III, section C, paragraphs 138 to 155 above.

62/ E/CN.14/744.

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

64/ E/ECA/CM.8/23.

2. Decides that the third Regional Conference should discuss progress in the implementation of the Lagos Plan of Action with special reference in particular to the role of women in alleviating the food crisis, refugee and displaced women, women's participation in the programme of the Industrial Development Decade, the legal status of women, women in rural areas, out-of-school girls and vocational training, the setting up of national machineries and utilization of research;

3. Calls upon member States, subregional committees for women in development, institutions and women's organizations to take appropriate steps to promote studies and action programmes in these fields and to organize the dissemination of information on general programmes for women;

4. Requests the Executive Secretary to intensify his efforts to study the aforementioned topics in depth and organize an information network for the dissemination of all information concerning African women;

5. Calls upon the Executive Secretary in collaboration with the Africa Regional Co-ordinating Committee to begin immediately to investigate the practical modalities for holding the third Regional Conference and to report to the Conference of Ministers at its ninth meeting/eighteenth session of the Commission the results of such consultations;

6. Urges the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme to intensify his efforts to provide the North African subregional programme with resources similar to those made available to the other four subregional programmes for women;

7. Also requests the specialized agencies of the United Nations family and other donors to extend more substantial assistance to programmes for the integration of women in development;

8. Further requests the Executive Secretary to examine the possibilities and the means of accelerating the implementation of the subregional programmes through the decentralization of resources.

222nd meeting,
30 April 1982.

448 (XVII). Aging in Africa 65/

The Conference of Ministers,

Having considered the report of the Regional Inter-governmental Meeting on Aging, held at Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, from 1 to 5 March 1982, 66/

Recalling General Assembly resolution 33/52 of 14 December 1978 on the dignity and worth of the human being and the rights of the aged,

65/ See chapter III, section C, paragraphs 138 to 155 above.

66/ E/ECA/CM.8/24.

Recalling also General Assembly resolution 3137 (XXVIII) of 14 December 1973 on the question of the elderly and the recommendation therein on the need for well designed policies and programmes for the aging,

Conscious of the fact that, in absolute numbers, the aging population in most African countries is at the threshold of a substantial increase,

Observing that a number of African States have not yet developed specific policies for the aging in their socio-economic planning and that isolated action in this area often results in limited and ineffective programmes for the aging,

Observing further that there is a need for efforts to be made to strengthen the traditional extended family with a view to reinforcing its role of ensuring the economic and social security of the aging,

1. Endorses the report, findings and recommendations of the Regional Inter-governmental Meeting on Aging;

2. Requests the Executive Secretary:

(a) To bring to the attention of Governments, individually and collectively, the recommendations of the Inter-governmental Meeting on Aging;

(b) To assist Governments of member States, on request, in the design of plans and programmes concerning the aging;

(c) To invite multilateral and, where feasible, bilateral aid agencies to consider assisting African Governments in developing or strengthening their programmes for the aging and the elderly;

3. Requests African Governments to review their policies and programmes for the aging with a view to implementing the recommendations of the Regional Inter-governmental Meeting on Aging;

4. Urges member Governments to participate in the forthcoming World Assembly on Aging to be held in Vienna, Austria, from 26 July to 6 August 1982, and to ensure recognition and implementation of the African Plan of Action for the Aging and the Elderly.

222nd meeting,
30 April 1982.

449 (XVII). Regional programming, operation, restructuring and decentralization issues 67/

The Conference of Ministers,

Recalling General Assembly resolutions 3201 (S-VI) and 3202 (S-VI) of 1 May 1974 containing the Declaration and the Programme of Action on the Establishment of a New International Economic Order and 3281 (XXIX) of 12 December 1974 containing the Charter of Economic Rights and Duties of States,

67/ See chapter III, section C, paragraphs 138 to 155 above.

Recalling also General Assembly resolution 3362 (S-VII) of 16 September 1975, by which, inter alia, the Ad Hoc Committee on the Restructuring of the Economic and Social Sectors of the United Nations System was established for the purpose of preparing detailed action proposals with a view to initiating the process of restructuring the United Nations system so as to make it more fully capable of dealing with problems of international economic co-operation and development in a comprehensive and effective manner, and to make it more responsive to the requirements of the provisions of the Declaration and the Programme of Action on the Establishment of a New International Economic Order as well as those of the Charter of Economic Rights and Duties of States,

Recalling further General Assembly resolutions 32/197 of 20 December 1977, 33/202 of 29 January 1979 and 34/206 of 19 December 1979 on the restructuring of the economic and social sectors of the United Nations system, which process was affirmed as an integral part of the efforts required to ensure the equitable, full and effective participation of the developing countries in the formulation and application of all decisions with the United Nations system in the field of development and international economic co-operation and which assigned specific, additional tasks to regional commissions including the task of being the main general economic and social development centres for their respective regions, providing team leadership and responsibility for co-ordination and co-operation at the regional level and acting as executing agencies,

Mindful of the terms of reference of the Economic Commission for Africa which state inter alia that the Commission shall participate in measures for facilitating concerted action for the economic development of Africa, including its social aspects, with a view to raising the level of economic activity and levels of living in Africa and shall assist in the formulation and development of co-ordinated policies as a basis for practical action in promoting economic and technological development in the region,

Mindful in particular of the importance attached by the Commission to economic co-operation among member States, particularly at the subregional level, and the various resolutions adopted by the Conference, in this regard, culminating in the Lagos Plan of Action and the Final Act of Lagos, 68/

Having considered the Joint Inspection Unit report on the Economic Commission for Africa, regional programming, operations, restructuring and decentralization issues, 69/

1. Welcomes the report, expresses satisfaction with its findings and conclusions and fully endorses its recommendations;
2. Invites the Economic and Social Council to consider devoting a regular agenda item to United Nations system co-ordination problems and needs at the regional level;
3. Calls upon the Secretary-General to institute arrangements to simplify and expedite technical assistance recruitment procedures with a view to decentralizing fully recruitment functions to the Commission;

68/ A/S-11/14, annexes I and II.

69/ JIU/REP/82/1.

4. Urges the Secretary-General to strengthen the status and functions of the Regional Commissions Liaison Office at United Nations Headquarters to better enable it to carry out its representation responsibilities;

5. Appeals to the Secretary-General to provide the necessary regular budget resources to ensure that the Multinational Programming and Operational Centres are suitably staffed and equipped to carry out their basic functions, inter alia, the over-all direction and management of their programmes; the organization of annual meetings at both official and ministerial levels; the preparation of studies; the collection, synthesis and dissemination of information, and general research into development questions;

6. Invites the Director-General for Development and International Economic Co-operation to investigate new approaches to regional and subregional programming and management of United Nations system intercountry projects, working closely with the organizations of the system;

7. Invites further the Director-General for Development and International Economic Co-operation, in consultation with all concerned United Nations organizations, to examine the progress made in decentralization of United Nations activities and report thereon to the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination and the Economic and Social Council with a view to determining what specific authorities, responsibilities and resources will be decentralized and the timing of such decentralization;

8. Calls upon the Executive Secretary to institute, under the aegis of the Commission, regional, subject-oriented, high-level inter-agency meetings to discuss common issues aimed at the development of firm guide-lines for co-ordinated action towards the attainment of the objectives of the Lagos Plan of Action;

9. Urges the Executive Secretary to undertake the necessary organizational and administrative arrangements as recommended by the Inspectors in their recommendations 6, 7 and 8 in order to ensure that the Commission functions at optimum efficiency and effectiveness;

10. Urges the executive secretaries of the regional commissions to increase their exchanges of staff in order to foster the broader scheme of interregional co-operation;

11. Requests organizations within the United Nations system to assist African Governments within the framework of their country programming process in incorporating the goals and objectives of the Lagos Plan of Action into their sectoral country programmes and projects, and adapting them to subregional and regional priorities;

12. Invites the Executive Secretary to report progress on the implementation of this resolution through the ninth meeting of the Conference and eighteenth session of the Commission, to the 1983 summer session of the Economic and Social Council and to the thirty-eighth session of the General Assembly.

450 (XVII). Financing of the Commission's Multinational Programming and Operational Centres on an established basis 70/

The Conference of Ministers,

Recalling General Assembly resolutions 32/197 of 20 December 1977, 33/202 of 29 January 1979 and 34/206 of 19 December 1979 on the restructuring of the economic and social sectors of the United Nations,

Recalling also the various resolutions adopted by the Commission and the Conference of Ministers over the past two decades which aimed at strengthening economic relations among its member States in order to improve the standards of living of the African people,

Recalling in particular resolution 311 (XIII) of 1 March 1977 which, in reaffirming that sectoral and subregional integration constituted the foundation for the creation of an African Common Market, established the Multinational Programming and Operational Centres, and resolution 418 (XVI) of 10 April 1981 which addressed itself to their financial plight,

Conscious of the commitment made by African Heads of State and Government towards strengthening existing regional economic communities and establishing other economic groupings as enshrined in the Final Act of Lagos, 71/

Reaffirming its belief that the Centres, if provided with adequate resources can serve as a key instrument for the promotion of multinational economic co-operation,

Keenly aware of the comments made by the Joint Inspection Unit in its report on the Economic Commission for Africa as regards the inadequacy of the human and financial resources available to the Centres as a result of which their very existence is threatened, 72/

Having considered the draft of the report by the Secretary-General on the financing of the Commission's Multinational Programming and Operational Centres on an established basis prepared pursuant to paragraph 4 of General Assembly resolution 36/178 of 17 December 1981, 73/

1. Endorses the following recommendations contained in the draft report by the Secretary-General:

70/ See chapter III, section C, paragraphs 138 to 155 above.

71/ A/S-11/14, annex II.

72/ JIU/REP/82/1, paras. 83 to 96.

73/ E/ECA/CM.8/26.

(a) That in order to enable the Centres to continue playing an effective role in the implementation of their work programmes which include a substantial part of the traditional activities of the Commission, substantial support would be required from the regular budget of the United Nations, and for this purpose, 13 professional posts and six local-level posts, together with ancillary services, should be provided;

(b) That financial support from the United Nations Development Programme must be maintained, and if possible stepped up, but redirected to support equitably the operational activities of each of the Centres;

(c) That other possible sources of extra-budgetary support for the Centres, in cash as well as in kind, need to be explored further with a view to increasing their contribution to the maximum extent possible;

2. Requests the Secretary-General to submit these proposals to the thirty-seventh session of the General Assembly through the 1982 summer session of the Economic and Social Council in accordance with General Assembly resolution 36/178 mentioned above;

3. Recommends to the General Assembly, through the Economic and Social Council, that the necessary regular budget resources should be provided to ensure the implementation, on a continuing basis, of the basic functions of these Centres, inter alia, the over-all direction and management of its programme; the preparation of studies; the collection, synthesis and dissemination of information; and general research into development question;

4. Requests the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme to provide continuous support to the Centres during the Programme's 1982-1986 programming cycle by financing operational activities which are from time to time identified and approved by the Centres' legislative organs;

5. Invites the African members of the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme to take necessary positive steps during the June 1982 session of the Council and at subsequent sessions to ensure the implementation of paragraph 4 above;

6. Appeals to African Governments concerned to strengthen their support to the Centres by enhancing the provisions of host government agreements;

7. Appeals further to all African Governments to make financial contributions to the Centres through their contributions to the United Nations Trust Fund for African Development;

8. Calls upon the Executive Secretary to intensify his efforts to secure additional financial resources for both operational activities as well as infrastructural support to the Centres from other United Nations organizations and organs as well as from multilateral and bilateral donors;

9. Invites the Executive Secretary to report on progress on the implementation of this resolution to the ninth meeting of the Conference of Ministers and eighteenth session of the Commission.

222nd meeting,
30 April 1982.

451 (XVII). Consolidated biennial report of activities, 1980-1981, and approved programme of work and priorities, 1982-1983, of regional and subregional institutions sponsored by the Commission, and the buffer fund 74/

The Conference of Ministers,

Having considered the report and recommendations of the second conference of Chief Executives of Regional and Subregional Institutions sponsored by the Commission, 75/

Recalling its resolution 409 (XVI) of 10 April 1981 which proposed steps aimed at strengthening the regional and subregional institutions sponsored by the Commission,

Noting with satisfaction their consolidated biennial report of activities, 1980-1981, 76/ and their approved programme of work and priorities, 1982-1983 77/ and the fact that the latter had been prepared in keeping with the objectives of the Lagos Plan of Action, 78/

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

Appreciative of the fact that, in the spirit of self-reliance they have established a buffer fund into which they shall make initial contributions, for the purpose of providing temporary financial assistance to their members which are facing financial difficulties and that the operation of such a fund would strengthen them and thereby promote the provision of greater support for them by African Governments,

1. Expresses its appreciation to the Governing Councils or corresponding organs of these institutions for ensuring that the programmes of work and priorities of their institutions are consistent with the Lagos Plan of Action;
2. Notes with satisfaction the establishment of the Buffer Fund in the spirit of collective self-reliance;
3. Requests the Executive Secretary to continue to submit to it regularly a consolidated biennial report of activities and the approved work programmes and priorities of these institutions;

74/ See chapter III, section C, paragraphs 138 to 155 above.

75/ E/ECA/CM.8/4.

76/ E/ECA/TPCW.3/9.

77/ E/ECA/TPCW.3/8.

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

4. Further requests the Executive Secretary to continue to co-ordinate the activities of these institutions and submit to it regular reports thereon, and to publish reports on the institutions indicating the advantages that had accrued to member States;

5. Appeals again to member States which have not already joined such institutions to take all possible measures to do so as soon as possible and those in arrears 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;

6. Appeals to all African Governments and institutions to make pledges during the fourth and subsequent Pledging Conferences of African Plenipotentiaries and Institutions for the purpose of augmenting the Buffer Fund.

222nd meeting,
30 April 1982.

452 (XVII). The United Nations Development Programme's Regional Programme for Africa for the period 1982-1986 79/

The Conference of Ministers,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 34/206 of 19 December 1979 concerning the restructuring of the economic and social sectors of the United Nations system, which introduced the notion of collective involvement of the countries of each region in the identification of regional programme priorities,

Conscious of the commitment made by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity at its second extraordinary session held in Lagos in April 1980 by the adoption of the Lagos Plan of Action and the Final Act of Lagos, 80/ aimed at the pursuit of economic independence through co-operation and collective self-reliance,

Recalling its resolution 376 (XV) of 12 April 1980 by which it endorsed the strategy and priority areas of the United Nations Development Programme Regional Programme for Africa for the period 1982-1986,

Having examined the notes as well as the document on the United Nations Development Programme's Regional Programme for Africa for the period 1982-1986, 81/

1. Endorses the document on the United Nations Development Programme's Regional Programme for Africa for the period 1982-1986,

79/ See chapter III, section C, paragraphs 138 to 155 above.

80/ A/S-11/14, annexes I and II.

81/ E/ECA/CM.8/18 and Add.1.

2. Expresses its gratitude to the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme for the Programme's continuing financial support to regional co-operation activities in Africa in the spirit of the Lagos Plan of Action and the Final Act of Lagos;

3. Appeals to the United Nations Development Programme to release at the earliest possible opportunity the unprogrammed portion of the regional indicative planning figure in order adequately to meet the urgent needs of the region;

4. Further appeals to the United Nations Development Programme to continue to provide financing for all the Multinational Programming and Operational Centres, including the Centre for North Africa, during the 1982-1986 programming cycle, in addition to the resources soon to be made available from the United Nations regular budget and to provide special assistance to the Preferential Trade Area for Eastern and Southern Africa;

5. Requests the United Nations Development Programme to keep African Governments regularly informed of the implementation of the Regional Programmes covering the entire African continent, and in particular to present to the Conference of Ministers of the Commission progress reports at mid-term and at the end of the 1982-1986 programming cycle.

222nd meeting,
30 April 1982.

453 (XVII). United Nations Trust Fund for African Development 82/

The Conference of Ministers,

Having examined the progress report on pledges and payments by member States and institutions and on project implementation and expenditure for the period 1977-1981, 83/

Appreciative of the increasing number of member States contributing to the Fund and recognizing the efforts made by the secretariat to ensure the collection of pledged contributions,

Conscious of the increasingly important role that the Fund is likely to have to play in the design and implementation of projects intended to promote self-reliance and self-sustainment,

1. Appeals to member States which have not already participated in the Fund to do so;

82/ See chapter III, section C, paragraphs 138 to 155 above.

83/ E/ECA/CN.8/5.

2. Calls upon member States to make prompt payment of their unpaid contributions as soon as possible in order to ensure, without further delay, the implementation of the priority projects approved by the Commission;

3. Appeals further to all member States, African financial institutions and non-African Governments and institutions to pledge generously to the Fund at the fourth Pledging Conference in 1983.

222nd meeting,
30 April 1982.

454 (XVII). Expansion of the conference facilities of the Commission at Addis Ababa 84/

The Conference of Ministers,

Recalling General Assembly resolutions 2616 (XXIV) of 17 December 1969 and 2745 (XXV) of 17 December 1970 which recognized the inadequacy of the conference facilities at the headquarters of the Economic Commission for Africa and the responsibility of States Members of the United Nations for the solution of that problem,

Noting Economic and Social Council resolution 1981/65 of 24 July 1981 on the expansion of the conference facilities of the Economic Commission for Africa,

Further recalling General Assembly resolution 36/176 of 17 December 1981 requesting the Secretary-General to undertake a study on the inadequacy of the existing conference facilities,

Recalling further that the land and the buildings that accommodate the headquarters of the Commission were donated in 1961 to the United Nations by the Government of Ethiopia,

Aware that, since then, the United Nations has built additional units to meet the growing requirements for office and related space but that the conference facilities have yet to be constructed,

Recognizing the need for adequate conference facilities at the headquarters of the Economic Commission for Africa to service regional, subregional and inter-regional conferences, symposiums and seminars for the increasing number of participants from the enlarged membership of the Commission as well as participants from other regions and United Nations Bodies,

Conscious of the heavy responsibilities entrusted to the Commission in the implementation of the Lagos Plan of Action 85/ and the co-ordination of development policies and activities in the African region,

84/ See chapter III, section C, paragraphs 138 to 155 above.

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

Appreciating the report of the Executive Secretary 86/ in which the inadequacy of the existing conference facilities was established,

Aware of the recommendations of the Joint Inspection Unit 87/ adopted by the General Assembly,

Noting with appreciation the generous offer by the Government of Ethiopia of a suitable plot of land for the construction of additional conference facilities,

1. Expresses its gratitude to the Government of Ethiopia for its expression of intent to grant the plot of land required for the construction of the conference building;

2. Requests the Executive Secretary to arrange for an engineering and architectural design study to be made of the new conference facilities and allied services required, and for cost estimates to be prepared based on that study;

3. Further requests the Executive Secretary to submit the findings of that study, through the Secretary-General, to the Economic and Social Council at its second regular session in 1982;

4. Recommends that the Economic and Social Council should take all necessary measures to ensure that the General Assembly at its thirty-seventh session approves the project and makes the necessary provision so that construction work can begin in 1983.

222nd meeting
30 April 1982

455 (XVII). Silver Jubilee Anniversary of the Economic Commission for Africa 88/

The Conference of Ministers,

Recalling the historic General Assembly resolution 1155 (XII) of 26 November 1957, which recommended that the Economic and Social Council should establish an Economic Commission for Africa,

Recalling further Economic and Social Council resolution 671A (XXV) of 29 April 1958, which established the Economic Commission for Africa,

Proclaiming the year 1983 as the Silver Jubilee Anniversary of the establishment of the Commission,

86/ E/ECA/CM.8/27.

87/ E/ECA/CM.8/9.

88/ See chapter III, section C, paragraphs 138 to 155 and 157 above.

Noting with immense satisfaction that, during the Commission's epoch-making 25 years of existence, which have witnessed the near total political emancipation of the region it has been accepted as a truly African institution dedicated to the task of promoting collective self-reliance in the economic and social development of Africa and the liberation of the continent from the shackles of the economic dependence inherited from the colonial period,

Determined, therefore, to commemorate the Silver Jubilee Anniversary of the Commission with most fitting celebrations in the member States and by the Commission itself, its secretariat and the regional and subregional institutions sponsored by the Commission,

Bearing in mind paragraph 20 of the Commission's terms of reference, which provides that the Commission shall at each session decide on the place where its next session should be held, due consideration being given to the principle that the Commission should meet at its headquarters or in different countries of Africa,

1. Decides to hold the Silver Jubilee Anniversary session of the Commission (eighteenth session of the Commission and ninth meeting of the Conference of Ministers) at the headquarters of the Commission, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, during the month of April 1983;

2. Calls upon member States to support, organize and promote events in commemoration of the Silver Jubilee Anniversary, such as:

(a) The issue of commemorative postage stamps and appropriate souvenirs;

(b) The organization by national committees on the United Nations or other suitable bodies of celebrations, in collaboration with offices of the United Nations Development Programme and with the offices of the Multinational Programming and Operational Centres, where they exist, and appropriate ministries of Governments;

(c) Participation in exhibitions, film festivals and other social and cultural events organized at the headquarters of the Commission;

(d) Donation of trophies or other suitable prizes for competitions organized in commemoration of the Silver Jubilee Anniversary;

3. Appeals to the Government of Ethiopia which, since the establishment of the Commission, has amply demonstrated its dedication to and support for the Commission in diverse, practical and generous ways, to take all steps necessary to ensure that the Silver Jubilee Anniversary is celebrated in a manner befitting the importance of the occasion;

4. Requests the Government of Ethiopia to establish, in collaboration with the secretariat, a Joint Silver Jubilee Anniversary Committee for this purpose;

5. Requests the Executive Secretary to undertake, as a matter of urgency, consultations as appropriate with the Government of Ethiopia, with a view to implementing this resolution and exploring what further measures can be taken to enhance the grandeur of the Silver Jubilee Anniversary celebrations.

222nd meeting,
30 April 1982.

456 (XVII). Implementation, follow-up and monitoring of the Substantial New Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries ^{89/}

The Conference of Ministers,

Recalling the principles and guide-lines of the Lagos Plan of Action ^{90/} concerning the development of African countries and the least developed ones in particular,

Recalling resolution 353 (XIV) of 27 March 1979 on the least developed, land-locked, island and most seriously affected countries and resolution 397 (XV) of 12 April 1980 on the role of the Economic Commission for Africa in the development process of the African least developed countries,

Taking note of the report of the United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries ^{91/} held in Paris from 1 to 14 September 1981 and of the provisions of the Substantial New Programme of Action for the 1980s for the Least Developed Countries which was adopted by that Conference,

Recalling resolution CM/886 (XXXVII) adopted at the thirty-seventh ordinary session of the Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity and endorsed at the eighteenth meeting of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government which called for the effective monitoring of the implementation of the Substantial New Programme of Action,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 36/194 of 17 December 1981 on the United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries,

Noting once again that the economic performance of the African least developed countries over the past two years demonstrates the necessity of taking measures to offset the impact of the unfavourable international economic situation on the prices of these countries' exports and on resource flows available to them,

^{89/} See chapter III, section C, paragraphs 131 to 135 above.

^{90/} A/S-11/14, annex I.

^{91/} A/CONF.104/22 and Add.1, part one, section A.

1. Expresses its deep appreciation to His Excellency the Hon. Daniel Arap Moi, President of the Republic of Kenya and current Chairman of the Organization of African Unity; to His Excellency, the Hon. Aristides Pereira, President of the Republic of Cape Verde; and to His Excellency, Major General Juvenal Habyarimana, President of the Rwandese Republic, for their distinguished and valuable contributions to the United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries held in Paris in September 1981 by highlighting the social and economic problems of African least developed countries, sensitizing the international community to the immense resource requirements of African countries, particularly the least developed ones, and expressing the need for international commitments for increased resource flows to African least developed countries to enable them to implement their various development programmes;

2. Stresses the pressing necessity to take practical steps to ensure the successful implementation of the Substantial New Programme of Action on behalf of African least developed countries;

3. Calls upon African least developed countries which have not yet done so, to take immediate steps to establish a mechanism for the implementation, follow-up and monitoring of the Programme at the national level in accordance with paragraphs 110 to 116 of the Programme;

4. Recommends that, in order to facilitate the follow-up and monitoring of the Programme at the regional level and for purposes of information, each African least developed country should submit to the annual Conference of Ministers of African Least Developed Countries a progress report on the implementation of the Programme at the national level;

5. Recommends that, in view of the mandate given to the Economic Commission for Africa as the agency responsible for the co-ordination of over-all development activities in the African region, 92/ the Commission should be closely associated with the lead agencies in the substantive preparations and organization of aid consultative groups (review meetings, round tables) that each least developed country is called upon to convene in accordance with paragraphs 110 to 116 of the Programme;

6. Requests the United Nations and the specialized agencies in their respective fields of competence to take all necessary measures to assist the African least developed countries in the implementation of the Substantial New Programme of Action;

7. Requests United Nations bodies and organs, the Organization of African Unity and other inter-governmental organizations to co-ordinate their efforts at the regional level so as to provide African least developed countries with efficient assistance in the implementation of the Programme;

92/ See General Assembly resolution 32/197 of 20 December 1977.

8. Appeals to the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme to provide resources over and above those earmarked for Governments to enable the Executive Secretary to carry out his responsibilities in respect of the implementation, follow-up and monitoring of the Substantial New Programme of Action in the African region.

222nd meeting,
30 April 1982.

457 (XVII). Implementation of the Substantial New Programme of Action within the framework of national and collective self-reliance 93/

The Conference of Ministers,

Bearing in mind the guiding principles and objectives of the Lagos Plan of Action, 94/

Considering that the development of African least developed countries will result first of all from the internal transformation of their economies and from the corresponding actions to be taken as far as investment, entrepreneurial resources, skilled manpower and institutions are concerned,

1. Calls upon African least developed countries to:

(a) Initiate action in the light of the guide-lines defined in the Lagos Plan of Action aimed at identifying national investment opportunities;

(b) Take necessary action to reorient their investment patterns so as to maximize the use of indigenous production factors and inputs and to promote the greater integration of their economies, the development of indigenous capabilities in research and development and the development of markets at the national, subregional and regional levels;

2. Calls upon the Executive Secretary to undertake, upon request by Governments, studies which will assist African least developed countries in formulating plans and programmes on the basis of appropriate planning methodologies;

3. Calls upon the international community to review and implement assistance and aid programmes in conformity with the Substantial New Programme of Action 95/ and in line with the Lagos Plan of Action, in terms of the needs, resources and potentialities of African least developed countries individually and within the framework of co-operation arrangements;

93/ See chapter III, section C, paragraphs 131 to 135 above.

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

95/ A/CONF.104/22 and Add.1, part one, section A.

4. Requests the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to assist African least developed countries in evaluating their potentialities so as to ensure that they derive maximum benefits from trade arrangements within the framework of collective self-reliance among developing countries as well as from exports to developed countries;

5. Further requests the organizations and specialized agencies of the United Nations to provide assistance in their respective areas of competence to African least developed countries in the implementation of the Substantial New Programme of Action and the Lagos Plan of Action;

6. Calls upon both land-locked least developed countries and coastal African States to intensify their common efforts to develop transport and communication infrastructures within the framework of the United Nations Transport and Communications Decade in Africa;

7. Urges coastal African States to ensure more transit facilities to land-locked least developed countries;

8. Invites the Executive Secretary, in collaboration with the Secretary-General of the Organization of African Unity and relevant United Nations agencies, to assist island and continental African States in identifying ways of exploiting the resources of adjacent seas.

222nd meeting,
30 April 1982.

458 (XVII). Financing of programmes for the least developed countries 96/

The Conference of Ministers,

Considering that the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme gives highest priority in allocating its resources during the 1982-1986 period to the least developed countries,

Considering that the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme, because of the inadequacy of the resources mobilized to date, had authorized the programming of only 80 per cent of the indicative planning figure for that period,

Noting with deep concern that this action by the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme has the effect of decreasing by 20 per cent the amount of the resources available for the financing of the country programmes of the least developed countries during this period, contrary to the recommendations of the Paris Conference on the Least Developed Countries 97/ that international assistance to those countries should be substantially increased,

96/ See chapter III, section C, paragraphs 131 to 135 above.

97/ A/CONF.104/22 and Add.1.

Noting also that there is a Special Measures Fund for the least developed countries financed by voluntary contributions and administered by the United Nations Development Programme, but to which only a small number of countries are currently contributing,

1. Solemnly appeals to the international community to provide the United Nations Development Programme with the resources that will enable it to achieve the financial objectives of the 1982-1986 programming cycle;
2. Urgently requests member States, particularly the most developed countries, to contribute generously to the financing of the Special Measures Fund for the least developed countries;
3. Requests the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme to bring the present resolution to the attention of all States members of the United Nations and to take all the measures necessary for its implementation.

222nd meeting,
30 April 1982.

459 (XVII). Vote of thanks to the Leader of the El Fatah Revolution and to the courageous and militant people of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya 98/

The Conference of Ministers,

Deeply grateful to H.E. Colonel Muammar Al Gadhafi, Leader of the Great and Glorious El Fatah Revolution of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya and to the courageous and militant people of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya for their warm and fraternal reception and for their most generous hospitality in providing the Economic Commission for Africa with the superb facilities and the various kinds of services which enabled it to hold, with remarkable efficiency, within the last two weeks four major meetings in Tripoli, namely:

- (a) The second meeting of the Inter-governmental Committee of Experts of African Least Developed Countries;
- (b) The third meeting of the Technical Preparatory Committee of the Whole;
- (c) The second meeting of the Conference of Ministers of African Least Developed Countries and, finally,
- (d) The eighth meeting of the Conference of Ministers of the Economic Commission for Africa,

98/ See chapter III, section C, paragraphs 159 and 160 above.

Conscious of the fact that the superb facilities and the diverse and manifold services afforded by the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya for holding the above-mentioned meetings at Tripoli have provided a momentous opportunity to the legislative organs of the Commission to consider various aspects of the economic and social conditions of Africa and to propose measures for accelerating the harmonious socio-economic development of the continent,

Noting with deep appreciation the eloquent and inspiring address of H.E. Major Abdelsalem Ahmed Jalloud, particularly his full awareness and judicious analysis of the economic and social problems which retard the accelerated development and economic growth of African countries and the achievement of the goals and objectives of the Lagos Plan of Action,

1. Expresses its deep gratitude to H.E. Colonel Muammar Al Gadhafi, Leader of the Great and Glorious El Fatah Revolution as well as to the valiant and militant people of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya for their warm and fraternal hospitality and for the physical and all other facilities generously provided for the meetings and their participants;

2. Requests the Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa to transmit the present resolution to the Leader of the Great and Glorious El Fatah Revolution, a worthy son of Africa's struggle.

222nd meeting,
30 April 1982.

ANNEX I

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS OF DRAFT RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED BY THE SEVENTH SESSION OF THE COMMISSION AND THE EIGHTH MEETING OF THE CONFERENCE OF MINISTERS

1. Draft resolution B - Conference of Ministers resolution 431 (XVII): Demographic data collection and analysis

In taking note of the report of the second session of the Joint Conference of African Planners, Statisticians and Demographers and noting, in particular, the decreasing shares of assistance being made available by the United Nations Fund for Population Activities and other multilateral donor agencies, as well as all bilateral donors, to States members of the Commission and to the Commission itself for demographic data collection, processing, evaluation, analysis and dissemination, the Commission drew the attention of the United Nations Fund for Population Activities to the priority which African nations accord to demographic data collection and analysis within their over-all population programmes and appealed to the General Assembly to allocate the necessary infrastructure posts to the Economic Commission for Africa to enable it to meet its increased responsibilities in the field of population.

Since the Executive Director of UNFPA has informed the Executive Secretary that infrastructure support to the Commission will be discontinued, as soon as possible, taking due account of the ability to absorb the posts UNFPA has been funding, the following are the financial requirements for funding three professional and two general service posts from the regular budget in 1983 in line with the Commission's appeal to the General Assembly. The professional posts concerned are that of the Director of Division (D-1), Chief, Planning and Policies Section (P-5) and Chief, Fertility and Mortality studies (P-5).

		<u>United States dollars</u>
Established posts	(1 D-1, 2 P-5)	174,600
Common staff costs		87,400
Travel		10,000
Supplies and materials		<u>5,000</u>
Total		<u>277,000</u> =====

2. Conference of Ministers resolution 435 (XVII). United Nations Transport and Communications Decade in Africa

In reviewing the progress made so far in the implementation of the United Nations Transport and Communications Decade in Africa, the Conference recalled its decisions of April 1981 to organize four consultative technical meetings and noted with satisfaction that three of the four meetings had been held, with the fourth to take place from 3 to 5 May 1982 in Abidjan, the Ivory Coast. In recognizing, however, that none of these consultative technical meetings covers the countries of North and East Africa as well as the island countries of the Indian Ocean, the Conference has accordingly recommended that a fifth consultative technical meeting be organized during the second half of 1983 on roads, maritime transport and ports for those regions and has called upon the Secretary-General to provide the Commission with the necessary resources to finance this meeting. The financial implications for the holding of this meeting in 1983 are:

	<u>United States dollars</u>
Preparation of documents (including translation and reproduction)	54,500
Preparation of the meeting	63,000
In-session costs (interpretation, travel of staff etc.)	<u>67,000</u>
Total	<u>184,500</u> <u>=====</u>

3. Conference of Ministers resolution 442 (XVII). Formulation and implementation of a programme for the Industrial Development Decade in Africa

This resolution, inter alia, requests the Secretary-General to make available, in accordance with the relevant resolutions on the Decade, the resources required to strengthen the secretariats of the Commission and the United Nations Industrial Development Organization to enable them to play their expected roles in assisting member countries to implement the Decade Programme. An assessment of ECA's requirements reveals a need for staff increases of at least three professional and two general service posts. Furthermore, regular budget allocations of at least \$US 100,000 would be needed to cover travel costs; \$US 200,000 for consultants. The total financial implications are provided below:

United States dollars

Established posts (1 P-5, 1 P-4, 1 P-3 and 2 general service posts)	147,800
Common staff costs	74,000
Consultants	200,000
Travel	100,000
Meetings	200,000
Total	<u>721,800</u>

4. Draft resolution E - Conference of Ministers resolution 450 (XVII): Financing of the Commission's Multinational Programming and Operational Centres on an established basis

In the light of the UNDP/ECA evaluation missions to the MULPOCs south of the Sahara which concluded that, within the limits of their meagre resources, the MULPOCs were laying the foundations for subregional integration and enjoyed the full support of the Governments they served, and that their operational effectiveness was hampered by the inadequacy and uncertainty of resources, this resolution recommends to the General Assembly through the Economic and Social Council that the necessary regular budget resources should be provided to ensure the implementation, on a continuing basis, of the basic functions of the MULPOCs, inter alia, the over-all direction and management of their programmes; the organization of annual meetings at both official and ministerial levels; the preparation of studies; the collection, synthesis and dissemination of information, and general research into development questions. A similar appeal was made in connexion with item 15 of the Conference's agenda on the report of the Joint Inspection Unit of the Commission which also concluded, among other things, that the totality of resources available to the MULPOCs were insufficient for those centres to carry out effectively the tasks entrusted to them by African Governments. The financial implications of resolution 450 (XVII) (and its companion resolution 449 (XVII) for 1983 are estimated at:

United States dollars

Established posts	663,600
Temporary assistance	95,500
Common staff costs	332,100
Travel of staff to meetings	44,500
Other official travel of staff	60,500
Communications	36,500

	<u>United States dollars</u>
Miscellaneous services	31,000
Supplies and materials	46,500
Furniture and equipment	<u>40,000</u>
Total	<u><u>1,350,200</u></u>

The provision for established posts(\$US 663,600) would be intended to finance the following posts:

	<u>D-1</u>	<u>P-5</u>	<u>P-4</u>	<u>P-3</u>	<u>Local level</u>	<u>Total</u>
Lusaka	1	1	1	1	2	6
Gisenyi	1	-	1	-	1	3
Niamey	1	1	1	1	2	6
Yaounde	1	-	1	1	1	4
	4	2	4	3	6	19

5. Resolution 447 (XVII). Women and development: Action to the end of the Decade

This resolution, inter alia, endorses the recommendations made by ARCC at its meeting in Douala from 15 to 17 March 1983 that the third Regional Conference on the Integration of Women in Development should be held in 1984. The resolution gives guidelines on the subjects the Conference should discuss, such as the role of women in the food crisis, and the plight of refugee and displaced women. The Conference is also to cover the preparation for the World Conference on the United Nations Decade for Women scheduled to be held in Nairobi in 1985.

The resolution calls upon member States, and especially subregional committees, on the integration of women, to take appropriate steps to promote studies and action programmes on these subjects and actively to disseminate information on programmes for women. It requests the Executive Secretary to intensify his efforts to study these topics in depth and disseminate all data available on women in Africa.

The financial implications of ECA's role during 1983 are elaborated hereunder:

United States dollars

Established posts (1 P-3 and 1 general service post)	23,300
Common staff costs	11,700
Travel	5,000
Preparatory activities for the holding of the Third Regional Conference including consultations with inter-governmental authorities	<u>30,000</u>
Total	<u><u>70,000</u></u>

ANNEX II

MEETINGS OF SUBSIDIARY BODIES HELD DURING
THE PERIOD UNDER REVIEW

Body and officers	Meeting or session	Document symbol
<u>Conference of African Ministers of Trade</u> - Seventh session	Addis Ababa 1-3 February 1982	E/ECA/CM.8/13
<u>Chairman:</u> Etienne Moussirous (Gabon) <u>Rapporteur:</u> Aliro-Omara (Uganda)		
<u>Ministerial Follow-up Committee on Trade and Finance for African Development</u> - Second meeting	Addis Ababa 25-28 January 1982	ST/ECA/WP.1/17
<u>Chairman:</u> Wollie Chekol (Ethiopia) <u>Rapporteur:</u> Daka (Zambia)		
<u>Conference of African Ministers of Industry</u> - Sixth session	Addis Ababa 23-25 November 1981	E/ECA/CM.8/2
<u>Chairman:</u> Ilunga Ilunkambl (Zaire) <u>Rapporteur:</u> Keith K. Diako (Botswana)		
<u>Inter-governmental Committee of Experts for Science and Technology Development</u>	Addis Ababa 2-6 November 1981	E/ECA/TPCW.3/
<u>Chairman:</u> J. Omuse (Kenya) <u>Rapporteur:</u> P. Massamba (the Congo)		
<u>Joint Conference of African Planners, Statisticians and Demographers</u> - Second session	Addis Ababa 8-17 March 1982	E/ECA/CM.8/22
<u>Chairman:</u> Bahebiyanke Daniel (Burundi) <u>Rapporteur:</u> Samuel Olusole Omoboni (Nigeria)		
<u>Inter-governmental Committee of Experts of African Least Developed Countries</u>	Tripoli 17-18 April 1982	E/ECA/LDCs.2/6
<u>Chairman:</u> Chaikou Yaya Diallo (Guinea) <u>Rapporteur:</u> Lerotholi Mabotse (Lesotho)		

<u>Body and officers</u>	<u>Meeting or session</u>	<u>Document symbol</u>
<u>Conference of Ministers of African Least Developed Countries - Second meeting</u> <u>Chairman: Vasco Cabral (Guinea-Bissau)</u> <u>Rapporteur: Manapo Sixishe (Lesotho)</u>	Tripoli 26-27 April 1982	E/ECA/CM.8/28 E/ECA/LDCs.2/7
<u>Technical Preparatory Committee of the Whole - Third session</u> <u>Chairman: Salem M. Omeish (Libya)</u> <u>Rapporteur: Mpiry Opine (Zaire)</u>	Tripoli 19-23 April 1982	E/ECA/CM.8/31

ANNEX III

LIST OF DOCUMENTS

E/ECA/CM.8/1/Rev.2	Provisional agenda
E/ECA/CM.8/2	Report of the sixth Conference of African Ministers of Industry
E/ECA/CM.8/3	Proceedings of the Conference of Ministers Responsible for Human Resources planning, development and utilization
E/ECA/CM.8/4	Report and recommendations of the second Conference of Chief Executives of ECA-sponsored Regional and Subregional Institutions
E/ECA/CM.8/4/Add.1	Outstanding contribution of African Governments to ECA-sponsored institutions
E/ECA/CM.8/5 and Add.1	United Trust Fund for African Development - Progress report on pledges and payments by member States and institutions, project implementation and expenditure, 1977-1981
E/ECA/CM.8/6/Rev.1	Pan-African Documentation and Information System: Progress report
E/ECA/CM.8/7/Part A	United Nations Transport and Communications Decade in Africa (1978-1988): Report on activities in the context of the implementation of the Decade and on the Status of the first phase of the Programme of Action (1980-1983)
E/ECA/CM.8/7/Part B	United Nations Transport and Communications Decade in Africa (1978-1988): Consultative technical meetings for mobilizing the financing needed in the implementation of the Decade projects
E/ECA/CM.8/7/Part C	United Nations Transport and Communications Decade in Africa (1978-1988): Report on activities in the context of the implementation of the Decade with special reference to the African satellite communication system and rural telecommunications projects of the first phase of the Programme of Action (1980-1983)
E/ECA/CM.8/8 and Add.1	Resolutions and decisions adopted by the General Assembly at its thirty-sixth session which are of concern to the Commission
E/ECA/CM.8/9	Report of the Joint Inspection Unit of the Commission

- E/ECA/CM.8/10 Report of the first meeting of the Conference of Ministers of African Least Developed Countries
- E/ECA/CM.8/11 and Add.1 Report on the regionalization of the regional training centres for population studies in Africa (Regional Institute for Population Studies, RIPS, Accra, Ghana, and Institut de formation et de recherche démographiques, IFORD, Yaoundé, United Republic of Cameroon)
- E/ECA/CM.8/12 Implementation of the Regional Food Plan for Africa: Progress, problems and prospects
- E/ECA/CM.8/13 Report of the Conference of African Ministers of Trade on its seventh session
- E/ECA/CM.8/14 and Add.1 Follow-up action on Commission resolutions and decisions
- E/ECA/CM.8/15 A review of the developing international crisis and its implications for Africa
- E/ECA/CM.8/16 Accelerated development in sub-Saharan Africa: An assessment by the OAU, ECA and ADB secretariats
- E/ECA/CM.8/17 Survey of economic and social conditions in Africa, 1980-1981
- E/ECA/CM.8/18 and Add.1 UNDP Regional Programme for Africa: 1982-1986
- E/ECA/CM.8/19 Silver Jubilee Anniversary of the Economic Commission for Africa, April 1983
- E/ECA/CM.8/20 Development of national resources: Progress report
- E/ECA/CM.8/21 Combating desertification in Africa
- E/ECA/CM.8/22 and Corr.1 Report of the second session of the Joint Conference of African Planners, Statisticians and Demographers
- E/ECA/CM.8/23 Report on the third meeting of the Africa Regional Co-ordinating Committee for the Integration of Women in Development, Douala, 15-17 March 1982
- E/ECA/CM.8/24 Report of the Regional Inter-governmental Meeting on Aging, 1-5 March 1982
- E/ECA/CM.8/25 Reports of the ECA/UNDP evaluation missions on the Multinational Programming and Operational Centres: A synthesis

- E/ECA/CM.3/26 Financing of the ECA Multinational Programming and Operational Centres on an established basis
- E/ECA/CM.8/27 Expansion of ECA conference facilities
- E/ECA/CM.8/28 Report of the second meeting of the Conference of Ministers of African Least Developed Countries
- E/ECA/CM.8/29 Preliminary review of the work related to the formulation of a code of conduct for transnational corporations
- E/ECA/CM.8/30 Conference of directors of social science institutes and policy makers on the Third United Nations Development Decade, the Monrovia Strategy and the Lagos Plan of Action, Addis Ababa, 1-4 March 1982
- E/ECA/CM.8/31 Report of the Technical Preparatory Committee of the Whole on its third meeting

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