

# **ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR AFRICA**

## **ANNUAL REPORT**

**28 April 1987-17 April 1988**

**ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL  
OFFICIAL RECORDS, 1988**

**SUPPLEMENT No. 13**



**UNITED NATIONS**



**ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR AFRICA**  
**ANNUAL REPORT**  
**28 April 1987-17 April 1988**

**ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL**  
**OFFICIAL RECORDS, 1988**

**SUPPLEMENT No. 13**



**UNITED NATIONS**  
**New York, 1988**

**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.

E/1988/37  
E/ECA/CM.14/42

# CONTENTS

	<u>Paragraphs</u>	<u>Pages</u>
ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS - - - - -		iv
INTRODUCTION - - - - -	1	1
CHAPTERS		
I. ISSUES CALLING FOR ACTION BY THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL OR BROUGHT TO ITS ATTENTION - - - -	2	1
II. WORK OF THE COMMISSION DURING THE PERIOD 28 APRIL 1987 TO 17 APRIL 1988 - - - - -	3-201	7
A. Activities of subsidiary bodies - - - - -	3	7
B. Other activities - - - - -	4-183	7
C. Relations with specialized agencies and other organizations - - - - -	184-201	39
III. TWENTY-THIRD SESSION OF THE COMMISSION AND FOURTEENTH MEETING OF THE CONFERENCE OF MINISTERS	202-416	43
A. Attendance and organization of work - - - - -	202-210	43
B. Agenda - - - - -	211	44
C. Account of proceedings - - - - -	212-414	47
D. Programme of work and priorities - - - - -	415-416	86
LIST OF RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED BY THE CONFERENCE OF MINISTERS AT ITS FOURTEENTH MEETING - - - - -		87
IV. RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED BY THE COMMISSION AT ITS FOURTEENTH MEETING - - - - -		89
ANNEXES		
I. PRELIMINARY REACTION OF THE ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR AFRICA TO THE REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE ADVISORY GROUP ON FINANCIAL FLOWS TO AFRICA: FINANCING AFRICA'S RECOVERY - - - - -		155
II. MEMORANDUM ON THE CONTRIBUTION OF THE ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR AFRICA TO THE IMPLEMENTATION AND MID-TERM REVIEW OF THE UNITED NATIONS PROGRAMME OF ACTION FOR AFRICAN ECONOMIC RECOVERY AND DEVELOPMENT, 1986-1990: PROSPECTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS - - - - -		157
III. NIANEY DECLARATION ON THE OCCASION OF THE THIRTIETH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR AFRICA - -		169
IV. REPORT OF THE NINTH MEETING OF THE TECHNICAL PREPARATORY COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE - - - - -		175
V. MEETINGS OF SUBSIDIARY BODIES - - - - -		231
VI. LIST OF DOCUMENTS - - - - -		233

## ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

AAC	African Association of Cartography
AAPAM	African Association of Public Administration and Management
AAPSO	Afro-Asian Peoples' Solidarity Organization
AATPO	Association of African Trade Promotion Organizations
ACARTSOD	African Centre for Applied Research and Training in Social Development
ACC	Administrative Committee on Co-ordination
ACS	American Chemical Society
ACMAD	African Centre of Meteorological Applications for Development
ADB	African Development Bank
AFSA	African Statistical Association
AGRIS	Agricultural Information System
AHSCP	African Household Survey Capability Programme
AIDF	African Industrial Development Fund
AIHTTR	African Institute for Higher Technical Training and Research
ALO	Arab Labour Organization
ANC	African National Congress
AOCRS	African Organization for Cartography and Remote Sensing
APPER	Africa's Priority Programme for Economic Recovery
ARCC	Africa Regional Co-ordinating Committee for the Integration of Women in Development
ARCEDEM	African Regional Centre for Engineering Design and Manufacturing
ARCSE	African Regional Centre for Solar Energy
ARCT	African Regional Centre for Technology
ARI	Arabic Rehabilitation Institute for Disabled Persons
ARSC	African Remote Sensing Council
ARSO	African Regional Organization for Standardization
ARSP	African Remote Sensing Programme
ASTIS	African Science and Technology Information System
ASYCUDA	Automated System for Customs Data
ATRCW	African Training and Research Centre for Women
BADEA	Arab Bank for Economic Development in Africa
BDEAC	Banque de développement des Etats de l'Afrique centrale
BOLD	West African Development Bank
CACH	Central African Clearing House

CADIS	Central African Development Information System
CAFRAD	African Centre for Administrative Training and Research for Development
CAMRDC	Central African Mineral Resources Development Centre
CDP	Committée for Development Planning
CEAO	Economic Community of West Africa
CEPGL	Economic Community of the Great Lakes countries
CETMO	Centre for Transport Studies in the Western Mediterranean
CILSS	Permanent Inter-State Committee for Drought Control in the Sahel
CIRDAFRICA	Centre for Integrated Rural Development in Africa
CMEA	Council for Mutual Economic Assistance
CODESRIA	Council for the Development of Economic and Social Research in Africa
CPC	Committee for Programme and Co-ordination
CRTO	Regional Remote Sensing Centre, Ouagadougou
CRTK	Regional Remote Sensing Centre, Kinshasa
DIESA	Department of International Economic and Social Affairs
DLCO	Desert Locust Control Organization for Eastern Africa
DTCD	Department of Technical Co-operation for Development
ECA	Econmic Commission for Africa
ECCAS	Economic Community of Central African States
ECDC	Economic co-operation among developing countries
ECE	Economic Commission for Europe
ECLAC	Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean
ECLO	Emergency Centre for Locust Operations (FAO)
ECOSOC	Economic and Social Council of the United Nations
ECOWAS	Economic Community of West African States
EDF	European Development Fund
EDI	Economic Development Institute of the World Bank
EEC	European Economic Community
EIB	European Investment Bank
ESADIS	East and Southern African Development Information System
ESAMI	Eastern and Southern African Management Institute
ESAMRDC	Eastern and Southern African Mineral Resources Development Centre
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
IACC	Inter-Agency Co-ordinating Committee

IBRD	International Bank for Reconstruction and Development
IACTP	Inter-African Committee on Traditional Practices Affecting the Health of Women and Children
ICAO	International Civil Aviation Organization
ICC	International Chamber of Commerce
ICM	Intergovernmental Committee for Migration
IDA	International Development Association
IDB	Islamic Development Bank
IDDA	Industrial Development Decade for Africa
IDEP	African Institute for Economic Development and Planning
IDWSSD	International Drinking Water Supply and Sanitation Decade
IFAD	International Fund for Agricultural Development
IFORD	Institut de formation et de recherche démographiques
IGADD	Intergovernmental Authority on Drought and Desertification
ILCA	International Livestock Centre for Africa
ILO	International Labour Organisation
IMF	International Monetary Fund
INSTRAW	United Nations International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women
IOC	Indian Ocean Commission
ISI	International Statistical Institute
ITU	International Telecommunication Union
KBO	Kagera Basin Organization
LAS	League of Arab States
LCBC	Lake Chad Basin Commission
LDCs	Least developed countries
LPA	Lagos Plan of Action
LWF	Lutheran World Federation
MCH/FP	Maternal and Child Health and Family Planning
MPAP	Mar del Plata Action Plan
MULPOC	Multinational Programming and Operational Centre
NACP	National Accounts Capability Programme
NADIS	North African Documentation and Information Centre
NATCAPs	National Technical Co-operation Assessments and Programmes
NBA	Niger Basin Authority
OAU	Organization of African Unity

OCLALAV	Organisation commune de lutte antiacridienne et antilavaire
ODA	Official development assistance
OECD	Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development
OMVG	Organization for the Development of the Gambia River
OMVS	Organization for the Development of the Senegal River
PAC	Pan-African Congress of Azania
PADIS	Pan-African Documentation and Information System
PANA	Pan-African News Agency
PANAFTEL	Pan-African Telecommunications Network
POPIN	Population Information System for Africa
PTA	Preferential Trade Area
RASCOM	Regional African Satellite Communications System
RASDS	Regional Advisory Service in Demographic Statistics
RBA	Regional Bureau for Africa (UNDP)
RBASEP	Regional Bureau for Arab States and European Programmes
RCSSMRS	Regional Centre for Services in Surveying, Mapping and Remote Sensing
RECTAS	Regional Centre for Training in Aerospace Surveys
RIPS	Regional Institute for Population Studies
RIS	Referral Information System
SADCC	Southern African Development Co-ordination Conference
SAP	Structural adjustment programme
SAPAM	Special Action Programme for Administration and Management in Africa
SDI	Selective Dissemination of Information
SDRs	Special drawing rights
SFD	Saudi Fund for Development
SNPA	Substantial New Programme of Action for the 1980s for the Least Developed Countries
STPA	Statistical Training Programme for Africa
SWAPO	South-West Africa People's Organization
SWMTEP	System-Wide Medium-Term Environment Programme
TCDC	Technical co-operation among developing countries
TEPCOW	Technical Preparatory Committee of the Whole
TNCs	Transnational corporations
UAR	Union of African Railways
UDEAC	Central African Economic and Customs Union

UNAFRI	United Nations African Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders
UNCHS	United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat)
UNCSDHA	United Nations Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs
UNCSTD	United Nations Centre for Science and Technology for Development
UNCTAD	United Nations Conference on Trade and Development
UNCTC	United Nations Centre on Transnational Corporations
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNDRO	United Nations Disaster Relief Organization
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
UNIDO	United Nations Industrial Development Organization
UNIFEM	United Nations Development Fund for Women
UN-PAAERD	United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development
UNSO	United Nations Sudano-Sahelian Office
UNTACDA	United Nations Transport and Communications Decade in Africa
UNTFAD	United Nations Trust Fund for African Development
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
USSR	Union of Soviet Socialist Republics
WADIS	West African Development Information System
WFC	World Food Council
WFP	World Food Programme
WHO	World Health Organization
WMO	World Meteorological Organization
WPC	World Peace Council
WTO	World Tourism Organization



## INTRODUCTION

1. The present annual report of the Economic Commission for Africa covers the period 28 April 1987 to 17 April 1988. 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 17 April 1988.

## CHAPTER I

### ISSUES CALLING FOR ACTION BY THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL OR BROUGHT TO ITS ATTENTION

2. At its two hundred and fifty-fifth meeting held on 15 April 1988, the Conference of Ministers of the Economic Commission for Africa unanimously approved the following draft resolutions for submission to the Economic and Social Council for action:

#### A

#### The Khartoum Declaration: Towards a Human-focused Approach to Socio-economic Recovery and Development in Africa 1/

##### The Economic and Social Council,

Convinced of the need for urgent and concerted measures to be embarked upon at the national, subregional, regional and international levels to improve the human condition and sustain human resources development and utilization efforts through the period of recovery and beyond in Africa,

1. Endorses the Khartoum Declaration: Towards a Human-focused Approach to Socio-economic Recovery and Development in Africa;

2. Commends the United Nations Inter-Agency Task Force on the Follow-up of the Implementation of the UN-PAAERD at the regional level for having successfully convened the International Conference on the Human Dimension of Africa's Economic Recovery and Development;

3. Expresses its gratitude to the Government of the Republic of the Sudan for hosting the Conference so generously and in particular to His Excellency the Honourable Prime Minister of the Sudan for his patronage of the Conference;

4. Urges international financial institutions, bilateral and multi-lateral donors, organizations of the United Nations system and NGOs to implement urgently the recommendations contained in the Khartoum Declaration, with a view to ensuring that concern for the human dimension is adequately reflected in their programmes of assistance to African countries;

5. Requests the Secretary-General of the United Nations to transmit the Khartoum Declaration to the Ad hoc Committee of the Whole set up by the

---

1/ See chapter IV, resolution 631 (XXIII).

General Assembly of the United Nations to undertake the mid-term review of the implementation of the UN-PAAERD and, through it to the forty-third session of the United Nations General Assembly;

6. Urges the Secretary-General of the United Nations to institute the necessary actions required for mobilizing the entire United Nations system and the international community in support of the implementation of the recommendations of the Khartoum Declaration;

7. Calls upon the United Nations Inter-agency Task Force to intensify its efforts aimed at the further strengthening of co-operation between agencies of the United Nations system in search of solutions to Africa's problems of human development within the context of recovery and long-term development.

B

United Nations Transport and Communications Decade in Africa 2/

The Economic and Social Council,

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

Appreciative of the financial assistance rendered by the General Assembly, UNDP and bilateral donor countries to the implementation of the programme of the first Decade,

Taking into account the report of the in-depth evaluation of the United Nations Transport and Communications Decade (1978-1988) which concluded that the Decade gave a major boost to the future development of transport and communications by equipping Africa with a strategy and policy as well as institutions and mechanisms for its implementation,

Considering resolution ECA/UNTACDA/Res.84/44 of the fourth meeting of the Conference of African Ministers of Transport, Communications and Planning recommending that Governments of member States should adopt the principle of launching a second United Nations Transport and Communications Decade in Africa,

Taking note of the progress report on the implementation of the second phase of the Decade programme and the report of the sixth meeting of the Conference of African Ministers of Transport, Communications and Planning,

Conscious that air transport is one of the key factors for economic development and integration in Africa,

Concerned about the adverse consequences for African air transport of the new civil aeronautic policies emanating from outside the continent,

---

2/ See chapter IV, resolution 639 (XXIII).

Bearing in mind resolution ECA/UNTACDA/Res.86/55 of the fifth meeting of the Conference of African Ministers of Transport, Communications and Planning, which, inter alia, called upon ECA to provide support to the various African regional and subregional organizations and to assist them in co-ordinating their transport and communications programmes,

Mindful of the heavy investments made by member States towards the implementation of the Pan-African Telecommunications Network (PANAFTEL), and the substantial achievement made in the establishment of the network,

Noting that the in-depth evaluation of the Decade has revealed great deficiencies of the inland water transport systems in Africa,

1. Endorses resolution ECA/UNTACDA/Res.88/73 of 24 March 1988 of the Conference of African Ministers of Transport, Communications and Planning which recommends that:

(a) A second United Nations Transport and Communications Decade in Africa should be declared covering the period 1991-2000 in order to sustain the momentum of the activities commenced during the first Decade;

(b) The expertise and experience acquired during the first Decade should be maintained by retaining and reappointing the statutory and executing agencies of the first Decade, namely the Conference of African Ministers of Transport, Communications and Planning, as the permanent policy-making body, the Economic Commission for Africa as the "lead agency" responsible, in collaboration with other agencies, for the preparation of the Decade programme and for the harmonization, co-ordination and monitoring of all Decade activities, and the Inter-Agency Co-ordinating Committee (IACC) as the technical body accountable to the Conference of Ministers;

(c) There should be a two-year preparatory period between the end of the first Decade and the launching of the second;

2. Recommends to the General Assembly to declare a second United Nations Transport and Communications Decade in Africa (1991-2000);

3. Expresses its appreciation to the General Assembly, the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme and those members of the international community who were able to provide financial and technical assistance for carrying out the activities of the first Decade for their generous support;

4. Appeals to the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme to continue to lend support to the Decade activities not only during the two-year preparatory period (1989-1990) but also during the period of the second Decade (1991-2000);

5. Requests bilateral donor countries and financial institutions to intensify their support for the accelerated development of transport and communications in Africa through the provision of the resources necessary for the successful implementation of the programme of the second Decade.

C

Biennial report of the Executive Secretary 3/

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling ECA resolution 616 (XXII) of 24 April 1987 on the proposed programme of work and priorities for the 1988-1989 biennium,

Concerned by the effects of the financial crisis of the United Nations on the Commission's 1986-1987 biennial programme,

Appreciative of the efforts of the Executive Secretary to implement mandated outputs under circumstances of such severe resources shortages,

1. Endorses the termination of all outputs which have been deferred, postponed or terminated because of the financial crisis;

2. Appeals to the Secretary-General of the United Nations to submit the biennial report of the Executive Secretary including the annex on the financial crisis and performance by programme to the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination.

D

Proposals for extension of the 1984-1989 Medium-term Plan to 1990-1991 4/

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling ECA resolution 617 (XXII) of 24 April 1987 on the draft Medium-term Plan for the period 1990-1995,

Conscious of the importance of the ongoing reforms resulting from General Assembly resolution 41/213 of 19 December 1986 on the review of the efficiency of the administrative and financial functioning of the United Nations,

1. Endorses the proposals for extension of the 1984-1989 Medium-term Plan to 1990-1991;

2. Appeals to the Secretary-General of the United Nations to endorse the proposals for submission to the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination for consideration at its twenty-eighth session in 1988.

---

3/ See chapter IV, resolution 646 (XXIII).

4/ See chapter IV, resolution 647 (XXIII).

Updating of the 1988-1989 programme budget 5/

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling ECA resolution 616 (XXII) of 24 April 1987 on the proposed programme budget for the 1988-1989 biennium,

1. Expresses its appreciation to the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination, the Second and Fifth Committees of the General Assembly of the United Nations, the representatives of African countries in particular, and to all the Member States of these Committees for their unequivocal support to the proposals for the programme budget for 1988-1989 and the need for adequate resources to enable the Commission to contribute effectively to the implementation of the United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development, 1986-1990; 6/

2. Also expresses its appreciation to the Secretary-General of the United Nations for exempting the Economic Commission for Africa from the full application of the economy measures;

3. Endorses the proposals for updating the 1988-1989 programme budget;

4. Appeals to the Secretary-General of the United Nations to submit the proposals for updating the 1988-1989 programme budget to the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination.

---

5/ See chapter IV, resolution 648 (XXIII).

6/ A/S-13/2/annex.

## CHAPTER II

### WORK OF THE COMMISSION DURING THE PERIOD 28 APRIL 1987 TO 17 APRIL 1988

#### A. Activities of subsidiary bodies

3. The list of meetings of subsidiary bodies held during the period under review is contained in annex V to this report.

#### B. Other activities

4. The activities carried out under the Commission's approved programme of work and priorities or pursuant to the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council and the Conference of Ministers are described below.

#### Development issues and policies

5. The 1986-1987 edition of the Survey of Economic and Social Conditions in Africa was prepared. This year, the document gives special emphasis to adjustment and debt-servicing problems in the African countries. It was prepared using data from many sources, including those collected during field missions to 29 African countries (Algeria, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Chad, the Central African Republic, the Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Egypt, the Gambia, Ghana, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Mauritania, Mauritius, Nigeria, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Somalia, the Sudan, Swaziland, the United Republic of Tanzania, Uganda, Zaire, Zambia, Zimbabwe), as well as reports submitted by governments and country consultants.

6. A study on "ECA-revised perspectives of Africa's development, 1988-2008" was prepared and is an updated version of a previous study entitled "ECA and Africa's development, 1983-2008", prepared in 1983.

7. The background documents for the Joint Conference of African Planners, Statisticians and Demographers were prepared, namely:

- (a) Sectoral planning in subregional co-operation arrangements;
- (b) A critical review of current national development planning practices in Africa;
- (c) Issues in the report of the workshop on multisectoral planning models;
- (d) Africa and global modelling systems;
- (e) Progress report on the establishment of short-term economic forecasting and outlook;
- (f) Report on ECA planning activities; and
- (g) Study on ECA-revised perspectives of Africa's development, 1988-2008.

8. Documents were completed to be presented to the Conference of Ministers of African Least Developed Countries (LDCs):

- (a) Review of economic and social conditions, 1986-1987;
- (b) The development and utilization of human resources in African LDCs;
- (c) Progress report on the implementation of the Substantial New Programme of Action (SNPA);
- (d) Review of ECA activities on behalf of the LDCs, 1986-1987 and programme of work, 1988-1989.

9. Advisory missions were carried out to Cape Verde, the Congo, Guinea, Mali, the Niger and Rwanda. In the Congo and Rwanda, the missions were concerned with the setting up of short-term forecasting models. The secretariat also participated in an advisory role at country round-table meetings organized for the following least developed African countries: the Central African Republic, Equatorial Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, the Niger and Togo.

10. The fifth session of the Joint Conference of African Planners, Statisticians and Demographers took place in Addis Ababa from 21 to 28 March 1988. It was organized by the Socio-Economic Research and Planning Division in co-operation with the Statistics and Population Divisions and PADIS.

#### Industrial development

11. During the period under review, the industrial development programme continued to concentrate on four subprogrammes: (a) policy development, planning and institution-building; (b) development of basic industries; (c) development of agro- and forest-based industries; and (d) development of small-scale industries.

#### Policy development, planning and institution-building

12. Advisory missions on industrial policies and planning were undertaken to Botswana, Lesotho, Sao Tome and Principe, Zambia and Zimbabwe, within the context of the programme for the Industrial Development Decade for Africa (IDDA). The discussions in these countries focused on improving expertise in formulating policies and strategies, developing indigenous capabilities and infrastructural capacities and promoting skills in consultation and negotiation, in order to implement integrated industrial programmes within the framework of core industries at national or multinational level.

13. In 1987, the "Investment Africa" bulletin, which was intended to attract direct investment in Africa's industrial sector, was replaced by a new publication entitled "Focus on African Industry", which emphasizes current industrialization problems and the consequent need to devise new strategies for industrial development in the continent. Two issues were published in 1987-1988.

14. The secretariat continued to promote subregional co-operation in industrial development. To this end, an advisory mission to the Central



African subregion was undertaken during the latter part of 1987 for the purpose of initiating consultation among member countries on modalities for promoting the Maluku steel plant in Zaire as a multinational project.

15. In the area of institution-building, advisory services were provided to Equatorial Guinea on the development of appropriate institutions for industrialization and on restructuring industrial development co-operation and promotion mechanisms. In the field of substantive and technical support of inter-country institutions, the secretariat continued to assist the African Regional Centre for Engineering Design and Manufacturing (ARCEDEM), including participation in two study tours (one in USSR in May/June 1987 and another in Hungary in October 1987). The secretariat also assisted ARCEDEM to become operational in 1987, with the completion of the two main workshops and the commissioning of the Centre on 16 December 1987 by the Head of State of the Federal Republic of Nigeria.

#### Development of basic industries

16. In the chemical industries subsector, advisory services were provided to Burkina Faso, Burundi, the Central African Republic, the Niger and Rwanda, with the objective of assisting member States to define modalities for establishing multinational chemical industries, selected within the framework of the IDDA. The secretariat also undertook a field mission to Senegal and prepared a technical report on "Le cas des industries chimiques du Sénégal" (ECA/IND/CHM/003/87), a case study to assist member States optimize the utilization of installed capacity in the chemical industry through co-operation.

17. In the field of engineering industries, the third phase of the project financed by the Government of India on Engineering Industry Development Programme for Africa was under way. The Government of India provided six consultants from May to August 1987, whose task was to prepare three model pre-feasibility studies: (i) machine tools (including metal and wood-working machinery); (ii) agricultural machinery, equipment and tractors; and (iii) commercial vehicles and low-cost transport equipment. The mission visited nine PTA member States (Angola, Botswana, Ethiopia, Kenya, Malawi, Mozambique, the United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia, Zimbabwe) between May and August 1987. The study on commercial vehicles and low-cost transport equipment was completed in December 1987 and the other two in March 1988.

18. Following a request from the PTA secretariat, a joint ECA/PTA mission on metallurgical industries was undertaken to Ethiopia, Mozambique, the United Republic of Tanzania, Uganda and Zambia. The mission report (ECA/IND/MET/006/87) assessed the feasibility of producing sponge iron as feedstock to existing rolling mills and dealt with opportunities for subregional co-operation in establishing iron and steel industries. At the request of the PTA and the Lusaka-based MULPOC, a technical publication was prepared, entitled Technological Options for Small Integrated Iron and Steel Plants Based on Direct Reduction in Africa (ECA/IND/MET/008/87).

#### Development of agro-based industries

19. In conformity with the priority accorded by APPER and the UN-PAAERD to the attainment of the objective of food self-sufficiency, a preliminary



study for a cassava agro-industrial complex in Ethiopia was undertaken at the request of the Government. Two pre-feasibility studies were undertaken on establishing national composite flour programmes, one for Burundi and the other for Rwanda.

#### Development of small-scale industries

20. The efforts of the secretariat centred on encouraging African countries in their efforts to devote greater attention to the development of small-scale, cottage and handicraft industries. Advisory services were provided to Benin, Côte d'Ivoire, Mali, the Sudan and Uganda for the purpose of discussing modalities for ensuring the reorientation of government policies and institutions towards providing effective support to small-scale industries and improving their entrepreneurial capabilities. In early 1988, the secretariat also launched a comprehensive project financed by the Government of India on the development of small-scale industries in Africa, including especially institutional infrastructure and human resources development.

#### Statistics

21. The work programme of the secretariat during the period under review focused on the statistical organizational problems in the region and on measures to improve the collection, processing and analysis of demographic, social and economic statistics at national level. Efforts were also made to maintain and further develop the regional statistical data base.

22. The major projects of the secretariat that respond to the needs of national statistical services include the Statistical Training Programme for Africa (STPA), the African Household Survey Capability Programme (AHSCP) and the National Accounts Capability Programme (NACP) together with the Regional Advisory Services in Demographic Statistics. With effect from 1 July 1987, the first three of these were merged into a single integrated programme - the Statistical Development Programme for Africa.

23. In view of the priority given by member States to the environment, as reflected in the identification of drought and desertification as one of the four priority areas of APPER and the UN-PAAERD, the secretariat initiated a programme on environment statistics, with effect from 1 January 1988.

24. The secretariat also produced the following publications: 1984 African Statistical Yearbook, the 1985 African Socio-Economic Indicators, Statistical Information Bulletin No. 19, the 1987 Directory of STPA and Associate Centres, the 1987 Directory of non-STPA Centres and STPA News Nos. 13 and 14. Computer print-outs on demographic and social statistics, foreign trade statistics, economic statistics and integrated social, demographic and economic statistics were produced and sent to the African national statistical offices.

25. Other publications namely, the 1985 African Statistical Yearbook, Foreign Trade Statistics for Africa (series A, Nos. 28 and 29 and series C, Nos. 5 and 6) were prepared and are to be published shortly. The 1988 Directory of African Statisticians is under preparation.

26. During the period under review, the following meetings were held:

(a) Meeting on the Training of Statisticians from Portuguese-speaking African Countries (Brussels, Belgium, 19-22 May 1987);

(b) Working Group on Recommendations for the 1990 Round of Population and Housing Censuses in Africa (Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, 25-29 May 1987);

(c) Intergovernmental Working Group on possible approaches to the integration of demographic, social and related economic statistics in development planning in Africa (Moscow, USSR, 7-11 September 1987);

(d) Training Workshop on the Use of Software Packages in Statistical Computing for English-speaking Government Statisticians and Planners (Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, 21 September - 2 October 1987);

(e) Workshop on Capital Formation and National Accounts at Constant Prices for English-speaking Countries (Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, 28 September - 2 October 1987);

(f) Training Workshop on Census-taking for English-speaking Countries (Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, 5-21 October 1987);

(g) Fifth meeting of directors of centres participating in the Statistical Training Programme for Africa (Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, 26-30 October 1987);

(h) Working Group on Organization, Content and Methodology of Household Surveys (with special emphasis on data processing) for French-speaking African Countries (Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, 9-13 November 1987); and

(i) Working Group on Organization, Content and Methodology of Household Surveys (with special emphasis on data processing) for English-speaking African Countries (Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, 16-20 November 1987).

27. Approximately 70 advisory missions in different fields of statistics were carried out by the secretariat at the request of member States.

#### Food and agriculture

28. As in the previous year, the activities of the secretariat in the field of food and agriculture continued to be orientated towards three major areas of the work programme, namely: (a) food and agricultural development policy, planning and programming; (b) promotion of integrated rural development, improvement of agricultural institutions and services and expansion of food production; and (c) agricultural marketing institutions, services and facilities.

29. In the area of food and agricultural development policy, planning and programming, three reports on the implementation of the food and agricultural aspects of the Lagos Plan of Action (LPA) (1980-1985) were prepared and submitted to the ECA Conference of Ministers and to the policy-making organs of the Lusaka- and Niamey-based MULPOCs. The ECA report and the two sub-regional reports concluded that although there was little evidence of clearly defined LPA-related targets, country activities in the sector reflected some aspects of the Plan's objectives, including policy reforms, there were many

constraints impeding implementation. The reports urged the countries to rededicate themselves to the principles and objectives of the Lagos Plan of Action by re-examining past performance and identifying the areas of weakness. Another study entitled Land-use policies and farming systems: The case of Somalia and the Sudan, highlighted the critical role played by the rational utilization of the agricultural resource base (land, water, etc.) in ensuring sustainable and long-term agricultural productivity in Africa. The important issues raised included those related to sound planning, management and conservation of the land resource base. Governments were urged therefore, as a matter of priority, to adopt sound policies relating to proper land and soil resource use and to make land-use planning an integral part of national macro-economic and social development planning. Another related study was prepared on Policy measures and institutions for improved forest conservation, management and development in Africa (Mozambique, the United Republic of Tanzania and Zambia), which was concerned specifically with the Miombo forest areas in the three countries. It revealed that fuelwood consumption and shifting cultivation were the main causes of deforestation in the subregion.

30. Several technical publications were prepared during the period under review. The technical publication on Agricultural Policy Planning for Government Policy-makers, Planners and Administrators: Recent Experiences and Trends (JEFAD/FAPPS/24/86) dealt chiefly with the East and Southern African countries, outlining recent experience and trends and making recommendations for improvements in policies in the sectoral macro sphere, incentives, support services, policy analysis and planning. The technical publication on Agricultural policy planning in Africa examined the types of agricultural development strategy at different levels of planning and decision-making and the need for policy research and analysis. Another publication on Basic Data Requirements for Policy-making, Planning and Evaluation of Food and Agricultural Development Programmes (JEFAD/FAPPS/28/86), including those on forestry and fisheries, was prepared at the request of the Governments of Mauritius and the Comoros.

31. Advisory missions went to the Comoros and Mauritius, at their request, to deal specifically with the improvement of agricultural statistical data. At the same time the secretariat also responded to the ESAMI request by providing support in the form of a lecturer in food and agricultural policy analysis and planning.

32. In collaboration with OAU, a paper entitled Africa's Priority Programme for Economic Recovery, 1986-1990 (APPER): Major Issues in Food and Agriculture policies was prepared for the first OAU Workshop on Popularization of Africa's Priority Programme for Economic Recovery, held in Mombasa, Kenya, from 2 to 6 June 1987. Similarly, in collaboration with the African Academy of Sciences (AAS), the Amercian Chemical Society (ACS) and the International Centre of Insect Physiology and Ecology, a paper entitled Socio-economic constraints to food production and utilization: Regional perspectives was prepared for a Regional Seminar on the Role of Chemistry in Improving Food Supplies in Africa.

33. During the period under review, a major contribution was made to an inter-divisional ECA study: Prospects for recovery and development in Southern Africa. This study was prepared for the fourth meeting of the United Nations

Inter-agency Task Force charged with the responsibility of monitoring the implementation of the UN-PAAERD.

34. JEFAD was one of the ECA divisions selected by the United Nations for self-evaluation, particularly the subprogramme on food and agricultural development policy and planning. The preparation of this evaluation involved much work, including the analysis of data received from member States through questionnaires. A report was prepared for onward submission to New York.

35. In the field of promotion of integrated rural development, improvement of agricultural institutions and services and expansion of food production, many significant activities were carried out. A report for the ECA Conference of Ministers was finalized on the progress achieved in the region in the implementation of the recommendations of the World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development. Subsectoral studies and activities for expanding the production of food commodities, fisheries and livestock were undertaken, including proposals for multinational co-operation in coastal and marine fisheries development in Eastern and Southern Africa and on the integrated development of fisheries industry in the CEPGL countries. Priority was given to the role of women in food production and marketing and specific studies considered their contribution to food production in the West African subregion, particularly fruit and vegetable production and marketing in Togo, and sub-regional co-operation in the production of cereals and tubers. An analysis of the problems affecting maize production and marketing in the CEPGL countries was the object of another study and a feasibility study on the establishment of a subregional programme for the production and distribution of selected seeds of rice, beans and soya-beans among the member States of the same organization was also completed.

36. Advisory services were also provided at the request of Liberia and Somalia for the preparation of economic recovery programmes to include the food and agriculture, livestock and fisheries sectors. The secretariat participated in an inter-agency mission to Mozambique on the repatriation of Mozambican migrant workers from South Africa. Assistance was also extended to the Preferential Trade Area (PTA) for Eastern and Southern African States in the preparation of agricultural projects for financing in the UNDP Fourth Programming Cycle.

37. In the area of agricultural marketing institutions, services and facilities, the secretariat pursued the implementation of a project on maize research and development in Lesotho and, following government approval, initiated a similar project in Mozambique aimed at on-farm testing and demonstrating improved maize production technology on traditional farms. A study on the agro-climatic conditions and on roots and tubers in West Africa was undertaken at the request of the member States of the West African MULPOC.

38. A technical report requested by the member States of the North African MULPOC on the harmonization of agricultural mechanization policies and strategies was extended to Egypt and the Sudan. Still at the request of the member States of that subregion, a technical workshop was held in December 1987 to consider ways and means for promoting and strengthening co-operation in the agricultural sector among the countries of North Africa.

39. In the area of the reduction of food losses, a subregional seminar was organized in Nairobi, Kenya, in October 1987, on the reduction of food losses in staple foods and cereals. In the domain of livestock, a technical paper on subregional co-operation in the prevention, reduction and elimination of animal food losses, waste and marketing in the livestock sector of West Africa was completed and submitted to a technical meeting on livestock development policies and programmes for senior livestock development planners in the West African MULPOC subregion, held in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso, in February 1988. Country reports were also prepared for Cameroon, the Central African Republic and Chad on the potential improvement of the post-harvest system in these countries.

40. A technical publication was also prepared for fisheries development officials, entitled Measures for Improving the Utilization and Marketing of Fish in West Africa (JEFAD/AMS/87/43).

41. The secretariat also completed a technical publication on Measures for Improving Credit Facilities and Fertilizer Marketing in Africa at the Level of the Small Farmer (JEFAD/AMS/87/42).

#### Population

42. During the period under review, the secretariat continued the implementation of the 1986-1987 approved work programme, which comprises three subprogrammes, namely: (a) population policies and development planning; (b) demographic analysis in the context of economic and social development planning; and (c) regional training and research. Work also started on the implementation of the 1988-1989 approved work programme, which is concerned with the first two subprogrammes.

43. As in the past, emphasis was put on the provision of advisory services to member States. The following countries - the Central African Republic, the Comoros, the Congo, Equatorial Guinea, the Gambia, Liberia, Nigeria, Senegal, Sierra Leone and the Sudan - benefited from advisory services on evaluating and analysing data from population censuses, surveys and vital registration, the provision of on-the-job and middle-level training for nationals in demographic analysis and in the formulation and implementation of population policies, integration of population variables in development planning and the evaluation of family planning programmes.

44. The secretariat completed a number of studies, including Estimates and projections of African population trends as assessed in 1986 (ECA/POP/WP/87/1 (2.5(b))); Methodological problems in evaluating integrated maternal and child health/family planning programmes in Africa (ECA/POP/TP/87/3 (1.3 (i))); Impact of the changing pattern of family formation and structure on fertility trends in Africa (ECA/POP/TP/87/7 (2.3 (ii))); Trends in infant and childhood mortality and their implications for population growth in African countries (ECA/POP/TP/2 (2.5)); Report on integrated maternal and child health/family planning programmes in Africa (E/ECA/WP/87/3 (1.3 (ii))); and Comparative evaluation and analysis of the 1980 round of African censuses (ECA/POP/TP/87/3 (2.1 (iii))); and Guidelines for integrating population variables in development planning for ECA member States (E/ECA/PSD.5/41).



45. With respect to workshops and seminars, the secretariat organized and conducted a seminar in Addis Ababa on Development Planning and Demographic Analysis: The Case of Ethiopia, in October 1987.

46. In the field of population information, the Population Information Network in Africa (POPIN-Africa) organized the second session of the advisory committee of POPIN-Africa in Nairobi, Kenya, in November 1987 and published the following: African Population Newsletter, Nos. 52 and 53; the 1987 Directory of African Statisticians; POP-INDEX Africa, vol. III; African Population Studies Series, No. 9; and a specialized bibliography on the Sahel. In order to establish national and subnational centres, consultative missions were undertaken to Nigeria, the United Republic of Tanzania, Senegal and Zaire.

47. Under regional demographic training and research, the secretariat continued the management of the Regional Institute for Population Studies (RIPS) in Ghana, the Institut de formation et de recherche démographiques (IFORD) in Cameroon and the Sahel Institute in Mali.

48. Finally, in March 1988, the secretariat assisted in the substantive servicing of the fifth session of the Joint Conference of African Planners, Statisticians and Demographers in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

#### Natural resources

##### Mineral resources

49. During the period under review, the secretariat continued its technical and administrative assistance to member States, the Eastern and Southern African Mineral Resources Development Centre (ESAMRDC), based in Dodoma, the United Republic of Tanzania, and the Central African Mineral Resources Development Centre (CAMRDC) in Brazzaville, the Congo.

50. In pursuance of priorities defined by the member States of ESAMRDC, the Centre became more intimately involved in mineral development projects and so provided consultancy services to the mining sectors of Ethiopia, the United Republic of Tanzania and Uganda. In addition to a rock mechanics laboratory which has been operational since 1986-1987, further specialized technical services and laboratories covering a surface area of 2,000 m<sup>2</sup> are being established, within the framework of a Capital Development Programme.

51. Responding to a request by the Governing Council of CAMRDC, the secretariat, in co-operation with OAU, provided assistance to the Centre in an effort to improve its performance and achieve a higher rate of implementation of field projects in the Central African subregion.

52. In the field of inventories on the availability of selected mineral resources for the industrial development needs in the region, a technical publication on Africa's consumption of chloralkalis, soda ash, caustic soda, chlorine and aluminium sulphate was produced in December 1987. The paper estimates future requirements to the year 2000 by the existing end-users and assesses the possibilities of and constraints on establishing chemical industries to fulfil subregional demands.

53. In the sphere of broadening technical knowledge on the region's mineral resources and their use in integrated industries, the secretariat undertook a regional survey on copper and aluminium processing facilities and on the prospects for intra-African manufacture and trade in copper- and aluminium-based products. This followed from the recommendations of the second Regional Conference on the Development and Utilization of Mineral Resources in Africa, held in Lusaka, Zambia, in 1985. The findings of the survey will be submitted to the third Regional Conference due to take place in Kampala, Uganda, from 6 to 15 June 1988.

54. Following the objectives of an ongoing programme of training in specific fields of mineral development, the secretariat, with the assistance of CAMRDC, convened a symposium for French-speaking countries, on small-scale gold mining, while in the related sciences field, it helped CAMRDC in the organization of a seminar on geochemistry applied to mineral exploration, for member States of the Central African subregion.

#### Cartography and remote sensing

55. During the period under review, the secretariat provided technical support services to the multinational institutions established under its auspices which enabled them to respond more effectively to the cartographic and remote sensing needs of member States. In this regard, it assisted the Regional Centre for Training in Aerospace Surveys (RECTAS) and the Regional Centre for Services in Surveying, Mapping and Remote Sensing (RCSSMRS) in the formulation and preparation of project documents for UNDP funding during the Fourth Programming Cycle for Africa (1987-1991). As a result, RCSSMRS obtained an extension, from 1 July 1987 to 31 December 1987, of the project implemented during the Third Programming Cycle which was due to end on 30 June 1986. UNDP has already indicated its willingness to fund viable projects proposed by three of the regional centres, which include the Regional Remote Sensing Centre (CRTO) at Ouagadougou.

56. The secretariat serviced the meetings of officials and of the Conference of Plenipotentiaries of the African Organization for Cartography and Remote Sensing (AOCRS) which took place at ECA headquarters in Addis Ababa, from 11 to 16 February 1988. The purpose of the meetings was to achieve a smooth merger of the African Association of Cartography and the African Remote Sensing Council, in pursuance of the implementation of Conference of Ministers resolution 550 (XX) on the rationalization and harmonization of the activities of the two institutions, which perform an almost identical function, co-ordinating the activities of the national institutions of member States.

57. In the area of providing technical advisory services, the secretariat carried out an appraisal of the manpower, equipment and materials needs of the Survey of Ghana, at the Government's request.

58. During the reporting period, the secretariat mounted one exhibition in Brazzaville, the Congo, during the first Conference of African Scientists in June 1987. The exhibition presented in graphic form and by photographs a wide range of secretariat activities designed to combat the debilitating economic crises faced by many African countries and to show the effective implementation of the various economic recovery programmes.

### Water resources

59. Advisory services continued to be provided to member States and river basin organizations. The type of assistance varied in form and content according to the specific needs. The Government of Chad was assisted in the assessment of water resources. The Niger was helped in the preparation of a project proposal for external funding on the construction of water points for pastoral regions. Similar assistance in the preparation of a pre-investment study on costs of rural water supply was given to Burkina Faso, Mali and the Niger.

60. A significant input was made by the secretariat both in the organization of and contribution to the International Centre for Training and Research for the Advancement of Women (INSTRAW) national workshop on women, water supply and sanitation, which was held in Ethiopia in November 1987. UNDP, UNICEF and other United Nations organizations also closely collaborated in the seminar which attracted a large attendance from various government agencies in Ethiopia.

61. River basin development in Africa features as a very prominent preoccupation of the secretariat and a series of wide-ranging activities have been undertaken. The secretariat participated in and contributed to the international seminar on water resources in the Lake Chad Basin Commission held in Ndjamena, Chad, in June 1987 and in the workshop on development and the environment in the management of international drainage basins in Africa, held in Kisumu, Kenya, in August 1987. In November 1987, member States of the Zaire basin were assisted in convening an intergovernmental meeting of experts which examined the case for the establishment of a common basin organization that would be responsible for the overall integrated development and management of the basin.

### Energy resources

62. ECA activities in the programme area were concentrated on promoting multinational co-operation in Africa in three major spheres: (a) exploration, evaluation and development of energy resources, formulation of integrated energy policies and their integration into overall development and economic growth policies; (b) research, training and information; and (c) institution-building.

63. A number of missions covering different fields were undertaken in order to render advisory services on exploration and development of conventional and renewable sources of energy. Missions to West Africa (Côte d'Ivoire, Liberia and Sierra Leone) took place from May to June 1987 on petroleum exploration. Those to Eastern and Southern Africa (Botswana, Madagascar, Swaziland, the United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe) were on the development of coal resources and to Central Africa (the Congo and Zaire) on energy policies and the operational and organizational aspects of the utilization of energy resources.

64. In the sphere of research, training and information, a technical publication on an inventory of mini-hydropower potential in the CEPGL member States was prepared. Energy Review in Africa, which considered energy resources, production and consumption, current prices and future outlook was also published and distributed to member States. In addition, the secretariat



organized a Regional Workshop on Aspects of Energy Management in Africa in November 1987, at which 27 experts from six member States participated. The aim of the workshop was to discuss the methodological instruments available to African countries for use in energy management, within the overall framework of national development plans.

65. In the sphere of institution-building, the secretariat, at the request of the Council of the African Regional Centre for Solar Energy, prepared the work programme and budget of the Centre for 1988.

66. Between September and November 1987, the secretariat prepared a report on the establishment of the African Nuclear Energy Commission, which has been circulated to other United Nations bodies for comment before being presented to the meeting of plenipotentiaries in the third quarter of 1988.

#### Science and technology

67. The secretariat maintained efforts to ensure the creation or strengthening of appropriate infrastructure for science and technology development in member States. Thus, an advisory mission went to Senegal from 30 September to 4 October 1987 and made recommendations on the necessity for co-ordinating relevant activities by establishing a national commission for science and technology. Advice was given on the structure, organization and functions of such a body, in the context of the present level of socio-economic development of the country. At the request of the CEPGL secretariat, the secretariat prepared a five-year development plan for co-operation between member States in the field of science and technology, highlighting possible joint projects. This plan was adopted at a meeting of the CEPGL secretariat in May 1987.

68. Similarly, a mission to Benin from 4 to 10 October 1987 to advise on measures to strengthen the existing national machinery for science and technology development recommended the establishment of a national commission for science and technology to be responsible for policy and management at national level.

69. The secretariat assisted member States in organizing the meeting of the West African Working Group of the Intergovernmental Committee of Experts on Science and Technology Development, which was held in Dakar in April 1987. A report was prepared and submitted to that Committee at its meeting from 2 to 6 November 1987.

70. The working group discussed issues such as food and energy, manpower needs, industry, health and environment. It then put forward priority projects for joint implementation, based on subregional geographical resource endowments and needs.

71. The secretariat organized and serviced the fifth meeting of the Intergovernmental Committee of Experts for Science and Technology Development, held at ECA headquarters from 2 to 6 November 1987. The meeting made recommendations on the future of its subregional working groups, on science and technology information networks and on the need for the ECA, OAU and UNESCO secretariats to devise appropriate modalities for co-operation in the field of science and technology.

72. The secretariat prepared and distributed to the meeting of the Intergovernmental Committee of Experts for Science and Technology Development a draft handbook on rural technologies for the processing and storage of African tubers and cereals, which was based on bibliographical references and ECA mission data.

#### Marine affairs

73. Advisory services were rendered to member States such as the Comoros, Mauritius and Seychelles to enable them to define a development strategy on marine resources and prepare a subregional project which will involve all the African countries of the Indian Ocean. Missions also went to the CEPGL countries to help them improve their fishing industries, the Lake Chad Basin Commission to define a programme of action in the area of fishing in the four member States, and the Tangier-based MULPOC.

74. Three missions were undertaken to the Tangier-based MULPOC: two consisted of participation in meetings and discussions with member States on the progress achieved in drawing up the programme; the third was to enable the secretariat to define more precisely the locations of pelagic trade, as compared with those given in the study undertaken in 1986.

#### Transport, communications and tourism

75. During the period under review, the activities of the secretariat were centred around the following subprogrammes: (a) general and multimodal transport problems; (b) maritime and inland water transport and ports; (c) land transport; (d) air transport; (e) tourism; and (f) communications. Other activities, specifically related to the co-ordination of the United Nations Transport and Communications Decade in Africa (UNTACDA) programme, focused on the mobilization of funds and evaluation of the Decade which is scheduled to end in 1988.

#### Transport and tourism

76. The Eastern and Southern African Management Institute (ESAMI) in Arusha received technical support in the form of a lecture at the workshop on the improvement of railway management efficiency, with emphasis on the control and utilization of railway rolling stock.

77. Negotiations were successfully concluded between ECA and the Italian Government for the provision of bilateral assistance to undertake a Highway Master Plan for Africa, in line with the overall terms of reference for an envisaged African Transport Master Plan. Work should begin during the course of 1988.

78. The secretariat undertook a study and prepared a technical publication on the feasibility of establishing container repair and maintenance facilities in Africa. According to the study, a market for such services exists in the region, mainly at such ports as Abidjan, Mombasa, Douala and Djibouti and, to a lesser extent, at Dakar, Matadi and Maputo.

79. Technical support was provided to the Arab League secretariat in drafting a report on the setting up of a ministerial conference on maritime transport

for the North African subregion. The report was submitted to a meeting of plenipotentiaries for consideration. Furthermore, the secretariat organized an intergovernmental meeting of experts as a preliminary to the establishment of a ministerial conference on maritime transport in Eastern and Southern Africa and the Indian Ocean island countries.

80. Advisory services were provided to Zambia on the reorganization of administration and manpower development at the port of Mpulungu on Lake Tanganyika, by assessing the structure of the existing port administration, manpower and staffing and recommending ways and means of improving port performance.

81. An intergovernmental meeting of experts on port productivity was organized from 29 to 31 October 1987, at which the chief executives of African port authorities assessed the situation, examined the causes of low productivity and proposed measures for improvement.

82. In the field of inland water transport, the secretariat organized an Intergovernmental Meeting of Experts on the Development of the Congo/Zaire River Basin, in Kinshasa, from 11 to 17 November 1987, to review proposals designed to assist the Governments of the riparian States to co-operate in the planning and establishment of an appropriate body capable of ensuring the co-ordinated development of the basin.

83. The fourth African Highway Maintenance Conference was held in Harare, Zimbabwe, from 7 to 11 December 1987, to exchange views and experiences on: (i) financial allocation and mobilization for road maintenance; (ii) organization and management of manpower; and (iii) equipment utilization and labour-intensive methods of road maintenance.

84. In collaboration with the Union of African Railways (UAR), the secretariat organized a workshop to sensitize railway managers on the management aspects of maintenance and repairs and track renewal.

85. The secretariat organized the third and fourth meetings of the regional Air Transport Committee, which was set up by the Mbabane Declaration. The meetings focused on the efforts deemed necessary to upgrade African air services.

86. Pursuant on implementing the recommendations of the Niamey Regional Conference on Tourism, the secretariat organized the first meeting of the Conference of African Ministers of Tourism, which was held in Kinshasa, in November 1987, at which the Ministers agreed, inter alia, on the creation of subregional and regional mechanisms for the joint promotion of African tourism.

#### Communications

87. In accordance with the bilateral technical co-operation arrangements with the Federal Republic of Germany, the secretariat, in co-operation with the International Telecommunication Union (ITU), organized the second Seminar on Planning of Rural Telecommunications for English-speaking African countries, which was held in Harare, Zimbabwe. The primary objective of the seminar was to provide a forum where planners from African national telecommunications

organizations could share their experience on specific issues related to the planning, development and expansion of rural telecommunications.

### International trade and finance

#### Domestic trade and finance

88. During the period under review, the secretariat prepared three case studies on the structure, mechanisms and distribution channels of domestic trade in Cameroon, Ethiopia and Madagascar. The studies reviewed present domestic trade conditions and made relevant recommendations. The findings and conclusions were integrated into a comprehensive report entitled *Alternative Patterns of Domestic Trade Structures and Mechanisms: A Study of African Countries* (Cameroon, Ethiopia, the Niger, Senegal and Sierra Leone) (E/ECA/TRADE/84). The secretariat also prepared a study on Domestic trade and development in Africa: Measures to ensure effective contribution to balanced development, which examined the imbalance between the urban and rural sectors of African economies and put forward recommendations to improve the situation.

#### Intra-African trade

89. In the field of intra-African trade, the following technical publications were prepared: (i) *The Development and Expansion of Domestic and Intra-African Trade - A Policy Paper* (E/ECA/TRADE/85), which examined the measures needed to expand intra-African trade as a viable means of self-reliant and self-sustained economic growth in African countries; (ii) a preliminary study on *Border Issues in Africa* (E/ECA/TRADE/86), which reviewed the problems of border trade, using the country examples, and proposed possible solutions; (iii) *Identification of Products Largely Consumed in Rural Areas* (E/ECA/TRADE/94), which attempts a macro-analysis of consumption patterns in African rural areas.

90. The first African Regional Experts Group Meeting on Domestic and Intra-African Trade took place in Addis Ababa from 9 to 13 November 1987. The experts discussed in depth the relevant issues, then studied, reviewed and adopted the recommendations included in the above-mentioned studies.

91. Assistance was provided to the Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS) in the preparation of a report on trade liberalization within the subregion, which was then submitted to the Committee on Trade, Customs and Immigration of ECCAS. The secretariat organized, jointly with the ECCAS secretariat, a workshop for business transactors on trade liberalization measures.

92. Pursuant to a resolution adopted by the Council of Plenipotentiaries of the Tangier-based MULPOC in March 1987, on the establishment of a Preferential Trade Area in North Africa, the secretariat submitted a report to the Council of Plenipotentiaries at its meeting held in March 1988, on the necessary measures to be taken at national level to ensure the successful implementation of the resolution.

93. The secretariat organized a workshop for high- and middle-level women executives on the role and contribution of women in domestic and intra-African

trade and serviced the ninth meeting of the Africa Regional Co-ordinating Committee for the Integration of Women in Development, in Niamey, the Niger, from 31 March to 2 April 1988.

#### Trade promotion

94. In this sector, the secretariat provided technical backstopping to the Federation of African Chambers of Commerce, by assisting in the drawing up of its plan of operations and acting as its interim secretariat. It serviced the two training courses on market research in the field of trade promotion and export marketing, which took place in 1986 and 1987 and involved participants from 15 African countries. Advisory services were provided to member countries of the Preferential Trade Area (PTA) for Eastern and Southern African States and a feasibility study for the implementation of the PTA Trade Liberalization Scheme was carried out. In addition, the secretariat responded to a considerable and growing number of queries for trade information through "FLASH on Trade Opportunities" and the "African Trade Bulletin".

#### Trade with non-African countries

95. The secretariat undertook advisory missions to Havana, Cuba, from 10 March to 2 May 1987, to service African delegations and groups at the sixth Ministerial Meeting of the Group of 77 and to Geneva, from 9 July to 3 August 1987, for the seventh United Nations Conference on Trade and Development. Efforts continued to assist member States in trade promotion with Socialist countries in order to achieve greater geographic distribution and commodity diversity in African trade. In line with resolution 591 (XXII) and other decisions of the eighth and ninth Conferences of African Ministers of Trade, the secretariat organized a workshop-cum-study tour to the USSR for African businessmen from 28 September to 6 October 1987. This aimed to familiarize the participants with trade policies and practices and solicit an exchange of experiences with Soviet trade representatives so that opportunities for further practically oriented trade contacts could be identified.

96. In order to help African countries in their efforts to diversify the structural patterns of their commodity trade, the secretariat prepared a paper on African Commodities Policies and Options (E/ECA/TRADE/90), which was presented at an expert group workshop organized by UNCTAD in collaboration with ECA, held at Geneva, from 21 to 26 September 1987. The workshop reviewed the prospects for commodity exports from Africa and possible improvements in export policies. Studies concerned with south-south trade and co-operation were also completed, so that African countries should become aware of the prospects and problems of trade expansion between Africa and other developing regions of Latin America and Asia. The studies include Africa and the Ongoing Negotiations on the Establishment of a Global System of Trade Preferences among Developing Countries (E/ECA/TRADE/106), and Problems and Prospects for Expanding Trade between Brazil and Portuguese-speaking African Countries (E/ECA/TRADE/104).

#### Monetary and financial relations

97. During the period under review, the financial and monetary situation of African countries deteriorated as a result of a combination of internal



and external factors. These trends considerably intensified the African monetary crisis.

98. The secretariat focused much of its attention on issues relating to Africa's external debt. Two papers were prepared, one on Africa's debt projections - A methodological framework and the other on Africa's external debt perspectives in the medium and long term with or without external relief. These two documents constituted inputs to the Declaration and the African Common Position on Africa's External Debt Crisis adopted by the African Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity (OAU). The secretariat participated in and serviced the third extraordinary session of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of OAU on Africa's External Debt Crisis, held in Addis Ababa, on 30 November and 1 December 1987, as well as the preparatory meetings. A paper on The Historical Profile of External Indebtedness of African Countries in Relation to the Economic Crisis of the Continent (E/ECA/TRADE/102) was presented to the African Trade Union Conference on the External Debt and Debt-Servicing of African Countries, organized in Addis Ababa from 8 to 10 December 1987. Another paper entitled The Debt Problem: Measurement, Management and Development Implications (E/ECA/PSD.5/3) was presented to the fifth session of the Joint Conference of African Planners, Statisticians and Demographers, held in Addis Ababa from 21 to 28 March 1988.

99. In the area of intra-African monetary and financial co-operation, the secretariat participated in May 1987 in meetings of the African Development Bank, the African Development Fund and the Governors of African Central Banks, and played an appreciable role in a seminar organized by the Association of African Development Finance Institutions. In addition, the secretariat prepared a note on the prospects for the Establishment of Clearing and Payments Arrangements in North Africa (E/ECA/TRADE/96), which was examined at the Inaugural Meeting of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Team of Experts on the Establishment of a Preferential Trade Area in North Africa, held in Tangier, Morocco, from 9 to 11 December 1987. Work was also undertaken on export credit financing and insurance for Central Africa, focusing on appropriate measures and mechanisms to support the development process in view of the persistent problems of resources outflows (E/ECA/TRADE/103).

#### Information analysis

100. In the field of information analysis and dissemination, the ECA/UNCTC Joint Unit concentrated on informing member countries about recent research and data on transnational corporations (TNCs). The 1987 edition of the Transnational Focus was also published.

#### Advisory services

101. The Joint Unit participated actively in training and advisory services related to TNCs, notably in:

- (a) Training of Trainers Workshop, in Arusha in December 1987;
- (b) In-house training programme for Namibian students;

(c) Two missions, one to Mauritius and the other to Egypt, for the purposes of examining the possibilities of establishing joint ventures and the related issues of transfer pricing practices.

#### Economic co-operation and integration

##### Assistance to the Multinational Programming and Operational Centres

102. During the period under review, the secretariat continued to strengthen and support the Multinational Programming and Operational Centres (MULPOCs), by assigning to them more headquarters staff, so that they were more able to respond effectively to requests from the subregions.

103. As scheduled, the 10 meetings of the Councils of Ministers of the MULPOCs and the associated meetings of their Committees of Officials met to discuss the main development issues pertaining to each subregion. These meetings helped to draw the policy-makers' attention to the critical issues basic to an acceleration of the economic development process in member countries.

##### Assistance to subregional economic groupings

104. The secretariat continued to assist ECOWAS, ECCAS, PTA, CEPGL and other subregional organizations and institutions on economic issues. In particular, assistance was given to these bodies and to the river and lake basin commissions and authorities to enable them to play an effective and positive role in the implementation of the Lagos Plan of Action and the Final Act of Lagos; Africa's Priority Programme for Economic Recovery, 1986-1990 (APPER); and the United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development, 1986-1990 (UN-PAAERD). This involved working out medium- and long-term strategies, programmes and proposed activities to be undertaken at the subregional level. The secretariat also collaborated with UNDP and the aforementioned bodies in drafting project documents for funding by UNDP under the Fourth Programming Cycle, 1987-1991.

##### Substantive servicing of a meeting of chief executives of major economic groupings

105. At the seventh meeting of the Council of Plenipotentiaries of the Tangier-based MULPOC, on 27 and 28 March 1987, the member countries firmly resolved to create a subregional preferential trade area and a payment and clearing arrangement for North Africa. They requested that an intergovernmental committee of experts be established to define actions aimed at establishing the PTA and the payment and clearing arrangement. They further requested the Executive Secretary of ECA to undertake measures to convene the inaugural meeting of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Team to discuss the modalities for the establishment of the proposed PTA and to submit a progress report to the next meeting of the Council of Plenipotentiaries. The ECA Conference of Ministers, at its thirteenth meeting and twenty-second session of the Commission, held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, from 23 to 27 April 1987, endorsed this decision by resolution 593 (XXII).

106. The Inaugural Meeting of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Team of Experts on the Establishment of the PTA for North Africa took place from 9 to 11 December 1987 at the headquarters of the North Africa MULPOC in Tangier.

It formally established the Intergovernmental Negotiating Team and examined the draft rules of procedure. The meeting also considered a discussion paper on the principles for the establishment of the PTA in North Africa as the basis for drafting the treaty. Finally, the protocols and supporting studies for submission by the member States to the Intergovernmental Negotiating Team were discussed.

#### Regional co-operation

107. As in previous years, the secretariat serviced the eighth Conference of Chief Executives of ECA-sponsored Regional and Subregional Institutions, on the promotion of economic and technical co-operation. The meeting paid particular attention to the role these institutions should play in the implementation of Africa's Priority Programme for Economic Recovery, 1986-1990 (APPER); the United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development, 1986-1990 (UN-PAAERD); and the UNDP Fourth Programming Cycle for Africa, 1987-1991. Far-reaching decisions were taken on the need to strengthen substantive divisions. Equally important were decisions to harmonize the work programmes and activities of these institutions with those of ECOWAS, ECCAS, PTA, CEPGL, UDEAC and similar economic integration groupings for the more effective implementation of APPER and the UN-PAAERD.

#### Interregional technical and economic co-operation

108. During the 1986-1987 biennium, interregional technical and economic co-operation between Africa and the other regions was at a low ebb, as shown by the decline in the amount of extrabudgetary resources pledged for the support of the Commission's activities. Similarly, a number of the projects submitted in the 1984-1985 biennium have yet to be funded.

109. The promotion of interregional joint ECDC/TCDC activities by ECA is carried out mainly in the context of co-operation with other regional commissions and the Group of 77. The action taken by the secretariat in pursuit of interregional co-operation, during the period under review, is summarized below.

110. ECA participated in the intergovernmental follow-up and co-ordination committee. This is a continuing activity aiming at strengthening co-operation and co-ordination between the various chapters of the Group of 77 and the United Nations system for the implementation of the Caracas Programme of Action. Under the terms of agreements reached by the executive secretaries of the regional commissions at meetings in Addis Ababa in March 1985 and at Geneva in July 1985, aimed at promoting interregional co-operation in specific priority areas, ECA was to be the lead agency in preparing and co-ordinating joint interregional TCDC/ECDC projects in five specific fields:

(a) Employment in the rural areas, with particular reference to women and youth;

(b) Fertilizers and pesticides;

(c) Containerization and multimodal transport;

(d) Human settlements, the development of low-cost housing construction materials; and



(e) Promotion of Afro-Arab trade.

111. The secretariat continued its efforts with ESCAP to design a plan of action within the context of ECDC/TCDC activities, for collaboration in setting up an African network of fertilizer advisory, development and information activities, similar to that in Asia, ESCAP/FAO/UNIDO/FADINAP.

112. Following a visit by a high-level Brazilian delegation, preparatory activities were undertaken to make the necessary TCDC/ECDC arrangements between ECA and Brazil to assist African countries in the implementation of the programme of the Industrial Development Decade for Africa (IDDA). Specific areas for co-operation have been identified and a joint work programme is being established for the implementation of already defined or future projects.

113. The Government of India made a grant of \$US 350,000 to ECA to mount a programme to assist countries in the Eastern and Southern African subregion in the manufacture of machine tools, agricultural machinery and implements, low-cost transport equipment and spare parts. India is also assisting African countries by a grant of \$US 350,000 made to the African Regional Centre for Engineering Design and Manufacturing (ARCEDEM), with ECA acting as the executing agency and by a technical assistance grant of approximately \$US 400,000 to ECA for the promotion of small-scale industries in Africa.

114. ECA continued to collaborate with the secretariat of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) in the implementation of TCDC/ECDC principles, by assisting the secretariats of the regional economic groups and the respective member States. In addition, the secretariat has also co-operated with the secretariat of the African, Caribbean and Pacific States (ACP) in seeking ways to assist the ACP States to implement the intra-ACP programme of action on trade promotion.

115. In co-operation with India, the secretariat is in the process of setting up a development, demonstration and replication centre in Senegal, in association with the African Regional Centre for Technology in Dakar, of technologies suitable for use in rural development.

Social development in Africa

Integrated rural development

116. The secretariat published two more issues of its journal on integrated rural development, Rural Progress. The themes were: (i) Role of production co-operation in Africa, and (ii) the International Year of Shelter. A readership survey of the journal was conducted, which showed that there was considerable interest in it, within and outside Africa. A proposal is currently under consideration to improve further the technical contents of the publication and to widen its coverage.

117. An inter-disciplinary mission was sent to Liberia, at that country's request, to advise the Government on developing the vast potential in the rural sector as a part of the overall development strategy. The mission studied current socio-economic problems of Liberia, held a series of in-depth discussions with concerned ministries and authorities and made the following major recommendations:

(a) Since Liberia is basically rural, the transformation of its rural sector must be equated with national development and given the highest priority, for only a prosperous rural sector can provide a self-reliant base for development by providing critical wage goods and an internal market for non-rural-based economic activities;

(b) The allocation of internal resources and of supplementary foreign aid to Liberia should reflect this priority;

(c) Policy decisions should be taken and mechanisms established for the transfer of resources to the rural sector, so that some degree of parity can be achieved between the monetized and rural sectors, which would reduce rural-urban migration of the potentially entrepreneurial younger generation;

(d) In order to achieve parity, the economic base of the rural sector must be modernized and productivity increased, which means that agriculture, in particular the food subsector, must be given the highest priority;

(e) The existing Ministry of Rural Development, which has line function, should be replaced by a National Rural Development Authority, with staff function, located in the Office of the President.

118. In November 1987, the Project Analysis and Appraisal Committee (PAAC) of the secretariat approved, subject to the availability of necessary extrabudgetary resources, two project proposals to strengthen the financial institutions of rural Africa; the first entitled Strengthening financial institutions of rural Africa and provision of credit for agricultural and other income-generating activities in five selected countries (1990-1994); and the second, a Regional Workshop on the evaluation of experiences in ten rural development projects in Africa.

#### Social policy, planning and research

119. The activities of the secretariat centred on evaluations of some social policies in the region, assessments of the current social situation and advisory services on strengthening social policies, planning and institutions, to member States, upon request. The secretariat carried out research and undertook an evaluation of social welfare policies in Africa in the light of the requirements of APPER and the UN-PAAERD. It found these policies to be largely remedial, piecemeal and inadequate to deal with current social problems. A number of strategies were identified for reorienting the social welfare component of social development, towards the developmental mainstream. A report based on the study entitled Social Policies and Programmes in the Context of Africa's Economic Recovery and Accelerated Development was submitted as a regional input to the global Interregional Consultation on Developmental Social Welfare Policies and Programmes, held in Vienna, from 7 to 15 September 1987. The Consultation adopted the Guiding Principles for Development of Social Welfare Policies and Programmes in the Near Future, which have been endorsed by the forty-second session of the General Assembly, for application within the work of the regional commissions and other United Nations bodies.

120. At its thirteenth meeting, the ECA Conference of Ministers voiced its concern over the deteriorating social situation in the continent, together with the lack of priority and the inadequate resources accorded by governments

to social development. In resolution 601 (XXII) of 24 April 1987, the Conference called upon member States to take urgent corrective measures and also requested the secretariat to lend governments all necessary support in the formulation of appropriate policies and the design of suitable programmes in social development and to report annually on the African social situation. Pursuant to this resolution, the secretariat offered technical advisory services to the Governments of Ghana and Sierra Leone on planning and strengthening social policies to encompass particularly the needs of the poor and disadvantaged social groups, whose living conditions have deteriorated as a result of the economic crisis.

121. The secretariat also prepared a study analysing the African social situation from 1982 to 1987 (E/ECA/CM.14/16) for consideration by the Conference of Ministers at its fourteenth meeting. Recommendations were made on the appropriate framework for evolving social policies and programmes in the light of Africa's current recovery and development challenges.

#### Youth and social welfare

122. During the period under review, the secretariat's activities focused on issues concerning the participation of youth in development, the integration of disabled persons in social and economic life and crime prevention and criminal justice.

123. Pursuant to General Assembly resolution 40/35 entitled Development of standards for the prevention of juvenile delinquency and in preparation for the eighth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders, to be held in 1990, the secretariat participated in the Expert Group Meeting on the Development of United Nations Standards on the Prevention of Juvenile Delinquency, held in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, on 28 and 29 February 1988. It also participated in the Interregional Preparatory Meeting on the Prevention of Delinquency, Juvenile Justice and the Protection of the Young: Policy Approaches and Direction, held in Vienna, Austria, from 18 to 22 April 1988.

124. In the field of disability, the secretariat continued its efforts in promoting the implementation of the World Programme of Action Concerning Disabled Persons, adopted by the General Assembly in resolution 37/52 of 3 December 1982 and the United Nations Decade of Disabled Persons, 1983-1992 proclaimed by the General Assembly in resolution 37/53 of 3 December 1982. To this end, it participated in the Meeting of Experts to Review the Implementation of the World Programme of Action Concerning Disabled Persons at the Mid-point of the United Nations Decade of Disabled Persons, held in Stockholm, from 17 to 22 August 1987. The meeting recommended, inter alia, that during the next five years, higher priority should be given to the promotion of the United Nations Decade of Disabled Persons and to the implementation of the World Programme of Action Concerning Disabled Persons.

125. In order to publicize the Decade, a newsletter entitled "Equal Time" was launched and circulated widely to member States and other organizations involved in the field of disability. Besides promoting public awareness of the needs and situation of disabled people in the region, the newsletter also serves as a medium for the exchange of information, experience and ideas

on and about the disabled and the various activities undertaken in African countries for their benefit.

126. A report entitled Progress Report in Social Development during the period April 1985 to March 1987 was prepared for consideration by the Conference of African Ministers of Social Affairs at its next meeting.

127. The secretariat has been actively involved in the establishment of the United Nations African Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders (UNAFRI) pursuant to the numerous recommendations and resolutions adopted by United Nations bodies. Since the launching of the Institute in January 1987, the secretariat has been acting as its interim secretariat, pending the selection of a host country. A number of activities scheduled for implementation during the initial phase were completed. Two training seminars were organized in Addis Ababa, one on Planning for Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice in the context of development, for English-speaking high-level personnel working in the sector and the second on The Prevention and Treatment of Juvenile Delinquency for French-speaking personnel responsible for youth-related issues, including the administration of justice to young offenders. A working document on the adaptation of the United Nations Manual for the development of crime statistics in African countries has been prepared for an expert group meeting to be held at the end of 1988.

128. As part of the secretariat's efforts to identify a host country for the Institute, missions were undertaken to Uganda and Zambia to consult with appropriate government authorities and to appraise the proposed facilities for the Institute. Contacts and consultations with other interested member States are going on. In anticipation of the selection of a host country by the ECA Conference of Ministers, the secretariat prepared a draft host country agreement which will be finalized in consultation with the chosen State. A draft Statute establishing the Institute as a legal entity was also prepared for consideration by the Conference of Ministers. At the end of the initial phase of the Institute, a terminal implementation report was submitted to UNDP, which had financed the initial phase activities. In addition to the extensive consultations carried out to identify additional sources of funding, a detailed project document soliciting long-term funding was prepared and submitted to UNDP for consideration.

#### Human settlements in Africa

129. During the period under review, the following technical publications were completed on:

(a) Research programmes concerning human settlement planning techniques in different areas of the region (E/ECA/HUS/29);

(b) The improvement and development of training services and programmes in the field of human settlements in Africa (E/ECA/HUS/23/Rev.1);

(c) Approaches to the formulation of comprehensive construction planning and implementation policies in Africa (E/ECA/HUS/30).

130. The following consultative services were also rendered to:

(a) The Building Research Unit of the United Republic of Tanzania on the strategies to be followed in order to develop the construction materials industry;

(b) The Habitat, Land and Environment Ministry in Mauritius on the means to reinforce and devise a national institutional mechanism to be used for the formulation and implementation of policies related to human settlements;

(c) The Research Centre on Habitat, Town Planning and Architecture in Senegal on improving and developing training programmes in the field of human settlements.

131. In addition, the secretariat carried out several activities within the preparatory phase of the project on the development of building materials in Africa, namely the completion of national and subregional studies on the development of building materials and the organization of a meeting for the preparation of a project document covering the continuation of the project to be submitted to UNDP.

#### Environment

132. During the period under review, the environment in Africa programme continued to focus its activities on the development and strengthening of the national capabilities of member States, in the areas of pollution control, environmental degradation, health and especially drought and desertification, in line with the concerns of Africa's Priority Programme for Economic Recovery (APPER) and the United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development (UN-PAAERD), within the context of the Lagos Plan of Action and the Final Act of Lagos.

#### Technical co-operation on environmental matters

133. Technical co-operation in developing national environmental capabilities included advisory services on the implementation of the Plan of Action to Combat the Impact of Drought and Desertification. The secretariat participated in a multidisciplinary advisory mission to Somalia and a report, together with recommendations for action, was submitted to the Government of Somalia.

134. The secretariat continued to follow up study on the feasibility of establishing an intersectoral and multidisciplinary institution to be called the African Centre of Meteorological Applications for Development (ACMAD), as approved by the Conference of Ministers in resolution 540 (XX). Resolution 621 (XXII) of April 1987 of the ECA Conference of Ministers chose to locate it in Niamey, Republic of Niger. The setting up of the Centre with the untiring collaboration of the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) is ECA's major contribution to institutionalizing drought and desertification control activities in member States. Its success, however, will depend largely on the amount of financial and technical support forthcoming from member States.



135. The following meetings were held in Niamey in preparation for making ACMAD operational:

- (a) Inter-agency/expert group meeting, 22-24 February 1988;
- (b) Donors meeting at the technical level, 25-26 February 1988;
- (c) Inaugural meeting of the Board of Governors, 12 April 1988; and
- (d) Donors meeting, 13-14 April 1988.

#### Co-ordination and assessment of environmental activities

136. Within the Commission, the usual inter-divisional review and co-ordination of activities continued and contributions were made by the Environment Section to the substantive programmes of the other divisions on the environmental implications of their programme activities.

137. Close collaboration also continued to be maintained with the Organization of African Unity (OAU) in the environmental management programmes of member States. An important joint activity was the involvement in the OAU Conference of Ministers of Health in Cairo, in April 1987 at which an OAU/ECA joint paper was presented on environmental management and health problems in Africa.

#### Development of manpower capabilities

138. In the area of developing manpower capabilities and the creation of environmental awareness through training and education activities, a series of lectures was delivered at the African Institute for Economic Development and Planning (IDEP), in Dakar in June 1986, on environmental management in the development of energy resources. A workshop was held at UNEP headquarters in Nairobi for seven staff members of the Eastern and Southern African Management Institute (ESAMI).

139. These activities led to the preparation of a joint ECA/UNEP technical publication entitled Interdisciplinary Core-curriculum for Environmental Management in Africa (E/ECA/ENV/39/Rev.1) in December 1987. Other technical publications included a Directory of African Environmental Experts and List of Institutions on Environmental Matters in Africa (E/ECA/ENV/38). A document on Combating Desertification in Africa: Regional and National Efforts was edited prior to publication. All publications are issued in English, French and Arabic, the three official working languages of the Commission.

#### Public administration, management and manpower

##### Public administration and finance

140. During the period under review, in the area of public administration, assistance in implementing their programmes was provided to member States' institutions and organizations. In July 1987, an advisory mission to the African Training and Research Centre in Administration for Development (CAFRAD) prepared a five-year programme of action on administrative reform and re-dynamization in Africa. The secretariat participated, in an advisory capacity, in a workshop on the optimal utilization of consultants, organized in August

1987 by the African Association for Public Administration and Management (AAPAM), in collaboration with the Government of the United Republic of Tanzania.

141. From 24 September to 2 October 1987, an advisory mission was undertaken to the Kenya Institute of Administration to assist in the planning and organization of the Kenya Staff College Seminar No. 4. Between 24 and 30 October 1987, the secretariat undertook a comprehensive situational review of the United Nations Institute for Namibia in Lusaka. It collaborated with the Commonwealth Secretariat in organizing a subregional Workshop for Heads of Management Training Institutions in West Africa, which took place at the Administrative Staff College of Nigeria (ASCON), Topo-Badagry, Nigeria, from 2 to 6 November 1987. The secretariat was also represented at the AAPAM round table which took place in Gaborone, Botswana, from 30 November to 5 December 1987.

142. Using extrabudgetary resources made available by the Government of India, the secretariat assisted at a two-week national training course in procurement and supply management, organized in Mbabane, from 23 November to 4 December 1987, for 20 stores officials of the Swaziland Government.

143. In 1987, the secretariat participated in drawing up a Special Action Programme for Administration and Management in Africa (SAPAM), aimed at strengthening the administrative and management capabilities and performance of the African region.

144. In the area of reviewing and analysing policies and programmes for increasing the efficiency and productivity of public services, the following technical publications were prepared: Experiences in Developing and Applying Criteria and Techniques for Evaluating the Performance of Public Enterprises in Africa (ECA/PAMM/PAM/87/10 (1.2 (a))); Possibilities for Co-operation among African Public Enterprises with a view to Establishing Joint African Multinational Enterprises (ECA/PAMM/PAM/87/12 (1.2 (i))).

145. With regard to the development of budgetary and taxation systems and within the context of technical assistance to member States, a national training course on improvements in budgetary and financial management was organized by the secretariat, in collaboration with the Lesotho Institute of Public Administration in Maseru, Lesotho. The course focused attention on the efficient allocation of public financial resources through improvements in the structure of the government budget and techniques and methods of controlling public expenditure. In May 1987, a training course for income tax and customs officials was organized by the secretariat, in collaboration with the Swaziland Institute of Managerial and Public Administration (SMPA).

146. One technical publication was prepared on Strengthening Government Expenditure Control Effectiveness: A Case Study of the United Republic of Tanzania (ECA/PAMM/BUD/87/4/2.2 (i)).

#### Human resources planning, development and utilization

147. During the reporting period, programme coverage included manpower planning, formal and non-formal education, training development, guidance and counselling, fellowships administration, labour market management and



employment planning. The operational activities were geared to: (a) technical support in (i) policies and programme analysis and reviews; (ii) the analysis and reconstitution of organizational machineries for policy harmonization and programme co-ordination; and (iii) the development of technical and managerial staff capability for effective design and delivery of the programmes; (b) technical studies and the analysis of operational constraints in programme design and implementation, and the proposal of alternative or additional courses of action or policy options; (c) advisory services in the analysis, reconstitution and installation of new options; (d) mobilization and administration of financial and institutional resources for the placement of study fellowships in areas of critical need; and (e) the substantive servicing of policy organ meetings, preparatory committees and related expert group meetings.

148. In the area of manpower planning, two workshops were organized in collaboration with the Government of Uganda and ESAMI. In addition to enhancing the technical and managerial capability of those involved in manpower planning, the workshops respectively (i) reviewed the Ugandan economy, the techniques and machinery for manpower planning, with reference to the data from and techniques in the conduct of surveys and the related policy framework; (ii) made policy recommendations on the organizational framework, staffing and other requirements for effective manpower planning and manpower plan formulation.

149. In the area of formal and non-formal education, four technical and managerial capability development workshops for educational staff were organized: educational administration and teacher education (Lesotho); curriculum review, development and evaluation (Malawi); educational planning (United Republic of Tanzania); and training in educational management (Kenya).

150. In staff training development, a technical and managerial skills development workshop was conducted in collaboration with the Zambian Management Services Board for Zambian trainers. A consultative advisory mission to Zambia was undertaken on the structure and operation of institutional machinery for the effective co-ordination and management of training programmes. In support of the attempts made by institutions of higher learning to strengthen their staff and organizational development effort, a programme of activities for 1988-1991 was developed. It was presented and adopted during the German-African Conference in Berlin (attended by seven African universities from the Eastern and Southern African subregion). The first activity, which was on enhancing the staff organizational programme management capability in the universities, took place in Berlin during the reporting period.

151. A training workshop, coupled with an advisory mission on guidance and counselling techniques geared to youth, was held in the United Republic of Tanzania. Focusing on how to deal with problems of juvenile delinquency, early pregnancies and drug abuse, the workshop sought to enhance staff technical capabilities in appreciating and responding to these problems.

152. The grants and fellowships administration effort focused on the mobilization of financial and institutional resources, with the result that a number of students were placed in various countries to study in a variety of fields.

Most of the awards continued to be bilateral, but the demand for those administered by the secretariat far outweighed the opportunities offered. In addition, scholarships for a three-month regional programme in the management and technical aspects of human resources planning were also available under USAID and the United Nations Population Fund assistance to IDEP.

153. In the area of labour market management and employment planning, efforts continued under the joint ECA/Intergovernmental Committee for Migration (ICM) project to ensure the return to the continent of Africans qualified in various fields to work both in institutions of higher learning and in other areas of the economy.

154. A number of technical publications, monographs and reports in the fields of education, guidance and counselling, and human resources were produced, based on studies undertaken during the reporting period.

155. Two major conferences - the Human Dimension of Africa's Economic Recovery and Development and the third session of the Conference of African Ministers Responsible for Human Resources Planning, Development and Utilization were serviced in Khartoum. The reports were presented to the ninth meeting of the Technical Preparatory Committee of the Whole (TEPCOW) and the twenty-third session of the Commission/fourteenth meeting of the Conference of Ministers of the Economic Commission for Africa.

#### African Training and Research Centre for Women (ATRCW)

156. During the period under review, the secretariat continued to play a catalytic, co-ordinating and disseminating role in striving to achieve the full integration of women in development. Efforts were concentrated on research and training activities designed to increase women's capabilities to enable them to play an active and efficacious role in national development. Special emphasis was given to measures recommended by the Arusha and Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women and the United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development.

157. Programme implementation stressed the inclusion of a women's component in development plans and programmes. Thus, advisory services were provided to national machineries in Ghana, Guinea-Bissau, the Niger, Senegal and Somalia to ensure that multisectoral programmes and projects formulated at country level reflected women's needs. Two studies were carried out: Participation of women in development as agents and beneficiaries in Ghana and a Survey on women in Mauritius, both of which were designed to provide planners and decision-makers with a data base for including women's needs in development plans. A survey involving a comparative assessment of the changing socio-economic conditions of women in Africa in the context of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women is also being conducted.

158. Great efforts were made to improve women's capabilities to formulate, monitor and evaluate development projects by organizing a seminar on project planning and evaluation in Kinshasa, Zaire, for women responsible for developing women's projects and programmes in various technical services.

159. Particular attention was also paid to improving women's management and entrepreneurial skills in order to ensure the increased efficacious involvement

of women in the agricultural and industrial development. A two-week study tour to Ghana was organized for business women and women project managers from the Eastern and Southern African subregion, during which a group of 16 women shared the experience of Ghanaian women in developing small-scale enterprises, concerned particularly in the production, processing, preservation and marketing of foodstuffs. Similarly, three women, two from the Comoros and one from Djibouti, were sent to Kinshasa, Zaire, for training in co-operative management at the Centre national de coordination de la formation au développement (CENACOF). A subregional management training seminar was also organized from 11 to 16 May 1987 in Gisenyi, Rwanda, for women from the Great Lakes countries engaged in production or trade activities. A seminar on the development of cottage industry took place in Kigali, Rwanda, on the promotion of small concerns responding to the domestic demand.

160. As part of continued efforts to assist drought-affected countries, the secretariat organized a training project on the optimal nutritional use of food donated to Ethiopia for relief and food-for-work activities. Training in aspects of nutrition, agriculture and health was provided in settlements in Bale and Gama Gofa.

161. Disseminating information on women was also one of the major concerns of the secretariat. A bi-annual newsletter, ATRCW Update, was published, providing information on ATRCW activities at headquarters and at MULPOC level, as well as on women's activities of interest to Africa undertaken by other organizations. A study on Women as Small-scale Entrepreneurs in Zambia, Cameroon and Ghana (ECA/ATRCW/87/3/3.4(iii)) was also published, in which the difficulties hampering women in business were pinpointed and various recommendations aimed at enhancing women's productivity in the business sector were made.

162. An evaluation of the ECA programme for the integration of women in development at the subregional level was carried out by a joint team from UNDP, ARCC and ECA. The impact of the programme in member States was assessed and structures able to respond to the new UNDP approach to women in development issues were identified. The evaluation report revealed no realistic alternative structure to the programme, hence the recommendations stressed:

(a) Maintaining the MULPOCs as the focal points for the subregional programme;

(b) Concentrating on the training of trainers, to ensure a multiplier effect;

(c) Ensuring a monitoring system in training programmes to collect feedback from the participants.

#### Pan-African Documentation and Information System (PADIS)

163. During the period under review, the Pan-African Documentation and Information System expanded both its system of data bases related to socio-economic development in Africa and the network of institutions in Africa contributing to and utilizing the system. It mounted training courses and rendered advisory services to member States on the establishment and maintenance of development information systems. It also serviced and participated in a number of meetings

to strengthen its system. The subprogrammes for electronic data processing systems resulted in significant advances being made in the services rendered to the ECA secretariat.

#### PADIS data bases

164. During the period under review, the number of records in the PADIS bibliographic development information system increased to 7,000 and usage of the system also expanded rapidly. The number of entries in the PADIS-STAT statistical data base reached more than 160,000. New data bases were launched - those for ongoing and completed research on development in the region and for institutions in research and development - and their first printed products are expected by the end of 1988. An existing data base - the TCDC data base of African experts - underwent major updating. PADIS acquired the complementary data base of the International Livestock Centre for Africa. New tapes were installed for other existing data bases, significantly increasing the total number of records. In December 1987, PADIS-STAT was installed in Benin and training was given to national staff for its maintenance and updating.

165. Services deriving from the data bases offered to PADIS users included Selective Dissemination of Information and Question/Answer. Printed products included the production of a Togo national DEVINDEX, an annual cumulative index, and three issues of the new quarterly format DEVINDEX. Four issues of the PADIS newsletter, initiated in 1986, were published in English and in French. An updated brochure on PADIS entitled "What is PADIS" was also published in the period.

#### Training

166. In addition to the training in Benin, PADIS mounted seven training workshops and courses: on information science and documentation for Ethiopia in May 1987; on the framework for participation in PADIS activities for trainees from Mauritius and Seychelles in September 1987, in the Seychelles; training for participants in the PADIS/East and Southern African Universities Research Project data base development in January 1988, in Nairobi; on modalities of PADIS participation in January 1988, in the Gambia, on PADIS computerized documentation methodologies for trainees from Malawi and Swaziland in February 1988, in Addis Ababa; on the Central African Documentation and Information System in April 1988, in Kinshasa; and to train staff of documentation centres in the Seychelles and the Gambia on PADIS methodologies in April 1988, in Addis Ababa. In addition, customized courses were given in Addis Ababa to trainees from national and institutional centres participating in the PADIS network.

#### PADIS network

167. Five member States named their national co-operating centres in the PADIS network, bringing the total to 16. The Executive Secretary, in a letter sent to member States which had not yet named their centre, urged them to do so, in order to benefit from PADIS technical assistance.

168. During the reporting period, agreement was reached for the establishment of the Central African Documentation and Information System in Kinshasa. Site preparation was undertaken and equipment installed to make the subregional

centre for Eastern and Southern Africa in Lusaka and that for West Africa in Niamey operational. Under an interim agreement, the subregional information centre for North Africa is being housed at the Arab League Documentation Centre (ALDOC) in Tunis.

169. Significant developments in the PADIS network included the first meeting in February 1988, of the Standing Committee on the Harmonization of Documentation and Information at ECA-sponsored subregional institutions. As part of its activities with institutional participating centres, PADIS undertook a planning mission to RESADOC, the documentation centre of the Sahel Institute in Bamako.

#### Advisory services, missions and meetings

170. During the period under review, PADIS undertook advisory missions to Cape Verde, Djibouti and Malawi. It played a major role in the evaluation of the Automated System for Customs Data (ASYCUDA), including a field visit to Togo. Several meetings were held to promote ARIS-NET, the North African documentation and information system. Significant collaborative meetings were also held with the International Development Research Centre and with UNESCO towards elaborating joint or complementary work programmes. PADIS staff members participated in meetings of MINISIS users and underwent training at several locales in CDS/ISIS software for microcomputers.

#### Electronic data processing

171. Significant advances were made in the electronic data processing services provided to ECA during 1987 with the upgrading of the Hewlett Packard mini-computer to a model HP 3000/58, providing faster response time and accommodating a larger number of users. Plans were also made to utilize the alternate voice data line (AVD) to permit users of the ECA computer facility to access the computer of the New York Computing Centre as well as that of the International Computing Centre in Geneva.

#### Technical assistance co-ordination and co-operation

172. The secretariat continued to carry out a programme of technical co-operation aimed at furthering the economic and social development of the countries of the region. Thus, the sum of \$US 1.5 million from regular programme funds was expended to support the services of 10 regional advisers and to assist the Multinational Programming and Operational Centres (MULPOCs). Regional and subregional activities financed by the regular programme were carried out in the areas of economic co-operation; public administration and finance; social development; statistics; transport, communications and tourism; energy; and administration and common services. In addition, three study tours and workshops were organized in the USSR and financed with non-convertible currency.

173. The secretariat also carried out activities pertaining to projects financed by UNDP and amounting in total to \$US 9,300,678. These activities were in the field of development issues and policies, human settlements, industrial development, international trade, natural resources, women's programme, public administration, social development, statistics, transport and communications, tourism and economic integration.



174. The United Nations Population Fund financed ECA activities on demographic statistics, population information networks, census research and training to a total of \$US 3,106,714.

175. The UNEP contribution of \$US 110,000 was utilized for ECA operational activities on the environment, drought and desertification.

176. The United Nations Trust Fund for African Development (UNTFAD) made available an amount of \$US 460,054 for projects in the fields of development issues, industrial development, international trade, natural resources, social development, and administration and common services.

177. The United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM) provided \$US 180,000 for strengthening national machineries for the integration of women in development and to support the activities of the African Training and Research Centre for Women (ATRCW).

178. For the United Nations Transport and Communications Decade in Africa (UNTACDA) a pledged contribution of \$US 69,915 was made in support of activities related to the development of transport, communications and tourism in Africa.

179. Bilateral donors, governments and organizations provided direct grants totalling \$US 2,413,000 for expert services under non-reimbursable loan arrangements and trust funds, for the implementation of technical co-operation projects in the fields of development policies, food and agriculture, industry, natural resources, energy, population, public administration and finance, science and technology, social development, statistics and transport.

#### Policy and programme co-ordination

180. The secretariat of the Commission continued to contribute to global United Nations system activities particularly in respect of the review of the economic and social, including humanitarian, sectors of the United Nations; cross-organizational programme analysis and substantive programme evaluation and monitoring.

181. The Biennial Report of the Executive Secretary for the period 1986-1987 was prepared and submitted to the twenty-third session of the Commission/fourteenth meeting of the Conference of Ministers. The report was the fifth in the series started in 1978 as a means of reporting to member States on the activities of the Commission as carried out by its main policy organs, its subsidiary bodies and the secretariat in the pursuit of their task of promoting economic development and growth in the region and assisting member States both individually and collectively to formulate policies, programmes and projects and implement them.

182. The secretariat organized and serviced the twenty-third session of the Commission/fourteenth meeting of the Conference of Ministers which was held in Niamey, the Niger; from 14 to 17 April 1988. The session was preceded by the ninth meeting of the Technical Preparatory Committee of the Whole.

183. The ECA component of the extension of the 1984-1989 Medium-term Plan to the period 1990-1991 was prepared and presented to the fourteenth meeting

of the Conference of Ministers before submission to the General Assembly through the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination.

C. Relations with other United Nations programmes

184. As in previous years, the Commission maintained close relations with other United Nations programmes and indeed with many more organizations than during the previous period.

185. In response to the resolutions of the eighth meeting of the Conference of African Ministers of Industry held in Bujumbura, Burundi, in September 1986, basic working documents were prepared during 1987 on: (i) the Restructuring and Rehabilitation of African Industry in the context of the IDDA (ECA/IND/CAMI.SP/WP/1); (ii) Development of Human Resources and Technological Capabilities for the Industrialization of Africa (ECA/IND/CAMI.SP/WP/2); (iii) mobilization of financial resources for industrial development; (iv) the UNIDO system of consultations; and (v) institutional arrangements. These documents formed the basis of the African Memorandum (ECA/IND/CAMI.SP/M) for the second regional session of the General Conference of UNIDO which was adopted by the special meeting of the Conference of African Ministers of Industry preparatory to the second session the General Conference of UNIDO, held in Addis Ababa, on 16 and 17 October 1987. The second General Conference of UNIDO was held in Bangkok, Thailand, from 9 to 13 November 1987. The Memorandum is contained as an annex to resolution GC.2/Res.3 in document GC.2/INF.4.

186. In co-operation with FAO, assistance was given to the Lake Chad Basin Commission for the rehabilitation of the fisheries programmes and to the Kagera Basin Organization for the preparation of a project on trypanosomiasis control.

187. Again, in collaboration with the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and within the framework of UNDP-financed assistance to the agricultural programme of the North African MULPOC, the secretariat, with the participation of experts from the North African subregion, prepared nine technical papers on co-operation and trade in food and agricultural products.

188. In the area of training and development of manpower resources for the agricultural marketing institutions in Africa, the secretariat, in conjunction with FAO, organized a meeting of officials from agricultural marketing agencies in Eastern and Southern Africa in July 1987 in Harare, Zimbabwe. This meeting, which discussed ways of improving and institutionalizing TCDC activities in agricultural marketing, included a training workshop on Management Information Systems and concluded with the inaugural meeting of a new institution - the Association of Food Marketing Agencies in Eastern and Southern Africa (AFMESA).

189. ECA/UNDP co-operation, which started in 1987 with pre-identification missions to river basin organizations and economic integration entities in the context of the preparation of the UNDP Fourth Programming Cycle, continued with the formulation of development projects for the Lake Chad Basin Commission and the Kagera Basin Organization.



190. The secretariat prepared the following technical publications: (i) Joint ECA/ITU Manpower and Training Needs Survey in Telecommunications for the ECOWAS Countries (E/ECA/CMU/8); (ii) A study on Improving Meteorological Telecommunications in Africa (E/ECA/CMU/12) for the purpose of improving the African section of the Global Telecommunications System (GTS), in collaboration with the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) and the Federal Republic of Germany; and (iii) The Economic Impact of Modern Technology in African Telecommunications Networks and Services (E/ECA/CMU/14).

191. In response to resolution ECA/UNTACDA/Res.86/55 of the fifth meeting of the Conference of African Ministers of Transport, Communications and Planning (E/ECA/CM.12/43), on evaluation of the impact of the Decade Programme, UNDP, with the active involvement of the African Development Bank and the World Bank, allocated a sum of \$US 511,000 and ECA recruited nine independent subsectoral evaluators and a team leader to prepare a single evaluation report. The sixth meeting of the Conference of African Ministers of Transport, Communications and Planning, held in Kinshasa in March 1988, reviewed the various issues and considered the evaluation report so that a new course of action in the field of transport and communications could be drawn up.

192. In its continued assistance to intergovernmental organizations, the secretariat executed the UNDP-financed project on Assistance to the Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS).

193. Collaboration with UNDP was reinforced during the period under review. Further, preparations are under way to submit to UNDP for approval a regional project on the development and strengthening of capabilities for external debt and resources management in African countries. This project, which forms an integral part of the overall African strategy on economic recovery, will be located in the International Trade and Finance Division of the ECA secretariat. It includes various activities which will enable the secretariat to assist African countries over at least the next five years, to adopt appropriate strategies for external debt management and for external and domestic resources management. Since prices of the major commodities of interest to Africa, which began to collapse in 1980, have remained low and the external environment for the majority of developing countries remains constrained, emphasis continued to be placed on increasing export earnings.

194. Technical assistance was also given to the Working Party of the African Governors of the International Monetary Fund and the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, held in Addis Ababa from 4 to 6 August 1987. The secretariat prepared inputs to the drafts of the Joint Statement of the Governors to the annual meetings of the Board of Governors of the IMF and the World Bank, to the memoranda addressed to the Managing Director of the IMF and the President of the World Bank and finalized the report of the meeting (E/ECA/TRADE/92).

195. The joint ECA/UNCTC Unit on Transnational Corporations continued with research studies, information analysis and advisory services to member States.

196. A number of the research studies focused on enhancing understanding of the role of the TNCs operating in the host African countries and on strengthening the capabilities of these countries to deal with TNC-related matters. The following studies were completed during the period:

- (a) The role of TNCs in the African development process (E/ECA/UNCTC/54);
- (b) Upgrading the abilities of the host African countries in evaluating and monitoring the impact of TNCs in transfer of technology in the sugar industry in Central Africa (E/ECA/UNCTC/55);
- (c) A similar study of a petro-chemical industry in North Africa;
- (d) An analytical study on negotiation techniques with TNCs with special reference to licensing agreements (E/ECA/UNCTC/56);
- (e) A study on intra-African transactions and transfer pricing in the African context (E/ECA/UNCTC/57), which is concerned with the external indebtedness of African countries.

197. Collaboration with other agencies in the social field was intensified in the period under review. In particular, several meetings were held at the executive and technical levels with the WHO Regional Office for Africa (WHO/AFRO), both in Addis Ababa and Brazzaville. Of fundamental concern to both organizations is the fact that ignorance, poverty, disease and the generally low health status of the mass of the African population hamper productivity and slow down the processes of economic recovery and sustainable development. In order to monitor this situation and undertake necessary concerted action, a joint ECA/WHO(AFRO) Technical Committee has been established. The Committee met twice in 1987, in Brazzaville and Addis Ababa, to work out the modalities of implementing strategies, including the Declaration on Health as a Foundation for Development adopted by the OAU Assembly of Heads of State and Government in July 1987. Collaboration continued with the African Centre for Applied Research and Training in Social Development (ACARTSOD). The secretariat also participated in the work of the Centre's Governing Board during 1987 and made substantial contributions to the policy development, orientation and institutional growth of the Centre.

198. Collaboration continued to be maintained with UNEP, within the framework of the System-wide Medium-term Environment Programme (SWMTEP). Until 31 December 1987, UNEP provided support to strengthen the capabilities of the Environment Section of the Commission, and programme support for environmental training. ECA was able, therefore, to organize workshops with ECA-sponsored intergovernmental institutions on incorporating environmental components into their training programmes.

199. Two technical consultative meetings on development and health were held with the WHO Regional Office for Africa, particularly within the context of the intersectoral and multidisciplinary approach to primary health care and the Health for All by the Year 2000 programme (HA/2000). There was also continued participation in the social, economic and environmental aspects of the WHO/UNDP/World Bank Special Programme for Research and Training in Tropical Diseases (TDR), particularly in monitoring data collection and analysis of related projects in Africa.

200. The secretariat, in collaboration with the Economic Institute of the World Bank (EDI), organized a senior policy seminar on Institutional Reforms for Development Management, in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, from 6 to 10 July 1987.

201. During the period under review the secretariat worked closely with other organizations interested in women's issues. It collaborated in the organization of an INSTRAW Seminar on Women, Water Supply and Sanitation, held in Addis Ababa, from 23 to 28 November 1987, for high-level officials from the Ethiopian Government, which reviewed and improved training modules developed by INSTRAW and ILO/Turin to reflect Ethiopian realities.

### CHAPTER III

#### TWENTY-THIRD SESSION OF THE COMMISSION AND FOURTEENTH MEETING OF THE CONFERENCE OF MINISTERS

##### A. Attendance and organization of work

202. The twenty-third (thirtieth anniversary) session of the Commission/fourteenth meeting of the Conference of Ministers responsible for economic development and planning was held at the Palais des Congrès, Niamey, the Niger, from 14 to 17 April 1988. The meeting was formally opened by His Excellency Mr. Hamid Algabid, Prime Minister of the Republic of Niger. Statements were also delivered at the opening ceremony by Mr. Adebayo Adedeji, Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa and by H.E. Mr. Almoustapha Soumaila, Minister of Planning of the Republic of Niger, Chairman of the twenty-second session of the Commission. His Excellency Mr. B. Ghurburrin, Minister of Planning of Mauritius moved a vote of thanks on behalf of all the participants (see section C below).

203. The meeting was attended by representatives of the following States members of the Commission: Algeria, Angola, Benin, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Chad, the Comoros, Côte d'Ivoire, Egypt, Ethiopia, Equatorial Guinea, Gabon, the Gambia, Ghana, Guinea-Bissau, Kenya, Lesotho, the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Morocco, the Niger, Nigeria, Rwanda, Senegal, Sierra Leone, the Sudan, Togo, Tunisia, Uganda, the United Republic of Tanzania, Zaire, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

204. Observers from the following States Members of the United Nations, not members of the Commission, were present: China, France, German Democratic Republic, Germany, Federal Republic of, India, the Netherlands, Norway and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.

205. In accordance with the Commission's rules of procedure, the South West Africa People's Organization (SWAPO), the African National Congress (ANC) and the Pan-African Congress of Azania (PAC) were represented.

206. The following United Nations bodies and specialized agencies were represented: United Nations Regional Commissions Liaison Office, United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), World Food Council (WFC), International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), International Labour Organisation (ILO), World Food Programme (WFP), Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), Office of the United Nations Disaster Relief Co-ordinator (UNDRO), United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM), International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), World Health Organization (WHO), International Telecommunication Union (ITU) and World Meteorological Organization (WMO).

207. The Organization of African Unity (OAU) was represented by its Secretary-General.

208. Observers were present from the following intergovernmental organizations: Association of African Trade Promotion Organizations (AATPO), African Development Bank (ADB), African Centre for Applied Research and Training in Social Development (ACARTSOD), African Regional Centre for Technology (ARCT), African Regional Organization for Standardization (ARSO), Central African Mineral Resources Development Centre (CAMRDC), Council for Mutual Economic Assistance (CMEA), Economic Community of the Great Lakes Countries (CEPGL), Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), Eastern and Southern African Management Institute (ESAMI), Inter-African Committee on Traditional Practices Affecting the Health of Women and Children (IACTP), International Chamber of Commerce (ICC), Institut de formation et de recherche démographiques (IFORD), Islamic Development Bank (IDB), International Maritime Organization (IMO), Organization for the Development of the River Senegal (OMVS), Pan-African News Agency (PANA), Regional Centre for Training in Aerospace Surveys (RECTAS) and Regional Institute for Population Studies (RIPS).

209. Observers were present from the following non-governmental organizations: Afro-Asian People's Solidarity Organization (AAPSO), Lutheran World Federation (LWF) and World Peace Council (WPC).

210. The Commission unanimously elected the following officers:

Chairman:	Mr. Almoustapha Soumaila (the Niger)
First Vice-Chairman:	Mr. Béchir Gueblaoui (Tunisia)
Second Vice-Chairman:	Mr. Gérard Niyibigira (Burundi)
Rapporteur:	Ms. Amina Salum Ali (United Republic of Tanzania)

#### B. Agenda

211. On 14 April 1988, the Commission 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. General debate on:
  - (a) Biennial report of the Executive Secretary on ECA activities, 1986-1987;
  - (b) Mid-term review and appraisal of the implementation of the United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development, 1986-1990 (UN-PAAERD) and Africa's Priority Programme for Economic Recovery, 1986-1990 (APPER):
    - (i) Survey of economic and social conditions in Africa, 1986-1987;
    - (ii) ECA/ADB economic report on Africa, 1988;
    - (iii) Preliminary mid-term review and appraisal of the implementation of the United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development, 1986-1990

(UN-PAAERD) and Africa's Priority Programme for Economic Recovery, 1986-1990 (APPER)

- (iv) Financing Africa's recovery: Report and recommendations of the Advisory Group on Financial Flows to Africa;
- (v) Response to ECOSOC resolution 1988/1 - Arrangements for the meeting of the Ad Hoc Committee of the Whole on the review and appraisal of the United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development, 1986-1990;

(c) The situation of food and agriculture in Africa.

6. Report and recommendations of the ninth meeting of the Technical Preparatory Committee of the Whole for consideration by the twenty-third session of the Commission/fourteenth meeting of the Conference of Ministers on:

(a) Natural resources and energy:

- (i) Key issues concerning the implementation of the Mar del Plata Action Plan in Africa;
- (ii) Report on the establishment of the African Organization for Cartography and Remote Sensing;

(b) Industrial development in Africa:

- (i) Progress report on the implementation of the programme for the Industrial Development Decade for Africa (IDDA);
- (ii) Report on UNIDO II;

(c) Transport and communications in Africa:

- (i) Report on the implementation of the resolutions of the fifth meeting of the Conference of African Ministers of Transport, Communications and Planning;
- (ii) United Nations Transport and Communications Decade in Africa: Report on progress in the implementation of the second phase of the Decade programme;

(d) Issues in social development:

- (i) The African social situation, 1982-1987;
- (ii) Changing socio-economic conditions of women in Africa in the context of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women;

(e) Trade and development:

- Report on UNCTAD VII;

(f) Recommendations from the subsidiary organs and sectoral bodies of the Commission:

- (i) Fifth session of the Joint Conference of African Planners, Statisticians and Demographers - Recommendations and resolutions;

- (ii) Third meeting of the Conference of African Ministers Responsible for Human Resources Planning, Development and Utilization - Recommendations and resolutions;
- (iii) Seventh meeting of the Intergovernmental Committee of Experts of African Least Developed Countries - Recommendations and resolutions;
- (iv) Ninth meeting of the Africa Regional Co-ordinating Committee for the Integration of Women in Development - Recommendations and resolutions;
- (v) Fifth meeting of the Intergovernmental Committee for Science and Technology Development - Recommendations and resolutions;
- (vi) Sixth meeting of the Conference of African Ministers of Transport, Communications and Planning - Recommendations and resolutions;
- (vii) First meeting of the Conference of African Ministers of Tourism - Recommendations and resolutions;
- (g) Issues in economic co-operation and integration:
  - (i) Report of the meeting of the Council of Plenipotentiaries of the North African MULPOC - Progress report on the establishment of the Preferential Trade Area for North African countries;
  - (ii) Biennial consolidated report on the activities, work programmes and budgets of ECA-sponsored regional and subregional institutions;
  - (iii) Eighth meeting of the Conference of Chief Executives of ECA-sponsored Regional and Subregional Institutions - Recommendations and resolutions;
  - (iv) Progress report on the submissions for the UNDP Fourth Cycle Regional Programme for Africa, 1987-1991;
  - (v) Locust control in North Africa;
- (h) Proposed UNDP-sponsored management facility as a means of mobilizing additional resources for African development;
- (i) ECA and African development:
  - Beyond recovery: ECA-revised perspectives of Africa's development, 1988-2008;
- (j) Statutory issues:
  - (i) Follow-up on resolutions of the Commission and resolutions and decisions adopted by the General Assembly and ECOSOC that are of interest to Africa:
    - a. Follow-up action on relevant resolutions adopted by the twenty-second session of the Commission and the thirteenth meeting of the Conference of Ministers;



- b. Resolutions adopted by ECOSOC at its second session of 1987 and by the General Assembly at its forty-second session in the economic and social sectors that are of interest to Africa;

(ii) Programme of work and priorities of the Commission:

- a. Proposals for updating the 1988-1989 programme budget;
- b. Proposals for the extension of the 1984-1985 Medium-term Plan to 1990-1991.

- 7. Report of the eighth meeting of the Conference of Ministers of African Least Developed Countries.
- 8. Any other business.
- 9. Date, venue and other matters relating to the twenty-fourth session of the Commission/fifteenth meeting of the Conference of Ministers.
- 10. Consideration and adoption of the report and resolutions of the meeting.
- 11. Closure of the meeting.

C. Account of proceedings

Opening addresses

212. In his opening statement, H.E. Mr. Hamid Algabid, Prime Minister of the Republic of Niger welcomed all participants on behalf of the Government and people of the Niger and on his own behalf and said that his country was greatly honoured to act as host to all the meetings related to the twenty-third (thirtieth anniversary) session of the Economic Commission for Africa/fourteenth meeting of the Conference of Ministers responsible for economic development and planning.

213. The deliberations and recommendations of the current session would be of great interest to African leaders particularly in respect of new thinking and action for a genuine process of development in African countries.

214. The various steps which had been taken to implement the resolutions adopted by the Conference at its thirteenth meeting reflected the prevailing determination by all concerned to translate the concerns of the African people into concrete actions. The Prime Minister referred in particular to the resolution on industrial development in Africa and said that its implementation through the holding of the special meeting of the Conference of African Ministers of Industry in October 1987 which adopted a common African position for the second General Conference of UNIDO and the preparation by the ECA, OAU and UNIDO secretariats of the project on the mid-term review of the implementation of the programme for the Industrial Development Decade for Africa demonstrated the solidarity of African Governments. The concern with the effective integration of women in Africa's development process was a reflection of the determination of African countries to take into account all social aspects of development. He urged that more should be done for the youth of Africa upon whom Africa's future depended.

215. The Prime Minister stressed the importance of the document on the mid-term review and appraisal of the implementation of the United Nations Programme

of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development (UN-PAAERD) and expressed the hope that the appraisal would be objective. The UN-PAAERD and Africa's Priority Programme for Economic Recovery (APPER) should not be static; they should be monitored and adjusted from time to time in order to assess the enormous tasks that remained to be accomplished.

216. He referred to the prevailing critical situation of African economies and in particular deplored the fact that although the bulk of Africa's population was rural and that the rural sector played a key role in production, the food situation in many countries continued to be precarious. He also underscored the alarming population problem and regretted the fact that not much was being done to enhance the development of human resources. He referred to the debt burden of African countries, the effects of the vagaries of weather and those of the unstable financial and monetary situation. While the general economic and social situation remained critical, there was no reason for African States to despair or waver in their commitment to recovery and development. African countries and their development partners had committed themselves to wage the economic battle in solidarity, the theme which had been wisely selected for the thirtieth anniversary session of ECA. The role of ECA in building Africa's economic unity remained vital.

217. The Prime Minister finally expressed the hope that all member States would provide the Commission with enhanced and firm support and reiterated his country's strong support for the activities carried out by ECA in a spirit of active solidarity which should be Africa's watchword.

218. The Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa paid homage to His Excellency Colonel Ali Saibou, President of the Supreme Military Council, Head of State and Minister of National Defence of the Republic of Niger and his Government and the people of the Niger for the generosity of their hospitality and for hosting the series of meetings related to this year's session of the Commission.

219. Only 10 months earlier, the Government of Niger had organized and hosted in Niamey the African Symposium on Grassroots Development which had adopted the Niamey Declaration which was itself a major and decisive input for the International Conference on Africa held afterwards in Abuja, Nigeria. The location of the Multinational Programming and Operational Centre (MULPOC) for West Africa in Niamey, and the agreement to host the newest ECA-sponsored institution - the African Centre of Meteorological Applications for Development (ACHAD) - were, among other things, reasons for which he was thankful to the Government of Niger. Those were all a singular demonstration of the Niger's total commitment to Africa's economic advancement and transformation.

220. The thirtieth anniversary of the Commission was an occasion for reflection on the past performance and the lot of the generality of the African people. It was also an occasion to look ahead and to ponder on what lay ahead. There could be no doubt that the social and economic crisis facing Africa had become severely aggravated. The fundamental restructuring process and the wide-ranging reforms pursued by most of the African countries in the previous few years had generally had little effect on economic performance. Further, the implementation of Africa's Priority Programme for Economic Recovery, 1986-1990 had been severely affected by drought and famine, significant decreases in financial flows and resources and a mounting external debt.

All aspects of macro-economic indicators confirmed the same picture - that of economic depression and stagnation.

221. From the ECA annual Survey of Economic and Social Conditions in Africa, 1986-1987 and the ECA/ADB Economic Report, 1988 the picture that had emerged was that economic performance was more or less as poor in 1987 as in 1986, with even fewer countries achieving positive growth rates in aggregate output in 1987 and the region as a whole suffering a severe deterioration in overall food production. Total regional output had grown by only 0.8 per cent in 1987 as against a population growth rate of 3 per cent. One of the most serious problems confronting Africa was the worsening and uncertain international environment, especially in respect of commodities, trade and monetary and financial relationships. Africa's increasing marginalization to the periphery of the world economy had intensified as even its principal primary commodity exports were threatened by weakening markets, discriminatory practices and the process of substitution and scientific developments in the advanced countries. Despite some noticeable recovery in 1987 in some commodity prices, the substantial decline in the demand for such commodities had seriously aggravated the debt crisis in Africa. Adverse developments in the international currency and stock markets since the October 1987 stock market crash had taken their toll on Africa's economic recovery judging from the losses sustained by African countries in the purchasing power of exports as the dollar slid in value. The chances of recovery and the economic prospects of the continent were more uncertain given the possibility of a recession in the developed countries especially in Europe and North America. That ominous threat of a recession had not only compounded the uncertainties about an economic turn-around, but had also raised basic issues about Africa's economic development and independence. A fundamental structural change in the world economy towards long-term equitable equilibrium was required. It was clear from the view point of the third world that the required new international economic order would only come about with national and collective self-reliance and the pursuit of policies that would gradually weaken rather than strengthen external links and orientation.

222. Solidarity for economic recovery and development had therefore become imperative, and was an appropriate objective for the session.

223. The Executive Secretary referred to the study "Beyond recovery: ECA-revised perspectives of Africa's development, 1988-1008" which was an update of the study "ECA and Africa's development 1983-2008 - A preliminary perspective". The historical scenarios in both those studies generated no cause for optimism for the next 20 years. That had led him to ask: Whither Africa? And how long could Africa sustain ever-recurring crises without the danger of a systemic breakdown. He referred to the Asian experience, which in Africa had usually been regarded as automatic application. The Asian Miracle did not however just happen; the Asian people willed it for themselves. The willed and dignified future of the normative scenario of the ECA perspective study required single-minded determination and absolute resolution such that the solid foundation would be laid for the development of an African economy free of structural dependency. While outsiders would help, and such help would be welcome, the task was Africa's to perform until total victory in the war against poverty, disease, ignorance and economic underdevelopment was achieved.

224. The Executive Secretary then wished the Commission successful anniversary celebrations.

225. In his statement, the outgoing Chairman of the Commission, the Minister of Planning of the Republic of Niger, welcomed all participants to Niamey on the occasion of the historic session of the Commission marking its thirtieth anniversary. During those 30 years, ECA had assisted African countries gradually to lay the foundations for economic development. In that regard, he recalled the Monrovia Strategy adopted by the fifteenth session of the OAU Assembly of Heads of State and Government. The initiative in evolving that strategy had been taken by the fifth meeting of the ECA Conference of Ministers. He also recalled the Lagos Plan of Action and the important contribution that the ECA Conference of Ministers had made in its preparation.

226. He went on to speak about the crucial role the Commission had played in making the international community aware of the problems facing the countries of Africa. Without any doubt, those efforts made by ECA had contributed to the adoption of the United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development (UN-PAAERD). The Commission had also taken a good number of other initiatives in various economic sectors including direct technical assistance provided to member States. He reaffirmed the confidence of member States in the Commission, which he was sure would support member States to take up the challenge of economic recovery and development as described in the publication entitled "Beyond recovery: ECA-revised perspectives of Africa's development, 1988-2008".

227. The session was taking place some two years after the adoption of the UN-PAAERD and at a time when the international community was preparing for a mid-term review of the UN-PAAERD. That review would make it possible to evaluate the efforts made by all concerned in implementing the UN-PAAERD and to propose appropriate measures for speeding up its implementation.

228. The previous year had been characterized by the determination of African countries to pursue reform policies in spite of an increasingly unfavourable international economic environment and adverse climatic conditions. In spite of such efforts, performance had been disappointing because gross domestic product had increased by only 0.8 per cent in 1987. Because of the continuing decline in raw material prices, export revenue in 1987 had been 12 per cent lower than what it was in 1985 before the UN-PAAERD was adopted. The balance-of-payments deficit was increasing while the degree of indebtedness had reached \$US 218 billion and debt servicing was accounting for nearly 40 per cent of export earnings in many countries. Clearly, the constraints to the proper implementation of the UN-PAAERD were essentially external in origin.

229. Concerning the efforts made to face the growing difficulties the ECA secretariat was encountering in the implementation of its work programme, he reported on the good offices mission which he had had to conduct in order to draw the attention of the United Nations Secretary-General to the need for enabling ECA to play its role fully in the implementation of the UN-PAAERD. Among the positive results of that mission had been the less-than-full application to ECA of the austerity measures advocated by the Group of 18 and the positive developments in the resource situation in ECA's programme for the integration of women in African development.

230. In conclusion, he reaffirmed his conviction that if the secretariat was strengthened, the Commission would continue to play an essential role in the economic and social development of Africa. Intra-African co-operation should therefore be strengthened in order to secure the longer-term economic integration of the region. The international community should also express, in more concrete terms, its commitment to support Africa's efforts to attain its objectives.

231. Speaking on behalf of all delegates attending the session, the representative of Mauritius expressed profound gratitude to His Excellency Mr. Hamid Algabid, Prime Minister of the Republic of Niger, for his opening address and paid glorious tribute to His Excellency Colonel Ali Saibou, President of the Supreme Military Council, Head of State and Minister of Defence of the Republic of Niger, his Government and the people of the Niger for the warm and generous hospitality accorded to all delegates attending the twenty-third session and fourteenth meeting of the ECA Conference of Ministers.

232. The Economic Commission had in its 30 years of existence worked arduously to promote economic and social development in Africa. It was therefore meet on the occasion of the thirtieth anniversary of the Commission to pay tribute to ECA and particularly to its Executive Secretary, Professor Adebayo Adedeji, whose dynamism and devotion to Africa were widely known.

233. The representative of Mauritius once again thanked the Prime Minister and asked him to convey to His Excellency Colonel Ali Saibou, Chairman of the Supreme Military Council, Head of State and Minister of Defence of Niger, the sincere gratitude of all delegates for the sacrifice the Government had made to host the Commission's meetings in Niamey.

General debate on agenda item 5:

- (a) Biennial Report of the Executive Secretary on ECA activities, 1986-1987;
- (b) Mid-term review and appraisal of the implementation of the United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development, 1986-1990 (UN-PAAERD), and Africa's Priority Programme for Economic Recovery, 1986-1990 (APPER);
  - (i) Survey of economic and social conditions in Africa, 1986-1987;
  - (ii) ECA/ADB economic report on Africa, 1988;
  - (iii) Preliminary mid-term review and appraisal of the implementation of the United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development, 1986-1990 (UN-PAAERD) and Africa's Priority Programme for Economic Recovery, 1986-1990 (APPER);
  - (iv) Financing Africa's recovery: Report and recommendations of the Advisory Group on Financial Flows to Africa;
  - (v) Response to ECOSOC resolution 1988/1 - Arrangements for the meeting of the Ad Hoc Committee of the Whole on the review and appraisal of the United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development, 1986-1990;



(c) The situation of food and agriculture in Africa

234. The representative of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya conveyed to the delegates a message of love and appreciation from the Leader of Victory and Challenge Colonel Moumar El Gaddafi who wished all success in their task of mobilizing all African potential for the achievement of economic and social welfare for all the people of the great continent. He paid tribute to the President, people and Government of the Republic of Niger and expressed appreciation for their hosting the meeting.

235. He emphasized that delegates were there to discuss the socio-economic problems facing Africa and to adopt a plan that would rid Africa from the grips of poverty and socio-economic backwardness. The first step towards the advancement of the toiling masses of Africa was to identify African socio-economic problems, the world challenges facing Africa and the complexity of those problems. There was also the need to clarify those problems, their complexities as well as the challenges they posed in order to be able to design appropriate plans for solving them. In that way, Africa would be able to change the pattern of life that had prevailed for a long period.

236. In elaborating further on the complex economic and social crisis of Africa, the representative of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya said that the crisis had been characterized by a fall in GNP growth rates and in per capita incomes, external indebtedness, heavy debt-servicing burdens, economic dependency which had limited the capacity of many African countries to deal with their problems, sharp falls in raw material prices, and the declining rate of Africa's export earnings. He said that the continuation of those problems had been due to the dispersion of development efforts and insufficient emphasis placed by African countries on development.

237. Referring to the importance of material and human resources, he said that Africa was blessed with tremendous resources that could be used in all fields; yet resort to external financial sources among other factors had hampered the utilization of those resources. To alleviate the situation, there was need to increase the investment of African resources in a way that would secure economic earnings for Africa and hence achieve social and economic integration among the regions and countries of Africa. In that context, there was need to intensify efforts to implement Africa's Priority Programme for Economic Recovery (APPER) whose implementation would further enhance the socio-economic development of Africa.

238. As far as the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya was concerned, a significant success had been achieved in utilizing material and human resources to build a productive socialist economy that would lead eventually to economic diversification and a higher standard of living. During the past 18 years, the Jamahiriya had achieved a great socio-economic transformation, with its GNP increasing by 10.2 per cent per annum, 14.4 per cent of which was from the non-oil sector.

239. He further indicated that the "Al Fatah" revolution had undertaken to implement the great agricultural revolution and substantial efforts had been exerted in that respect. That was attested by the energy and resources which had been mobilized for the construction of the "industrial river" which formed the basis of food security. Those economic and social achievements had been

realized in spite of adverse acts by imperialist and reactionary forces as well as military provocations and aggressions.

240. In conclusion, the representative of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya emphasized the need for solidarity and promised that his country would continue to support all liberation struggles. Moreover, member States should exchange information in order to facilitate the implementation of Africa's Priority Programme for Economic Recovery (APPER), the United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development (UN-PAAERD) and the Khartoum Declaration: Towards a Human-focused Approach to Socio-economic Recovery and Development in Africa.

241. The representative of Tunisia congratulated ECA on its thirtieth anniversary and the Executive Secretary and his staff for their contribution to the struggle against underdevelopment and for the well-being of the peoples of Africa. He referred to the ongoing efforts being made to establish a preferential trade area in North Africa which would be a significant step towards the total integration of the continent by the year 2000. With regard to the mid-term review of the United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development, 1986-1990, he urged the Conference to pay particular attention to the objectives of the programme because those were vital for the development of the African continent.

242. Bold decisions had been made with respect to reform and structural adjustment; they had imposed additional sacrifices on the African people whose standard of living had declined since 1980. However, those measures had strengthened the continent's credibility in the eyes of the international community. It was to be hoped that African countries would continue in that direction so that Africa could again be a partner to be reckoned with. Tunisia had tackled the fundamental obstacles to the maximum utilization of resources which had to do with the economic environment and investment policies, exchange rates and the protection of the domestic market.

243. A wide-ranging programme to create a favourable environment had been adopted. This focused mainly on a dynamic approach to exchange rates, the promotion of exports to stimulate growth and employment and the rationalization of domestic demand to adapt it to the actual prospects of the country.

244. Those measures had yielded encouraging results which unfortunately had, like in other African countries, soon been endangered by the invasion of migrant locusts and the consequences had been disastrous. There was an urgent need for the countries of the subregion to co-ordinate their efforts in combating the current invasion and in preventing its recurrence. Within its national boundaries, Tunisia had taken action in that respect, with help from friendly countries. A joint anti-locust programme was under way in co-operation with the countries of the subregion. An Inter-State Committee had been set up to check the spread of the migrant locusts to other subregions and to monitor anti-locust operations in the areas affected.

245. Tunisia considered the external debt as the most important challenge of all because of its magnitude and its negative impact on the implementation of the UN-PAAERD by African countries. While the debt problem was not new, its impact on economic balance and development was particularly negative. There was therefore a need for a global approach and universal co-operation



particularly between developed and developing countries. Tunisia was in favour of convening an international conference on Africa's external debt which would look into the root causes of the deterioration in the external financial situation of African countries. The problems to be considered included changes in the terms of trade and the resurgence of protectionist practices. Any solution would have to include a revision of the prices of primary commodities since they constituted the bulk of Africa's exports. Developed countries should take structural adjustment measures of their own to strengthen demand for African exports, through more appropriate interest and exchange rates. Such measures could accompany other solutions such as the cancellation or rescheduling of debt so as to alleviate the tensions caused by accumulated debt-service obligations. Net capital flows were also needed to sustain investment and imports upon which the recovery of their production and growth of their exports depended.

246. Europe was bound to play a decisive role in promoting North-South co-operation in view of its proximity and its historic ties with the African continent. There should be more joint ventures and sub-contracting arrangements. If current trends of net outflows of capital from the South to the North continued, the situation could become explosive. Therefore a solution had to be found one way or another.

247. The representative of Malawi congratulated the Chairman and the members of the Bureau for their election and expressed his appreciation to the Government and people of the Niger for their generous hospitality, politeness and discipline. He then thanked the Executive Secretary and staff of ECA for the clarity of the documents prepared for the Conference.

248. He stated that the meeting was an excellent forum for the exchange of views and experiences on the socio-economic situation in member States, and for informing the international community of the needs and modalities of assistance. He cited the issues dominating the socio-economic situation in African economies and highlighted external debt and the low level of intra-African trade. He stated that while debt management was a priority issue for his Government and efforts were being undertaken at all levels to bring it under control, the severity of external factors which were beyond the control of his Government had continued to complicate their endeavours. He explained that since most African economies were dependent on imports for the maintenance of their economies, dwindling export earnings and foreign exchange shortages coupled with debt-servicing obligations progressively reduced the output of those economies, and indeed affected their socio-economic situation.

249. With respect to the low level of intra-African trade which stood at 5.2 and 6.1 per cent for imports and exports respectively in 1987 as reported in the ECA annual Survey of Economic and Social Conditions in Africa, 1986-1987, he stated that while it was hard to gain access to markets in Europe, it was just as hard to gain access to African markets. Indeed, that situation had retarded maximum exploitation of African resources and the creation of job opportunities and could not help Africa develop the spirit of collective self-reliance which the African countries wanted to pursue under APPER. He then appealed for better co-operation so that all opportunities that could accrue from subregional and regional economic co-operation and integration could be properly exploited.

250. In his statement the representative of Zaire thanked the Government and people of the Niger for the warm welcome which had been accorded to his delegation, congratulated the ECA Executive Secretary for the quality of the documents presented to the meeting, and urged him to persevere in implementing the tasks entrusted to him.

251. One of the recommendations of the sixth meeting of the Conference of African Ministers of Transport, Communications and Planning which had been held in March 1988 in Kinshasa, Zaire, was the proclamation of a second United Nations Transport and Communications Decade in Africa for the period 1991-2000 to be prepared in 1989 and 1990.

252. With respect to the adverse effects of external factors on African economies, there were still persisting difficulties, namely the fall in commodity prices, inadequate flows of financial resources to meet actual needs, and a growing debt burden. He acknowledged the contribution of ECA towards the implementation of the UN-PAAERD. His country had taken steps to mobilize domestic resources by proclaiming 1988 as the year of maximum revenues; it had also established a framework for mobilizing external resources.

253. Quick action would be taken on the questionnaire on the mid-term review and appraisal of the UN-PAAERD. He suggested that the scope of the report and recommendations of the Advisory Group on Financial Flows to Africa should be widened to cover the whole of Africa and that the resources required to cover the long-term socio-economic requirements of the continent should be sought.

254. He mentioned the efforts his country had been making to tackle its food problems. Since 1987, it had established a food self-sufficiency programme which covered the whole country; its aim was to make Zaire self-sufficient in essential items such as maize and rice in the following five years.

255. After emphasizing the historic character of the current meeting which coincided with the thirtieth anniversary of ECA, the representative of Algeria recalled that the annual meetings of the Commission provided an occasion for periodic evaluation of the economic situation in Africa, for seeing how far the programmes for subregional co-operation had been implemented, and formulating appropriate recommendations for the consolidation and strengthening of regional co-operation. In that regard, it was to be noted that since the beginning of the decade, the Commission had been meeting each year to appraise an economic decline which showed no signs of improving.

256. Concerning the mid-term review and appraisal of the UN-PAAERD and APPER, he stressed that there should be complete objectivity in reviewing the successes and failures. Such an exercise could not be based on a purely theoretical analysis of responses to a questionnaire. What was needed was to conduct a serious and comprehensive discussion on national experience's in implementing those programmes. A number of questions were worth asking if the programmes were to be better evaluated: (i) Had African countries demonstrated the political will to pursue the goal of self-sufficiency in those areas where that was feasible?; (ii) Had they attached all the necessary importance to those sectors that had collectively been considered as deserving priority?; (iii) Had they endeavoured to mobilize optimum domestic resources?;

(iv) Had they committed themselves resolutely to pursue subregional and regional integration?; (v) Had they actually set in motion the necessary machinery that would bring about a rational development of their national economies?

257. Regarding the commitment of the international community to the implementation of the UN-PAAERD, it could not but be noted that two years after the programme was adopted, Africa was still suffering from a tragic inadequacy of resources. What was more, the continent had become a net exporter of resources to multilateral institutions whose vocation was to finance development.

258. On the issue of external debt, he demonstrated that the international community had not taken the measures it pledged to relieve African countries of the heavy debt burden in order to allow them to focus on the full pursuit of development priorities. In particular, creditors had merely proposed successive reschedulings which, at the same time as they postponed debt maturity, further increased the debt burden. Furthermore, the international community appeared to ignore the proposal for holding an international conference on Africa's external debt.

259. He advanced a number of proposals for making ECA more effective and efficient in stimulating and co-ordinating all those activities that made for economic recovery and regional integration. The Commission should concentrate on those activities that contributed to achieving set objectives in critical sectors while maintaining a longer-term view of Africa's development and integration.

260. There were a number of factors which prevented the Commission from concentrating on the essential concerns of Africa: the working methods of the Conference; the number of items crowded onto the agenda; the proliferation of studies which were useful in themselves but on which no specific follow-up action was taken; and dwindling resources. The last of these factors was all the more reason to rationalize the operation of ECA, particularly by reducing the number and duration of meetings and avoiding the establishment of new institutions.

261. It was regrettable that with the exception of the African Association of Cartography and the African Remote Sensing Council which had merged to become the African Organization for Cartography and Remote Sensing, the ECA-sponsored institutions mentioned in the recommendations of the Ad Hoc Committee set up to rationalize their activities had yet to take action. He appealed to those institutions to attach due importance to the implementation of the various recommendations put forward by the Ad Hoc Committee. He noted with satisfaction that ECA and OAU continued to work together in pursuing their common objective of economic and political emancipation of Africa.

262. His country appreciated the efforts the Executive Secretary of ECA had been making to lead that organization in promoting intra-African co-operation and defending the interests of Africa.

263. In conclusion, he expressed the hope that the current historic session taking place under the theme of solidarity for African economic recovery

and development would give a new lease on life to subregional and regional co-operation oriented to the integration of the continent.

264. The representative of Nigeria expressed thanks to His Excellency Colonel Ali Saibou, President of the Supreme Military Council, Head of State and Minister of National Defence of the Republic of Niger, and through him to the people of the Niger with whom Nigeria had close brotherly ties. He also paid tribute to the ECA Executive Secretary and his staff for the high quality of the documents prepared for delegates.

265. Reviewing the economic and social conditions in Africa, the representative of Nigeria referred to the consensus that had been reached that, while the economic and social problems facing Africa could only be solved by Africans themselves, the solid support of the international community was needed. Africa had requested and was still requesting the international community to grant it significant debt relief, improve its terms of trade, stabilize commodity prices and inject substantial inflow of resources to finance programmes aimed at halting the deteriorating conditions and resuming the process of economic recovery, growth and development.

266. African countries had committed themselves to taking appropriate measures to restructure their economies and pursue policies and programmes that would strengthen the forces of endogenous growth and development. Under APPER and the UN-PAAERD, the international community was expected to give substantial support to those national and regional development efforts aimed at economic recovery and growth. However, the support so far realized had been far less than expected.

267. He commended the initiative of the Secretary-General in establishing the Advisory Group on Financial Flows to Africa and emphasized that the resource gap of \$US 5 billion a year for the countries dealt with by the Group was a gross underestimation. He noted with dismay the exclusion of Nigeria and North African countries from the study in spite of the chronic economic difficulties being experienced by those countries. He supported the recommendation of TEPCOW that the study should be revised to take full account of the African Common Position on Africa's External Debt.

268. Referring to the ECA-sponsored regional and subregional institutions, he appealed to member States to fulfil their obligations by paying their contributions to the institutions.

269. With regard to efforts made by the Nigerian Government to restructure Nigeria's economy during the period from June 1986 to June 1988 and in line with the guidelines, policies and programmes elaborated in APPER and the UN-PAAERD, the Nigerian delegate outlined the objectives of his country's structural adjustment programme which included, among other things, the restructuring and diversification of the productive base of the economy in order to reduce its dependence on the oil sector and on imports; achievement of fiscal and balance of payments viability over the period; reduction of unproductive investment in the public sector; and laying the foundation for sustainable non-inflationary or minimal inflationary growth.

270. The main elements of the programme included the alignment of the exchange rate of the country's currency, the naira, with other currencies through

a system of auctioning; the removal or reduction of direct control and elimination of undesirable subsidies; and the reform of public sector enterprises through commercialization and privatization in order to reduce the burden which such enterprises imposed on government resources and generally to strengthen the private sector so as to enable it play a greater role in economic development.

271. Although the adjustment programme had involved a lot of constraints, positive results had been achieved. Notable among such results were the greater utilization of domestic resources both in consumption and production, the positive impact on exports and the greater rationalization of the use of resources by individual households, and government and private enterprises. In general, the rural dwellers and farmers had benefited from the programme through the boost it had given to the prices of agricultural products.

272. In the 1988 budget, the Government had adopted a number of measures aimed at reflating the economy mildly and improving the living conditions of the masses through upward adjustment in salaries, the expansion of credit to the economy and increasing the level of government capital expenditures in priority areas. A special reflationary package had also been adopted placing emphasis on health and social welfare services, education, mass transit, and the creation of employment opportunities for school-leavers. There had also been mass mobilization of women to participate in the recovery programme which had included not only the elite but market women and rural dwellers. He hoped that other African countries would initiate similar measures and that in facing the challenges, emphasis would be placed on the mobilization of human resources for efficient production.

273. The representative of Ghana first expressed appreciation to the Government and people of the Niger for their hospitality and recalled that the people of the Niger had interacted for centuries in several areas of human endeavour with the people of Ghana. She extended the warm wishes of her country to the Niger on the occasion of the fourteenth anniversary of the coming to power of the National Armed Forces and congratulated the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa on the occasion of the celebration of its 30 years of dedicated service to Africa.

274. As one of the major objectives of the annual meetings of the Conference was for member States to exchange views on their experiences in the management of their economies and the development of strategies for solving their common problems, the representative of Ghana highlighted the main features of and the progress made in her country's structural adjustment programme. That programme, which had been in place before African Governments and the international community adopted APPER and the UN-PAAERD, was aimed at arresting and eventually reversing the trend of economic decline and social disruption. The programme had resulted in the rehabilitation of infrastructure such as roads, railways and ports, considerable upward growth of gross domestic product and an upsurge in investor interest especially in gold-mining, tourism, fisheries and agro-industry.

275. The representative of Ghana acknowledged that it had not been easy for her country to implement the structural adjustment programme whose policy package had included incentives to agricultural production, removal of controls



on economic agents, flexible exchange rates, shifts in the composition and level of government expenditure, especially in the social sector, and the redeployment of various employees in the civil service and some parastatal organizations. In order to protect vulnerable groups in the society against the adverse effects of the programme, the Government had launched at the beginning of 1988 a "Programme of action to mitigate the social cost of adjustment" (PAMSCAD) involving a sum of \$US 85 million. It was the belief of the Government that the PAMSCAD measures would remove some of the difficulties in the adjustment process and thereby reinforce the involvement of all social groups in the economic reconstruction of the country.

276. The representative stressed that the ultimate success of Ghana's adjustment programme would depend on the solution of many of the problems emanating from the external economic environment that constrained Africa's development. She said that Ghana was confronted with a debt-service ratio currently estimated at 60 per cent of export earnings. At the same time it was experiencing serious shortfalls in export earnings due to the collapse of the international price of cocoa, the country's main export crop. She stated that since trade was the main source of foreign exchange earnings, the persistence of protectionism, low primary commodity prices and interest and exchange rate fluctuations in the industrialized countries posed major obstacles in the way of African development. Consequently, she called on the Conference to re-emphasize the need for an international conference on Africa's debt and to urge the international community to accord the Common Position on Africa's External Debt the serious attention it deserved. In that regard, she expressed appreciation to the Secretary-General of the United Nations for his efforts to mobilize more resources for the continent. However, she agreed with the general view that the recommendations of the Secretary-General's Advisory Group on Financial Flows to Africa fell far short of the continent's needs and could not constitute a sufficient basis for action.

277. Intra-African trade had not played its expected role in relieving the continent's development difficulties because of the often cited problems of poor transport and communication links and the complementarity of the economies of African countries. However, the representative noted that despite those reasons, the people of Africa were engaged in brisk trade among themselves across their national borders. Since women were major participants in such trade, she proposed that a study be undertaken on women's role in trans-border trade to see how they managed to overcome the difficulties in question. In conclusion, she expressed her delegation's support for the work of the subregional integration groups in trade promotion and urged that their efforts should be reinforced by greater co-operation among chambers of commerce and industry at the subregional and regional levels.

278. The representative of the Sudan noted that the Commission's thirtieth anniversary was being observed at a time when the African countries were experiencing an unprecedented socio-economic crisis whose international dimensions had been worsened by recession in the industrialized countries. He noted that those developments had resulted in the decline of export earnings and resource transfers which, in the case of his country, had been exacerbated by dependence on few primary commodity exports, high energy costs, heavy debt-service burden, a semi-permanent drought situation and a massive influx of refugees. In order to meet those challenges, his country had prepared a four-year salvation and recovery programme, 1987-1991, which put great



emphasis on the agricultural sector, the rehabilitation of the industrial sector and the expansion of the road network. It was within that context that his country welcomed and supported APPER and the UN-PAAERD.

279. He commended the United Nations Inter-agency Task Force for its work on the follow-up on the implementation of the UN-PAAERD and for its contribution in the holding of the International Conference on the Human Dimension of Africa's Economic Recovery and Development in Khartoum from 5 to 8 March 1988, which examined the human cost of structural adjustment programmes, and stressed the importance of the human dimension in economic recovery programmes. It was for that reason that he also welcomed the UNDP offer of establishing the UNDP management facility whose objectives were to increase the financial resources to Africa as called for in APPER and the UN-PAAERD. He, however, noted that his country would be happy to be provided with more details about the UNDP facility.

280. He also said that, despite the commendable efforts being made by the least developed countries to implement the Substantial New Programme of Action which, inter alia, called for food self-sufficiency, diversification of the production base and increased international financial and technical support, not much had been attained. He hoped that the United Nations Conference on Least Developed Countries scheduled in 1990 would address those issues. He appealed to ECA to help the African least developed countries to prepare for the Conference by defining areas of trade, monetary policy and finance in which international action would be most beneficial to the African LDCs. He welcomed ECA's study on structural adjustment and hoped that such a study would lead to the formulation of Africa's position vis-à-vis the structural adjustment programmes. Similarly, he welcomed the initiative of the United Nations Secretary-General in constituting the Group of Eminent Persons to advise on concrete measures of alleviating the resource burden faced by the African countries. He, however, regretted the fact that the geographical scope of the study had failed to cover all African countries. He hoped that the United Nations Secretary-General would continue with his efforts and expand the study to cover all Africa.

281. Finally, he paid tribute to the ECA Executive Secretary and his staff for the invaluable services rendered to member States and for maintaining the momentum generated by the special session of the United Nations General Assembly that adopted the United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development and by providing guidelines and monitoring implementation of the programme at national, regional and international levels.

282. The representative of Zambia opened his statement by expressing deep appreciation for the abundant hospitality which he and his delegation had received from the Government and people of the Niger and for the excellent facilities which would greatly enhance the quality of the deliberations of the Conference.

283. He said that the heavy agenda, covering many important issues, bore ample testimony to the very difficult socio-economic situation which Africa faced. In that connection, he highlighted the general current unsatisfactory socio-economic conditions of the continent and the adverse prospects for the future which were influenced by such negative factors as external debt burden, inadequate resource flows, low and unstable commodity prices and

protectionism, and Africa's external debt, which was estimated at \$US 218.2 billion in 1987 with an average debt-service ratio of about 36 per cent, was no longer bearable. It was in view of that realization that the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity adopted a "Common African Position on Africa's External Debt Crisis" at its third extraordinary session in November/December 1987 and called for an international conference on Africa's debt.

284. The efforts being made to achieve that objective were demonstrated by the recent inaugural meeting of the Contact Group held at Lusaka, Zambia, under the auspices of the current Chairman of OAU, His Excellency Dr. Kenneth David Kaunda. The meeting had evolved modalities and strategies to facilitate the convening of the international conference. The representative of Zambia said that the proposals made by Africa for solving the debt problem were meritorious and called on the international community to take the opportunity to solve the vexing problem. The time had come for a negotiating conference which would do justice to the debtor and the creditor and in which there would be no victors or victims.

285. Concerning the inadequate resource flows to Africa, the representative of Zambia drew attention to the direct relationship between that problem and the inadequate earnings from Africa's exports. Resource flows complemented export earnings and their inadequacy meant that Africa could not implement programmes necessary to lift itself out of its depressed socio-economic conditions. He reminded the delegates that as they reflected on the Conference theme, "Solidarity for African economic recovery and development", they should remember the resources that could flow from intra-African, subregional and regional trade. That trade base in Africa needed to be strengthened as a matter of deliberate policy.

286. He also called upon African member States to undertake an objective evaluation of their implementation of APPER and the UN-PAAERD in order to provide a constructive input into the mid-term review by the United Nations. Such evaluation and input would assist in the search for effective measures for the implementation of the programme in the remainder of the period covered.

287. He spoke of the need for adequate adjustment programmes that would take account of the unique characteristics of Africa's socio-economic structures. He emphasized that such programmes must not only be guided by economic indicators but should also contain adequate safeguards for preserving the social fabric of African societies and protecting the interests of socially vulnerable groups. With that requirement in mind, Zambia had, since May 1987, devised its own adjustment programme, the "Interim National Development Plan". The plan had set out the country's own development objectives and targets as well as socially bearable implementation strategies. The main emphasis of the plan was the generation of domestic resources for economic growth. Consequently, debt service had been restricted to 10 per cent of export earnings, after deducting foreign exchange earnings required for maintaining the mining industry, payments for oil, fertilizers, medicines and obligations to the International Air Transport Association.

288. He said that Zambia welcomed external assistance but only on terms that were consistent with its own laid-down priorities and strategies. In that regard, he welcomed the proposed UNDP management facility provided that it

would provide technical assistance on a grant basis to countries implementing their own adjustment programmes. He underscored the importance of neutrality and impartiality in operating the facility and the crucial need for it to attract the confidence and support of African member States.

289. In conclusion, he congratulated ECA on its thirtieth anniversary and assured it and its subsidiary organizations of Zambia's commitment and unqualified support. He also wished the people of the Niger happy national celebrations and prosperity.

290. The representative of Morocco spoke on the problems of development on the African continent, its implications and its imperatives.

291. He said that the future of the world economy lay in large economic entities having optimum dimensions in terms of space, human resources and economies of scale. However, economic development could not be achieved without freedom and democracy and therefore decentralization was the best way of involving the able-bodied population of every nation and tapping their potential to the full. The African continent was facing external challenges emanating from the international economic environment and internal challenges caused by the population factor. In order to meet those challenges, African States had to be pragmatic and imaginative so as to reconcile the need for structural adjustment programmes with the need for growth and economic development. The equation to be solved was how to achieve minimal growth that would meet the basic requirements of the people and would be as high as financial capacities permitted. There was a need for an intersectoral approach to development and for co-operation to achieve subregional and regional economic integration, a target that could not be achieved without the political will of the African Governments concerned.

292. In that regard, he commended the efforts deployed by the Executive Secretary of ECA, Professor Adebayo Adedeji, for the promotion of the establishment in each of Africa's subregions, structures for economic and financial co-operation as an intermediate stage in the establishment of the African economic community. In particular, he praised the efforts being made by ECA to assist the North African countries to establish a preferential trade area in North Africa to which Morocco attached particular importance. He congratulated ECA on its thirtieth anniversary and the Executive Secretary in particular for the dynamic role played by the Commission in the development of Africa as a whole.

293. The representative of the Arab Republic of Egypt stated that the twenty-third session of ECA and fourteenth meeting of its Conference of Ministers was being held in the friendly country of the Niger on the thirtieth anniversary of ECA. He therefore expressed thanks to the Government and people of the Niger for agreeing to host the Conference, an act that underlined the Niger's commitment to Africa's co-operation and solidarity. He stated that Africa was facing a grave economic situation that had been worsened by the growing debt burden and its servicing which was consuming larger portions of the continent's export earnings; the drought which adversely affected agricultural production thus forcing most of the countries to depend on food imports; and population growth which had outstripped food production and further compounded the economic crisis. He also referred to the locust invasion that threatened crop production, and whose control required co-operation.

294. With regard to the documents submitted to the meeting, the leader of the Egyptian delegation made a number of pertinent observations. Commenting on the Biennial Report of the ECA Executive Secretary for 1986-1987, particularly the section on the economic and social crisis in Africa, he urged African countries to concentrate their efforts on the promotion of intra-African integration by undertaking the implementation of projects in the areas of roads, transport, water resources and storage. He stressed the need to minimize the number of organizations in view of resource limitation, especially those that were unable to achieve their objectives as well as those that concentrated purely on administrative issues.

295. He also referred to the very small volume of trade among African countries in spite of numerous resolutions on the promotion of intra-African trade by various African organizations. In that connection, he underscored the need to establish and reinforce regional economic integration as an effective means of increasing the process of intra-African trade. He also called for the establishment of joint projects and underlined the importance of political will in overcoming all obstacles. He therefore welcomed the studies on the establishment of a preferential trade area in North Africa. With respect to the food situation, he expressed his country's deep concern about the severe financial crisis facing FAO, since the suspension of contributions to the organization by some donors had adversely affected the African countries.

296. The representative of Egypt emphasized the importance of the Ad Hoc Committee of the Whole to undertake the mid-term review of the implementation of the UN-PAAERD and urged the full participation by member States in the work of the Committee. On the African debt issue, he welcomed the steps taken by some countries to alleviate the debt burden, although the problem was still causing social and economic difficulties. He supported the African common position on the debt issue. Since the debt burden crisis had resulted from conditions imposed by international financial institutions and some donor countries, there was the need to convene an international conference on Africa's indebtedness which should not be a forum for confrontation between debtor and creditor countries, but as a conference for providing constructive dialogue between the two sides on measures for resolving the crisis. In that connection, he informed the Conference that his country would be organizing an international symposium on the African debt problem by the end of 1988 in which African experts and experts from international financial institutions would participate.

297. He noted with appreciation the initiative taken by the United Nations Secretary-General on financial resource flows to Africa. However, he regretted that although financial resource flows were of concern to all African countries, the report had unfortunately concentrated on a group of African countries to the exclusion of others. He also pointed out that the report did not sufficiently cover the problem of reduced export earnings caused by price fluctuations at a time when the prices of imported goods were on the increase.

298. In conclusion, he reviewed the socio-economic situation during 1987 and indicated that Egypt had suffered a severe crisis as a result of reduced export earnings and reduced remittances from Egyptians working abroad, since such earnings financed a substantial portion of his country's plan for economic

development. The crisis would be worsened by the approaching foreign debt repayment that was to fall due. However, his country would be able to cope through its enhanced industrial production, strengthening of both the public and private sectors, increased foreign investments, and the introduction of a new exchange rate. Moreover, his country would be strengthening economic co-operation with other African countries and would initiate an economic and social development plan for the period 1987-1992 which would put emphasis on agriculture, irrigation and new land reclamation as a basis for reducing external dependence and increasing self-reliance in line with the basic tenets of the programme of economic recovery.

299. The representative of Egypt then congratulated the ECA Executive Secretary and his staff for the tremendous efforts they were making in preparing African countries for international negotiating conferences and for their invaluable contributions to the African continent and wished ECA continued success.

300. The representative of Uganda expressed his appreciation to the Government and people of the Niger for their hospitality and congratulated the Executive Secretary and the secretariat on the occasion of the thirtieth anniversary of the Commission and for the excellent preparations for the meeting.

301. He said that the low and, in some cases, negative rates of growth of African economies reflected a sad fact in a continent that was as much endowed in natural resources. It was indeed important to ponder on why Africa was asking for more and more assistance. Declined earnings from exports, low levels of capital inflows, the heavy debt burden as well as the destabilization policies of the racist regime of South Africa were real problems that Africa had had to face. Those problems were however not new. The thirtieth anniversary session of ECA was a good occasion to reflect on how to effect a balance between rhetoric, resolutions and action. Africa should not continue to remain an appendage of the Western economies. If that were to be so, those same problems would continue to plague it. The necessary political will had been lacking for far too long. It was high time that self-reliance was pursued more seriously. There was, for instance, need to make greater use of local African experts. More use should also be made of science and technology to harness Africa's natural resources. While external aid was required, it was important to ensure that such aid did not frustrate Africa's own efforts. As regards structural adjustment programmes, those had to do more with the balance of payments than with the long-term structural requirements of African economies. In the long run, African economies must be restructured if the short-term problems facing them were to be solved.

302. The representative of Uganda concluded by saying that it was the objective of his Government to build an integrated self-sustaining economy within an interdependent world. In that connection, he lauded the efforts being made to create a preferential trade area in North Africa.

303. The observer for the USSR read a message of congratulations and best wishes from the Chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, in which it was said that the Commission's activities since its establishment 30 years previously had been inseparable from those of the African peoples in their bid to overcome backwardness, promote economic and social progress, develop regional co-operation, strengthen international economic relations and solidify Africa's place in the world community. Despite those efforts, a critical



situation had persisted in the region, and the threat of famine was again growing. The aggressive policy pursued by the racist regime of South Africa against the neighbouring African States had made the situation on the continent more complex. A viable and lasting solution to Africa's recovery and development problems had to be found urgently. To that end, the establishment of an International Disarmament for Development Fund was being proposed by the USSR under the auspices of the United Nations. The Government of the USSR had resolved to continue to play an active role in the creation of a comprehensive system of international peace and security. The Government was also convinced that ECA would continue to make its useful contribution particularly towards implementing the principles of a secured and non-violent world in which independence, equality and unhampered development of all would be a prerequisite for universal well-being.

304. The observer for the USSR then paid tribute to the Commission on the occasion of its thirtieth anniversary and expressed his Government's delight to participate at this year's session of the Commission as it provided the opportunity to exchange views with delegates on vital issues that were related to Africa's development with a view to finding solutions to existing problems. He spoke of the importance of disarmament, security and co-operation as instruments for overcoming the acute crisis afflicting Africa, and called for joint efforts in creating worthy living conditions for the African peoples. He concluded by re-emphasizing his Government's preparedness to continue its active participation in the development process of Africa.

305. The observer for France said that during the 30 years of the Commission's existence, France had always provided support and had taken a keen interest in the work of the Commission. The thirtieth anniversary was taking place at a very important time. Although the African economic situation remained serious, as many ECA reports had confirmed, nevertheless some progress had been made.

306. Since the adoption of the UN-PAAERD, many African countries had made some efforts to attain recovery. Those efforts should be appreciated and drawn to the attention of the international community. Thus, France awaited with interest the information solicited by ECA's questionnaire on progress in the implementation of the programme.

307. France, as the second largest donor of ODA in Africa and the largest in sub-Saharan Africa, was in the vanguard of international efforts to assist Africa to recover. At \$US 1.8 billion, aid to Africa amounted to two-thirds of France's total assistance to the developing world in 1986. The observer went on to give some examples of his country's activities. In addition to bilateral assistance, France had been involved in such important multilateral activities as the IFAD special programme for Africa; the tripling of IMF's structural adjustment facility from 3.9 billion SDRs, to which France agreed to contribute 1 billion francs a year for three years; and the World Bank's special programme for Africa's poorest and more indebted countries, amounting to \$US 6.11 billion, of which France had contributed \$US 800 million. France had also doubled its contributions to ADB and had contributed in increasing the resources of the African Development Fund. It had also continued to participate in the UNDP-sponsored round tables. France was examining with considerable interest the new UNDP initiative on the setting up of a management facility.



308. In terms of monetary aid, France had increased by 50 per cent in 1987 the grants accorded under its aid and co-operation programme. It had also increased the grant element in loans, particularly to African least developed countries. New project aid, such as direct financial assistance budgetary aid and support for balance of payments had also been considerably increased. Largely as a result of France's initiative, the final report of the previous meeting of the Group of Seven held in Venice included the aid commitment objective of 0.7 per cent of GDP. France had led the way in recognizing the specific problems of the LDCs, and had given 0.15 per cent of GDP in aid to those countries.

309. The market for primary products on which Africa was terribly dependent for external resources was of fundamental concern and France was completely in favour of commodity price agreements as a firm basis for international co-operation. However, new measures were necessary. The observer went on to talk about the STABEX and SYSDIN systems drawn up by the European Community to mitigate market price fluctuations in primary products and informed the meeting that in 1987 France had proposed an easing of IMF's compensatory financing facility for balance-of-payment difficulties due to falling commodity prices. Spectacular changes had taken place in the treatment of debt, notably at France's instigation. Measures had been adopted by the Paris Club such as rescheduling repayments, grace periods and concessional interest rates. Such measures had particularly benefited the LDCs and the countries engaged in reform programmes. With regard to the report of the Advisory Group on Financial Flows to Africa, the observer for France thought that it was a new contribution to the search for solutions to the problems. He could not however, at that moment, give the French Government's reaction to the report but promised that the report would be studied carefully.

310. Concluding his remarks, the observer stated that France was fully aware of the extremely difficult economic and financial situation in Africa and would respond to African efforts. Africa could rest assured of France's continued and sustained interest and of its friendship.

311. The observer for Norway thanked the Commission for the invitation and expressed his Government's best wishes for a successful meeting and a happy anniversary.

312. He informed the Conference about the recent report of the World Commission on Environment and Development which was chaired by Her Excellency Mrs. Gro Harlem Brundtland, Prime Minister of Norway. That report of the Commission covered all global political issues and was an agenda for change and sustainable development. In it, the Commission called for a new era of economic growth which would create the capacity to alleviate mass poverty and environment problems. The implementation of those changes would require a stronger political will and strengthened international co-operation.

313. He noted the efforts of the African Governments to implement the United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development and emphasized that the debt and commodity issues had to be addressed, and the flows of financial resources increased. He pointed out that new lending had to be on concessional terms, and new debt policies had to include debt relief, long-term rescheduling and conversion to softer terms. Other areas which had to be addressed included agricultural policies, population strategies

and energy. The situation in Southern Africa also had to be addressed on account of the negative environmental consequences of apartheid. Already, his Government had adopted comprehensive sanctions against South Africa and had strengthened co-operation with the SADCC countries.

314. He informed the Conference that the United Nations General Assembly had already adopted the World Commission report, and governments and international organizations were invited to take account of its analysis and recommendations in their policies and programmes. His own Government had already started reviewing those recommendations, and was looking forward to working closely with African countries. The regional commissions had an important role to play in the follow-up process. A follow-up conference would be hosted in Norway in 1990 by the Government of Norway in co-operation with the Economic Commission for Europe and UNEP. He hoped similar conferences would be held in other regions and expressed his Government's readiness to support such efforts.

315. Finally, he appealed to the industrialized world to ensure that the international economy did help rather than hinder the possibilities for sustainable development. Multilateralism and international co-operation had to be revived.

316. In his statement, the observer for India expressed his Government's heartiest congratulations on the occasion of the special meeting which marked an important milestone in the partnership between African nations and other countries through the auspices of the United Nations system. India had followed with great interest the efforts made by the Economic Commission for Africa towards assisting the newly independent countries of Africa. Though much had been achieved during the previous 30 years, more remained to be done not only by the United Nations system including ECA, but also by all organizations and others working in Africa. Africa, he continued, was a young continent with vast potential, untapped human energy and a bright future. Albeit it was facing many crises. The whole continent was awake and on the march. Current difficulties were but obstacles in the long road to success and prosperity.

317. He recalled India's historical relations with Africa and the full support India had given to the aspirations of African people for the realization of their national independence. Attainment of political independence was only the first step towards national reconstruction and the attainment of a better quality of life. India was on the march to better the lot of its people and fully shared the hopes and aspirations of the people of Africa because Africa and India had common goals.

318. Since the end of the second World War, India had gained knowledge, technology and expertise in spheres of national life which were of common importance to Asia and Africa. India was sharing its experience with Africa and would continue to do so in the spirit of South-South co-operation bilaterally and through multisectoral organizations such as ECA.

319. India had contributed about 100,000 tons of food aid to drought-stricken areas of African countries and had helped to strengthen and develop the agricultural and agro-industrial base of many countries in Africa. It had also supported activities aimed at developing rural technology, small-scale

and engineering industry, consultancy and advisory services in Africa, and late in 1987, it had signed an agreement with ECA for \$US 400,000 for promoting small-scale enterprises in Africa. India would always consider any proposal from ECA, OAU and/or concerned countries on technical co-operation activities between India and Africa.

320. The observer for the Netherlands commended ECA for its accomplishments in the 30 years since its establishment. He referred to recent technical co-operation activities of ECA which his Government had financed and supported and paid tribute to the Executive Secretary for his leadership.

321. He noted the various problems facing Africa including harsh climatological conditions and some unfavourable elements in the international environment. He stressed in particular the problems of debt and the decline in commodity prices and said that his Government was prepared to discuss the possible solutions to those problems in the appropriate fora. He acknowledged that the primary responsibility for recovery was that of the African countries themselves. However, donor countries had an important role to play within the framework of international solidarity and interdependence. Despite severe cutbacks in overall government expenditures, the Netherlands was spending more than one per cent of its GNP on official development assistance, much of which was directed at African countries. It also attached great importance to the implementation of the United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development (UN-PAAERD).

322. The observer for the Federal Republic of Germany read a message of congratulations addressed to the Commission from Mr. Hans-Dietrich Genscher, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Federal Republic of Germany, on behalf of the 12 member countries of the European Economic Community. He then expressed his appreciation to the Head of State, the Government and people of the Niger for their wonderful hospitality, and pointed out that the preceding three decades had been a period of great historic importance for Africa in terms of accumulating a wide range of political and economic experience. During that period, Africa had also had to cope with the consequences of the deep structural changes which occurred in the world economy, and the natural disasters which disrupted many projects. The period had also been one of intense co-operation between Africa and its partners. Both had become aware of the fact that Africa's resources could be fully developed only if Africa persevered in adapting to changing challenges.

323. He also indicated that his country's commitment to Africa had been reflected in its support for Africa's Priority Programme for Economic Recovery and in bilateral loans which had reached an annual volume of about DM 2 billion, or nearly 36 per cent of his country's official development assistance. The Federal Republic of Germany which was then the President of EEC also provided more than 25 per cent of the substantial loans granted by the European Economic Community to Africa within the framework of the Lomé Convention. The Development Forum of the German Foundation for International Development would be organizing an international round table in West Berlin during the month of June 1988 as a contribution to the mid-term review and appraisal of the UN-PAAERD. High-ranking participants from African countries and representatives of international organizations would be participating in the round table whose theme was "A joint effort for the implementation of the UN-PAAERD: Lessons and prospects".

324. Turning to the achievements of ECA, the observer found them particularly important. It was for that reason that his Government was continuing its support to ECA and intended to work closely with it as had been declared during the Executive Secretary's visit to Bonn in the autumn of 1987.

325. He concluded by expressing the hope that the next three decades would not see Africa's problems worsening but would instead be an era during which the problems of the great continent of Africa would be overcome.

326. The observer for the German Democratic Republic read a message from His Excellency Mr. Oskar Fischer, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the German Democratic Republic, on the occasion of the thirtieth anniversary of ECA. In that message, the Foreign Minister observed that the anniversary of ECA was being celebrated at a time when the maintenance of peace, the prevention of a nuclear inferno, the consolidation of international security as well as economic and social development had become issues of vital importance to mankind. In the face of such great challenges, stable regional economic co-operation carried particular weight.

327. In that regard, he noted the achievement of ECA, in close co-operation with the Organization of African Unity, in influencing the development of the African region, in contributing to overcoming the difficult economic situation on the continent and in implementing the United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development. The Commission had also actively supported the struggle of African peoples against racism and apartheid. Those achievements of the Commission had merited appreciation all over the world. The Foreign Minister concluded by reaffirming that the various relations between his country and African States as well as the Commission would further develop in the interest of peace, the strengthening of confidence and the promotion of mutually advantageous co-operation.

328. In his address to the Conference, the Director-General for Development and International Economic Co-operation, Mr. Jean Ripert, welcomed and hailed the general debate of the Conference which had taken place as timely and relevant given that the debate came on the eve of the mid-term review of the UN-PAAERD. He pointed out that there had been a number of occasions where the action programme had been described as being good in orientation but vague in focus. For him, the success of any programme, including the UN-PAAERD, depended in great part on the will to initiate and implement a good follow-up procedure at all levels. He was therefore encouraged by the various follow-up measures undertaken by member States and ECA since the adoption of APPER and the UN-PAAERD and he stressed the importance of the discussion to take place before and during the next General Assembly session.

329. As part of the follow-up activity, attention was drawn to the decision of ECOSOC on the mid-term review and the subsequent invitation made by the Secretary-General to all Member States of the United Nations to submit to him information on their contribution and their efforts in support of the implementation of the programme. ECA's initiative in sending a questionnaire to its member States was indeed complementary to the Secretary-General's request. African Governments were therefore urged to complete and return the questionnaire to facilitate the exercise. Attention was also drawn to the Secretary-General's initiative to establish the Group of Eminent Persons which he said was based on the Secretary-General's realization that the

financial problems facing Africa, if not properly and urgently addressed, could become a major constraining factor to the implementation of the programme. He pointed out that even though the evaluation failed to cover all the African countries, their recommendations, in the view of the Secretary-General, were valid for the continent as a whole; they were realistic and workable.

330. He informed the Conference that the report was being reviewed by the Development Committee of the IMF and the World Bank. The Secretary-General would report on the reaction of governments and international institutions to the General Assembly appropriately. He assured delegates that the Secretary-General in his report would take into account the views expressed at the present session of the Commission.

331. The Director-General paid tribute to the International Conference on the Human Dimension of Africa's Economic Recovery and Development which had taken place in Khartoum, Republic of the Sudan, from 5 to 8 March 1988. He indicated that a programme with similar objectives was being discussed under the auspices of ESCAP for Asia and the Pacific region. He emphasized that the human factor constituted the main force for strengthening recovery and development efforts, and was confident that the Khartoum Declaration would be considered by the General Assembly as an essential component of the review and appraisal of the United Nations programme.

332. The need was stressed by African Governments to take measures that would increase export earnings particularly from commodities at a time when the region was faced with deteriorating terms of trade. In that regard, the Director-General welcomed the new breakthrough that had occurred in the Common Fund which should be established in the foreseeable future whatever were the difficulties to act in that area. The international community had to play a much more active role even if in the long run, measures to diversify production would have to be taken by African countries. The existing facilities should be enlarged. In conclusion, he pledged his support to the Commission's activities.

333. The Assistant Administrator of UNDP and the Regional Director for Africa stated at the outset of his statement that he was speaking not only in his capacity as the Director of the Africa Bureau but also on behalf of Mr. William Draper III, the Administrator of UNDP and on behalf of the Assistant Administrator and Regional Director for the Arab States and the European Programme (RBASEP).

334. He underscored the special character of the twenty-third session of the Commission and fourteenth meeting of the Conference of Ministers which was taking place on the occasion of the thirtieth anniversary celebrations of ECA and on the eve of the mid-term review of the implementation of the UN-PAAERD. On behalf of UNDP, he paid tribute to the Executive Secretary of ECA for his untiring efforts for Africa's economic emancipation. The Executive Secretary's wide experience and great learning had enabled him to make a singular success of heading ECA. He expressed UNDP's hope for increased co-operation with ECA. The current meetings constituted a forum of hope for recovery in Africa's economic and social situation because the theme was one of active solidarity between Africa and the international community.



335. He reviewed the activities conducted by UNDP in its assistance to and support for the efforts the Commission was making to further the social and economic development of the continent. Among the number of UNDP-supported activities, he highlighted: (a) the provision of resources; (b) support to round tables and National Technical Co-operation Assessments and Programmes (NATCAPs); (c) the strengthening of UNDP regional offices in Africa; and (d) the mobilization of additional resources. He indicated that \$US 1.2 billion had been earmarked for Africa in addition to \$US 200 million made available for inter-country programmes for the period 1987-1991. The allocation of UNDP resources closely paralleled APPER and the UN-PAAERD priorities.

336. He stated that UNDP planned to set up a management facility in order to mobilize additional resources for low-income countries in their pursuit of economic reforms. Low-income African countries would benefit from the use of the resources of the facility as per the priorities indicated in the UN-PAAERD. Emphasis would be on neutral advice on economic management matters. The use of funds from the management facility would be governed by the following three principles: (a) its disbursement would take the form of grants; (b) priority would be accorded to low-income countries; and (c) the funds granted within the framework of the facility would be subject to no conditionality.

337. Finally, he stated that ECA would play an important role in using the management facility and urged the Commission to strongly support the idea of such a facility so that the UNDP Governing Council could, at its June 1988 session, envisage the establishment of the mechanism, possibly by allocating a part of the additional resources available to it immediately and by mobilizing additional financing from donor countries.

338. The observer for UNDRO hoped that the outcome of the session would meet the expectations of the peoples of Africa and confirm once again Africa's resolute determination to overcome its prevailing economic and social difficulties which had been exacerbated by natural disasters and the interventionist acts of South Africa. The theme of the session was meet and appropriate in the prevailing world of increased interdependence in which regional and international solidarity was imperative for the solution of such serious problems as underdevelopment, hunger, drought and other scourges that had continued to plague Africa.

339. As the central organ within the United Nations system responsible for the co-ordination of relief activities, UNDRO had continued, in collaboration with all relevant organizations of the United Nations, to support African countries' own efforts in accordance with the provisions of the United Nations Programme of Action. The observer then outlined the many and varied activities his organization had undertaken to assist several African countries affected by natural calamities. He dwelt in particular on recent activities of UNDRO in Mozambique and Ethiopia. He noted that the effects of natural disasters would not have been as devastating as they had been in Africa, had African countries been better prepared and had the necessary structures to sustain and manage such catastrophes. It was therefore imperative to enhance the capacities of those countries to meet the challenges of natural disasters. In that regard, he believed that much could be achieved within the framework of the International Decade for the Prevention of Natural



Disasters which had been proclaimed by the General Assembly at its last session.

340. He concluded by assuring the Conference that UNDRO would do all that was possible to mobilize resources to develop the required structures in African countries. There was also special need for the transfer of technology and to accord highest priority to disaster precaution in Africa. His organization would continue to devote significant attention to those urgent needs.

341. The president of the Africa Regional Co-ordinating Committee for the Integration of Women in Development (ARCC) expressed, on behalf of the women of Africa, appreciation and gratitude to the ECA secretariat for its efforts in improving women's participation in the economic and social development of Africa and for studies undertaken in the area of women's development in Africa. She acknowledged that while the struggle for the integration of women in development was not yet over, the struggle had come a long way. First, the issue had been accepted as a fact, and was no longer a debatable one. Secondly, progress had been made in strengthening the African Training and Research Centre for Women at ECA as well as in incorporating women's concerns within the various development programmes of the secretariat.

342. She drew attention to a few issues that were of relevance to the development of the women's programmes in Africa. The women of Africa had shared the pain and sufferings that had resulted from the economic and social crisis and were indeed confident that if the Khartoum Declaration were taken seriously, and appropriate policies, means and tools provided for the advancement of women, then the participation of women in the economic and social development of Africa would improve greatly. African women, who were Africa's main producers and on whom Africa's food security depended, were committed to play their part in the efforts of Africa's economic recovery. To that end, the ARCC meeting which took place in Niamey on 3 and 4 April 1988, had passed a number of recommendations and resolutions which had been endorsed by TEPCOW. She informed delegates of the Regional Conference to be convened next year by ECA in collaboration with OAU to review and appraise the progress African women had made in the implementation of the Arusha Strategies for the Advancement of Women in Africa which was endorsed in the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women in Development. The women of Africa were looking forward to that event with great anticipation, particularly as it would provide ARCC with the opportunity and forum to celebrate its tenth anniversary. She concluded by paying tribute to ECA for its achievements and wished the Commission many more successful years.

343. The vice-president of the World Food Council (WFC), the Honourable Abdirazak Mohamoud Abubakar, Minister of Agriculture of the Somali Democratic Republic, indicated that the World Food Council was aware of the critical problems faced by many African countries in meeting their food needs and in achieving the desired goal of food security for the whole continent. The seriousness of the situation had been worsened by the debt burden, weak commodity export prices and low resource flows which could have disastrous consequences, if not properly addressed by both national African Governments and the international community as a whole. He noted, however, that African Governments' courageous efforts in instituting reforms had been greatly

undermined by the drastic fall in Africa's export earnings and steep rise in debt-servicing obligations. He observed that while the reforms in general might have favourable medium- or long-term effects in some countries, there were clear signs of growing resistance as a result of falling and stagnating living standards. It was for those reasons that Africa had to look towards the international community for assistance.

344. He observed that in view of the important role agriculture played in African economies, all developmental efforts had to be food-based, and as such, government policies would have to include packages of technology, services and land reform provisions, and that such programmes should be geared to the benefits of small farmers and poor consumers. Unfortunately, Africa's human resources had not been fully mobilized as yet in order to reverse Africa's negative food supply trend. He pointed out that the prospects for increased food production remained gloomy for almost all subregions of Africa, as population increase and civil strife had made the situation even more precarious, especially for Angola, Ethiopia, Mozambique, Somalia and the Sudan.

345. Parallel with the problem of food, the African countries had had to contend with the complex problem of economic adjustment programmes involving immediate stabilization programmes dealing with balance-of-payment and public budget difficulties and medium-term policies to correct the adverse effects of both economic growth and social welfare. It was because of those difficulties that WFC had initiated consultations at regional level. The World Food Council Meeting of Ministers held in Beijing in June 1987 had expressed concern that the world community was moving away from the 1974 World Food Conference objective of a world without hunger, and that fact had been testified to by the growing numbers of hungry people in the face of record global surpluses. The Beijing Declaration had therefore urged governments and international organizations to strengthen regional and South-South co-operation, particularly in the food and agriculture sectors. In that connection, WFC was following up the implementation of the UN-PAAERD with the African Governments and institutions at two levels, namely regional and South-South co-operation and in the training of African food policy analysts by promoting training programmes with a view to improving institutional capabilities for the development of food analysis.

346. The vice-president of WFC informed the Conference that the fourteenth session of WFC which would be held in Cyprus from 23 to 26 May 1988 would focus, among other issues, on ecologically sustainable food security, regional South-South co-operation, economic adjustment and utilization of food surplus in support of hunger-focused development policies and programmes in developing countries. He stated that all those policy issues were of critical relevance to the improvement of food production and food security in Africa.

347. The observer for the United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM) noted with pleasure the considerable progress ECA had achieved with respect to the integration of women in the development process and expressed her appreciation of the fact that the substantive divisions of the ECA secretariat were aware of the problems of women and stood ready to support ATRCW. UNIFEM was co-operating with some countries to identify the needs of women and to work out their priorities as part of the formulation of national development plans and it had offices at Dakar and Harare. It was ready to respond

quickly and in a flexible manner to requests for assistance from ECA member States with regard to the integration of women in development.

348. The observer for the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance (CMEA) congratulated and extended greetings to the Commission on the occasion of its thirtieth anniversary and said that the Commission's activities had contributed to the economic and social progress of Africa. On its part, the CMEA had always favoured the expansion of co-operation with all countries irrespective of their social and economic systems within the framework of the principles of equality, the respect for national sovereignty, non-interference and the achievement of mutual benefits. CMEA activities were in response to the need for sectoral programmes that would restructure African economies to bring about reliable and lasting solutions to Africa's problems.

349. The CMEA member countries were, in addition to supplying machinery and equipment, rendering economic and technical assistance to a total of 48 African countries. Almost 50,000 African students were studying at higher and secondary specialized educational institutions in the CMEA countries in 1987. A CMEA Scholarship Fund had been established which had provided awards to more than 4,000 students from 30 African countries. During the 1988/1989 academic year, CMEA member countries were making available through the ECA African Expanded Fellowship Programme, 21 CMEA scholarships for study at higher educational institutions.

350. A long-term strategy of co-operation among CMEA member States and other countries was worked out at the forty-third session of CMEA. Closer co-operation between CMEA and ECA would be needed and, to that end, the CMEA secretariat stood ready to collaborate, particularly in the area of exchanging information and documentation on problems of mutual interest. He concluded by wishing the Conference success and expressed the hope that ECA would continue to be an important instrument for maintaining peace, stability and dynamic socio-economic development process in Africa.

351. The observer for the International Maritime Organization (IMO) conveyed the greetings of Mr. C.P. Srivastava, Secretary-General of IMO, to the Conference and underscored the appreciation that his organization had for the constant efforts of the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa in promoting the economic and social development of Africa and the advancement of its people.

352. Referring to the United Nations Transport and Communications Decade in Africa (UNTACDA) which provided the continent with a global regional strategy to sustain development and socio-economic co-operation, he stated that the achievement of that goal required an immense task of long-term planning. In that regard, it was significant that the latest UNTACDA annual progress report had indicated that the maritime transport subsector had been given considerable importance in 1986 and had reported the greatest improvement in 1987. Those achievements could be assumed to have been due to planned policies in the African countries based on clear priorities.

353. However, there was wide scope for further planning in the maritime sector, for example in the area of ports. The observer underscored the

need for wide-scale rehabilitation of African ports which involved long-term pragmatic planning giving high priority to training. In that regard, he reminded the Conference of the function of the World Maritime University in providing specialized advanced training to senior personnel of developing countries. Since 1983, 143 students from 32 African countries had joined the University and a further 33 students had enrolled for 1988. He also noted that sound planning and improved maritime services in ports would be conducive to trade expansion, given the interdependent relation between shipping and trade. Concluding, he reiterated IMO's continued commitment and contribution to the implementation of the transport component of the Lagos Plan of Action, in co-operation with ECA and the Organization of African Unity, as appropriate.

354. The observer for the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) congratulated ECA on its thirtieth anniversary and expressed IFAD's admiration and pride for the courageous initiatives taken by ECA under the dynamic leadership role provided by Mr. Adebayo Adedeji in support of the economic and social development of its member States. He pointed out IFAD's close collaboration with ECA.

355. He said that IFAD had substantially increased its lending to the African continent in both 1986 and 1987. It had also substantially supplemented its assistance to African countries by resources mobilized under IFAD's special programme for sub-Saharan African countries affected by drought and desertification. IFAD's special programme which was in line with the UN-PAAERD recognized the need to divert emphasis from emergency operations to the long-term development problems of Africa. IFAD's secretariat would undertake a study which would examine the impact of structural adjustment policies on African food production and the rural poor. Finally, in recognition of the importance of human resources development, IFAD had designed an agricultural management training programme for Africa to improve management performance of agricultural projects and to strengthen the capacity of national and regional training institutions.

356. The observer for the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) said that the lack of effective communications including telecommunication systems to the rural communities of Africa, where 80-90 per cent of economic activities and food production took place, was the "missing link" in Africa's efforts to achieve accelerated economic recovery and development as enunciated in the UN-PAAERD and APPER. African countries were urged to improve communications to rural areas with a view to mobilizing rural small farmers and women to participate actively in economic recovery and development. He instanced the Indian Government's satellite project (SITE) experiment which was used to improve farming methods to Indian rural villagers, and where evaluation showed tremendous increase in food production and general enlightenment. He informed the Conference that ITU, in collaboration with members of IACC-RASCOM and in co-operation with 49 African countries, was carrying out a feasibility study for the Regional African Satellite Communications System (RASCOM), a project of significant economic interest to Africa. He reiterated ITU's continued assistance to African countries in their efforts to develop telecommunications systems.

357. The observer for the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) indicated that Africa was faced with immense ecological problems which underpinned



the long-term environmental decline which had in recent years been accelerated by rapidly expanding population, lack of proper land conservation and management, destruction of the forests and rangeland, soil erosion and poor farming methods. He noted that all those factors had combined to rob the African land of its stable soil resulting in the diminution of its recovery capacity whenever natural disasters such as drought struck. He pointed out that each year some 6 million hectares of formerly productive land were being reduced to sand while a further 21 million ha were converted to conditions of zero productivity. He referred to a recent study that had shown that the desert was spreading at the rate of 8 to 10 kilometres per annum, while the tree cover was shrinking by 4 million ha per year, thereby impairing the process of national drainage systems and leading to soil erosion on a catastrophic scale. He observed that since 1968, Africa had lost no less than a quarter of its semi-arid pasture land, and that over the last 100 years, a 150-km-wide belt on the southern edge of the Sahara zone had turned to sand, except for the Guinea zone and the Congo-Zaire basin.

358. He underscored the fact that, up to now, the environmental dimension of Africa's economic impoverishment had received very little attention within most African countries' development plans. Consequently, deforestation, desertification, soil erosion, destruction of wild genetic resources, spread of environmental diseases, and destruction of marine and coastal resources had all combined to undermine the long-term development goals of the African economies, thereby triggering the process of famine and general crisis in Africa. In that regard, he emphasized the role his organization was playing in persuading the African countries to include environmental aspects in their national plans. He recounted some of the important projects and programmes that his organization had initiated in Africa which included desertification control, vegetation and forest cover monitoring, development of alternative sources of energy, environmental awareness, agro-forestry and drought-resistant trees, control of overgrazing, marine resources protection and development, water resources management, human health and integrated pest management and wildlife. He also referred to his organization's co-operation with OAU and ECA and pledged his organization's continued support to environmental activities within the African continent. He wished ECA success in its efforts and reaffirmed his organization's commitment to the implementation of APPER and the UN-PAAERD.

359. The observer for the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) acknowledged the fact that in spite of the endogenous and exogenous factors that Africa had been up against, it had made satisfactory progress in many areas over the preceding 30 years. In that regard, ECA had served as a valuable instrument for bringing about an awareness of African problems and organizing joint ventures at the regional and subregional levels.

360. Turning to the follow-up action taken on resolutions adopted by the second General Conference of UNIDO on the basis of the recommendations contained in the Memorandum which the African Ministers of Industry had formulated during their special meeting of October 1987, the observer for UNIDO stated that his organization had allocated resources for the implementation during the 1988-1989 biennium of the programme for the Industrial Development Decade for Africa (IDDA); launched an appeal to the international community to grant additional resources in the form of contributions; sought and secured from UNDP an amount of \$US 300,000 for the mid-term evaluation of the IDDA

programme; conducted a feasibility study on the establishment of a UNIDO regional bureau for Africa; and considered the possibility of creating new posts of senior industrial advisers in African least developed countries.

361. He went on to inform the Conference that UNIDO had undertaken to set up an African programme for the development of hides, skins and leather products and to set up an African association for iron and steel.

362. In conclusion, he reiterated the firm resolve of his organization to strengthen co-operation with ECA and, through the Commission, with all member States.

363. The observer for the Afro-Asian Peoples' Solidarity Organization (AAPSO) underlined the fact that since its creation, his organization had contributed effectively in the struggle for the political and economic liberation of the Afro-Asian peoples. He referred to the external forces weighing heavily on Africa which had contributed to the continued dependence of the continent. Protectionism, falling prices of primary products and external debt had all aggravated the situation and were major obstacles in the implementation of Africa's Priority Programme for Economic Recovery. To those factors must be added rapid population growth, natural disasters and civil strife.

364. AAPSO's priorities included the awakening of international public opinion to Africa's problems; publication of literature on peace, disarmament and development; action towards the establishment of a new international economic order; and mutual co-operation between developing countries and with socialist countries.

365. He concluded his remarks by stressing that his organization would continue its active support to the African countries' struggle to achieve economic decolonization and would assist the activities undertaken by international and regional organizations to ensure lasting solutions to development problems.

Report and recommendations of the ninth meeting of the Technical Preparatory Committee of the Whole for consideration by the twenty-third session of the Commission/fourteenth meeting of the Conference of Ministers (agenda item 6)

366. The Chairman of the ninth meeting of the Technical Preparatory Committee of the Whole (TEPCOW) introduced the report of the Committee (E/ECA/CH.14/39) (annex IV of the present report) and reviewed the work, conclusions and recommendations of the Committee on the various issues that had been put before the fourteenth meeting of the Conference of Ministers. Before going into the details of the work of the Committee at its ninth meeting, he informed the Conference that although the meeting was scheduled to take place from 5 to 12 April 1988, it was in fact held from 6 to 14 April 1988 due to circumstances beyond the control of the Committee.

367. He then drew particular attention to matters that called for the support or final decision of the Conference. Such matters included information that the Commission, through the questionnaire sent out by the secretariat, was trying to collect in order to improve understanding of efforts that had already been carried out for the mid-term review and appraisal of the implementation of the UN-PAAERD and APPER; the report and recommendations of the Advisory Group on Financial Flows for Africa; the draft statute of the African Institute



for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders, the composition of its Governing Board and its headquarters; and the proposal for the establishment of a UNDP management facility to mobilize additional resources for African development. On the latter point, a resolution which the Committee had not been able to consider and which therefore was not included in the list of resolutions submitted to the Ministers for their approval, had been submitted directly to the Ministers for their consideration. The report contained annexes which included the preliminary reaction of ECA to the report and recommendations of the Advisory Group on Financial Flows for Africa; a memorandum on the contribution of ECA to the implementation and mid-term review of the UN-PAAERD; and the Niamey Declaration on the occasion of the thirtieth anniversary celebration of ECA.

368. Before opening the debate on this item, the Chairman proposed and the Conference agreed to consider the various parts of the report separately.

Consideration of the main report of the ninth meeting of TEPCOW

Survey of economic and social conditions in Africa, 1986-1987 (agenda item 5(a) of the report of the ninth meeting of TEPCOW)

369. The observer for France referred to paragraph 36 of TEPCOW's report in which it was stated that in real terms net resource flows to sub-Saharan Africa had declined by 6.7 per cent in 1987 and expressed doubt about the accuracy of that figure since it was then too early to arrive at a definitive figure on the net flow of resources in 1987.

370. The Executive Secretary confirmed that the observer for France had raised the same issue at the meeting of the Technical Preparatory Committee of the Whole and said that the figure was an estimate based on data available at ECA at the time the Survey of Economic and Social Conditions in Africa, 1986-1987 was prepared. The figure was for total net flows from all resources and referred to net disbursements as opposed to commitments.

Financing Africa's recovery: Report and recommendations of the Advisory Group on Financial Flows for Africa (agenda item 5(d) of TEPCOW report)

371. The representative of Morocco referred to paragraph 68 of TEPCOW's report in which reference was made to the common position on Africa's external debt adopted by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity at its third extraordinary session held in November/December 1987, as the proper framework for dialogue and action at the international level and indicated that his delegation was satisfied with the new wording. He requested, therefore, that the sentence: "The representative of Morocco made reservations on the subject" be deleted. The Conference agreed to that request.

Third meeting of the Conference of African Ministers Responsible for Human Resources Planning, Development and Utilization - Recommendations and resolutions (agenda item 7(b) of TEPCOW report)

372. The representative of the Sudan drew the attention of the Conference to TEPCOW's deliberations on the third meeting of the Conference of African

Ministers Responsible for Human Resources Planning, Development and Utilization, and draft resolution 10 (IX) The Khartoum Declaration: Towards a Human-focused Approach to Socio-economic Recovery and Development in Africa, and suggested that the Khartoum Declaration should be annexed to that resolution. The Conference agreed with that suggestion.

Sixth meeting of the Conference of African Ministers of Transport, Communications and Planning (agenda item 7(f) of TEPCOW report)

373. The Commissioner of State for Transport of Zaire, Chairman of the sixth meeting of the Conference of African Ministers of Transport, Communications and Planning said that he had been specially delegated by that Conference to report to the Commission on urgent matters that needed the support and endorsement of the Commission.

374. The sixth meeting of the Conference of African Ministers of Transport, Communications and Planning had considered the evaluation of the United Nations Transport and Communications Decade in Africa and had recommended the proclamation of a second Decade. The results of the first Decade had been considered positive and most encouraging although all the desired objectives had not been attained. Even so, the Decade had created a sense of solidarity among African countries. The African public had been made aware of the essential role of transport and communications in the economic and social development process. The statutory bodies of the Decade had accumulated a unique experience on which ECA could count to achieve new objectives. The Conference of African Ministers of Transport, Communications and Planning had acknowledged that the strategy and the objectives adopted for the first Decade in 1979 were still valid.

375. In proposing the proclamation of a second Decade, the sixth meeting had recommended measures to ensure that when it was launched, that Decade's programme would be prepared and implemented under the best of conditions. It had been recommended that the statutory bodies and the executing agencies of the first Decade be given a new mandate. There would be a two-year preparatory phase before the Decade was launched. It had also been proposed that a committee whose membership should include representatives of African and international development institutions should be established to mobilize resources for the second Decade. He, therefore, appealed to the Conference to make appropriate arrangements to launch a second United Nations Transport and Communications Decade in Africa.

376. He mentioned the worrying situation of air transport in Africa, in particular the adverse effects that the new regulations soon to be introduced in most industrialized countries having air links with Africa might have. It was therefore urgent to convene a special meeting of African ministers responsible for civil aviation to adopt a coherent and concerted African policy in that area so as to meet the challenges facing African airlines by the year 1992.

377. The Conference expressed its appreciation to the Commissioner of State for his statement. It took note of the statement and endorsed the relevant recommendations and resolutions adopted by the sixth meeting of the Conference of African Ministers of Transport, Communications and Planning.

Report of the second special meeting of the Council of Ministers and Commissioner of State Responsible for Planning of the Gisenyi MULPOC - Resolutions (paragraphs 198-202 of TEPCOW report)

378. On behalf of the member States of the Gisenyi MULPOC, the head of the Zairian delegation, current Chairman of the Council of Ministers and Commissioner of State of the Gisenyi MULPOC, informed the Conference that a second extraordinary meeting of the Council of Ministers and Commissioner of State of the Gisenyi MULPOC had been held on 7 and 8 March 1988 at Gisenyi, Rwanda. At the end of that meeting, three resolutions had been adopted which dealt with: (a) expediting the approval of the project document of the UNDP Fourth Programming Cycle; (b) the establishment of a committee on the rapid implementation of the multisectoral assistance programme for the Economic Community of the Great Lakes countries (CEPGL); and (c) the programme for the integration of women in development. He informed the Conference that in line with the recommendations of TEPCOW, a consultation meeting had been held between the representatives of the three countries and the Executive Secretary to find an acceptable solution to the problems raised by all the countries in conformity with the rules and practices of the United Nations.

379. The consultation meeting had recommended that the executive secretaries of ECA and CEPGL should be entrusted with the task of establishing as quickly as possible appropriate mechanisms and procedures for speedily implementing the programme. It had also been recommended that the Executive Secretary of ECA should report on the matter to the Council of Ministers and Commissioner of State of the Gisenyi MULPOC and the Conference of Ministers of ECA.

380. The Executive Secretary thanked the representatives of the Gisenyi MULPOC member countries for their understanding and confirmed that the report made by the representative of Zaire truly reflected the conclusions of their consultation meeting. He added that it had been recommended that he should present a report on the matter to the Council of Ministers and Commissioner of State of the Gisenyi MULPOC in addition to the ECA Conference of Ministers. It would be appropriate to organize a meeting between the Director of the UNDP Regional Bureau for Africa, the representatives of the Gisenyi MULPOC member States and himself in the course of the current session of the Conference of Ministers to accelerate the implementation of the assistance programme for the CEPGL countries.

381. The Conference welcomed the positive achievements of the consultation meeting and endorsed its recommendations. Consequently, the ECA and CEPGL secretariats should contact each other as soon as possible and the Executive Secretary of ECA should report on the outcome of such contacts to the next meeting of the Conference of Ministers.

Proposed UNDP-sponsored management facility as a measure of mobilizing resources for African development (agenda item 9 of TEPCOW report)

382. Referring to paragraphs 239 to 245 of the report, the Conference asked Mr. Pierre Damiba, Assistant Administrator of UNDP and Regional Director for Africa if he could provide any additional information on his organization's proposal to establish a management facility. In reply, he recalled

that he had explained briefly the motivation, aims and financial modalities of the management facility during the general debate.

383. Three essential considerations had led UNDP to propose the creation of the new facility: (i) the need for additional finance for African countries; (ii) the need for grants of technical assistance on economic policies; and (iii) the necessity of giving impartial advice to the managers of economic policies. On the question of why UNDP was proposing to mobilize resources for a new facility when resources that had become available to it as a result especially of currency fluctuations, could have been used for such purpose, he stated that the extra resources were to be used both to augment IPF allocations to member States of UNDP and to contribute to the proposed management facility. Moreover, the management facility constituted a unique mechanism for mobilizing additional resources. For low-income developing countries, particularly African countries, such resources would give greater latitude to UNDP in responding to appeals for more assistance such as that made by the United Nations General Assembly at its special session on Africa.

384. On the question of why the facility was aimed at countries undertaking "reforms" when in fact its purpose was to provide additional resources on very generous terms, Mr. Damiba indicated that the reforms being referred to were those already incorporated in APPER and the UN-PAAERD and that they were not related to the "conditionality" of the Bretton Woods institutions.

385. He reaffirmed that ECA would be fully associated with the use of the management facility and hoped that the Conference would firmly support the concept of a management facility so that, at its meeting in June 1988, the Governing Council would be encouraged to set it up.

386. The Executive Secretary of ECA thanked Mr. Damiba for the additional information that he had given and suggested that the Conference might wish to endorse the proposal for the creation of the management facility. The Conference should also request UNDP to report to it at its next meeting on the progress made with the management facility.

387. The Conference expressed its satisfaction to Mr. Damiba for the comprehensive information provided by him. It endorsed the proposal and requested UNDP to report on the matter at the next session of the Conference. It then adopted resolution 652 (XXIII) on the subject.

Follow-up on resolutions of the Commission and resolutions and decisions adopted by the General Assembly and ECOSOC that are of interest to Africa (agenda item 11(a) of TEPCOW report)

Implementation of resolution 621 (XXII) on the African Centre of Meteorological Applications for Development (ACMAD)

388. The Chairman of TEPCOW presented document E/ECA/CM.14/41 - Report of the inaugural meeting of the Board of Governors of the African Centre of Meteorological Applications for Development (ACMAD). He stated that in response to resolution 621 (XXII), which called for a report to the fourteenth meeting of the Conference of Ministers, he wished to report that the resolution had been implemented as requested. The inaugural meeting of the Governing Board of ACMAD had taken place in Niamey on 12 April 1988 and issues relating to

the scale of contributions had been discussed. The Centre's budget for the first five years was estimated at \$US 20 million, of which \$US 10 million were recurrent and member States were expected to contribute \$US 1,000,000 annually to the budget. He then presented for approval a draft resolution on "Resources for the African Centre of Meteorological Applications for Development" and the appendix containing draft scale of contributions by member States of the Economic Commission for Africa to the recurrent budget of ACMAD for the initial period of five years, 1988-1993.

389. In the ensuing discussion, one representative observed that many countries had still not signed the Constitution of ACMAD. Other representatives proposed, and the Conference agreed, that paragraph 37 of the report should be amended to include Arabic as one of the Centre's working languages and that the item on language in annex II to the report "Draft Terms of Reference and Job Description of the Director-General" should be accordingly revised to read "An excellent knowledge of English, French or Arabic and a working knowledge of one of the other two".

390. The Conference then adopted the draft resolution and the appendix to it. Tunisia and Côte d'Ivoire registered reservations on the scale of contributions referred to in the resolution.

391. At the end of that discussion, the Conference took note of the report.

Implementation of resolution 609 (XXII) on the United Nations African Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders (UNAFRI)

392. The representative of Morocco stated that his country had been elected to the Governing Board of UNAFRI as one of the countries representing the North African subregion on the understanding that the Sudan would succeed Morocco on the Board at the end of Morocco's present term.

Consideration of the resolutions and motion of appreciation recommended by the ninth meeting of TEPCOW

393. The Conference adopted the resolutions and the motion of appreciation as here presented.

Consideration of:

- (i) Preliminary reaction of the Economic Commission for Africa to the report and recommendations of the Advisory Group on Financial Flows for Africa: Financing Africa's recovery (annex I of TEPCOW report);
- (ii) Memorandum on the contribution of the Economic Commission for Africa to the implementation and mid-term review of the United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development, 1986-1990 - Prospects and recommendations (annex II of TEPCOW report)



- (iii) Niamey Declaration on the occasion of the thirtieth anniversary celebration of the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (annex III of TEPCOW report)

394. The Conference adopted these three documents as here presented in annexes I, II and III respectively. It requested the Chairman to transmit the document on the preliminary reaction of the Commission to the report and recommendations of the Advisory Group on Financial Flows for Africa (annex I) to the Secretary-General. Resolution 653 (XXIII) adopted with the Memorandum on the Mid-term Review of the UN-PAAERD (annex II) also requested the Chairman to transmit the Memorandum to the Ad Hoc Committee of the Whole on the review and appraisal of the UN-PAAERD.

Report of the eighth meeting of the Conference of Ministers of African Least Developed Countries (agenda item 7)

395. In presenting the report of the eighth meeting of the Conference of Ministers of African Least Developed Countries (E/ECA/CM.14/40/Rev.1), the Vice-Chairman of that meeting stated that the meeting had discussed the review of economic and social conditions in African least developed countries (1986-1987), progress made in the implementation of the Substantial New Programme of Action for the least developed countries, the development and utilization of human resources in African least developed countries, and ECA activities in 1986-1987 and work programme for 1988-1989 in favour of the least developed countries.

396. The meeting had recommended that member States of African LDCs should continue to provide the ECA secretariat with up-to-date information on their economies so that the review of economic and social conditions could reflect current economic developments. With regard to progress in the implementation of the Substantial New Programme of Action, the meeting had considered national actions and policy measures initiated by African LDCs within the framework of adjustment, stabilization and recovery programmes and the efforts that were under way to mobilize both domestic and external resources for development financing. The meeting had also recommended that African LDCs should strike a balance between training and employment, between the various cycles of education, and between formal education and functional literacy. The need to develop guidance programmes in order to ensure the total integration of primary and secondary school drop-outs into the development process had been stressed. The meeting had also been seized with the need to adequately prepare for the second United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries.

397. The Conference took note of the report and adopted resolution 643 (XXIII) on preparations of the second United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries. In doing so, the representative of the Sudan said that his delegation interpreted operative paragraph 3 of the resolution to mean, among other things, that the ECA secretariat would embark on a serious act of preparation for the second United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries and would start identifying areas of trade, monetary policy and finance in which international action could be most beneficial to the African least developed countries. Such a formula should attempt to serve as a collective and common position for the African LDCs during the negotiations at the Conference.



398. The Conference agreed with that understanding.

Any other business (agenda item 8)

399. Under this agenda item, the representative of Zambia expressed some opinion on the status of observers in the meetings of the Conference. He believed that while observers could make comments on the issues before the Conference, they were not expected to take positions on those issues. Yet, in some instances that had happened. He therefore asked the Conference to take note of an earlier statement made by the representative of Algeria that the proper status of observers be maintained at the meetings of the Conference.

400. The Conference agreed with the representative of Zambia on his opinion.

Date, venue and other matters relating to the twenty-fourth session of the Commission/fifteenth meeting of the Conference of Ministers (agenda item 9)

401. The Executive Secretary informed the meeting that in accordance with the established practice that the meeting of the Conference of Ministers be held every other year at ECA headquarters, the twenty-fourth session of the Commission/fifteenth meeting of the Conference of Ministers would be held at Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

402. As regards the date, he drew the attention of the Conference to the possible conflicts with the month of Ramadan. Since Ramadan would begin early in April 1989, he sought the guidance of the Conference on suitable dates for its next meeting. In that regard, he reminded the Conference that a delay until May would have consequences for ECA's inputs into the work of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination (CPC) and of the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC), whose meetings were usually held in April/May and July of each year respectively.

403. The Conference decided that its next meeting should be held before the beginning of the month of Ramadan in 1989.

Consideration and adoption of the report and resolutions of the meeting (agenda item 10)

404. The Secretary-General of the World Meteorological Organization, Professor G.O.P. Obasi who, owing to unavoidable circumstances could not address the Conference at the time of the general debate, wished ECA full success in its future endeavours and continued fruitful co-operation with WMO.

405. He underscored the significance of the theme of the Conference at a time when most African States were experiencing various economic and social hardships. WMO was truly conscious of the significant impacts of weather phenomena such as drought and floods on the people of the region and had, in co-operation with other institutions such as ECA, been involved in a number of co-operative efforts to develop the national meteorological and hydrological services of the African countries. He noted the significant progress made towards the establishment of the African Centre of Meteorological Applications for Development (ACMAD) and thanked UNDP for its continued and invaluable support which had enabled WMO and ECA to carry out the necessary preparatory activities for the establishment of ACMAD. He also expressed appreciation

to the various institutions, organizations and donors who had expressed interest and commitment to the Centre in various ways.

406. He paid tribute to the Government of the Niger for its offer to host ACMAD. That offer and the Niger's contribution to the successful operation of other WMO-related regional centres and institutions such as the AGRHYMET Centre, an important operational and training element of the AGRHYMET project of the CILSS countries as well as the International Hydrological Forecasting Centre for the Niger basin member States, were testimony to the Niger's and WMO's commitment to the uplift of the African people through the application of scientific and technical advances.

407. Nevertheless, considerable efforts had yet to be undertaken before ACMAD became operational. He was however convinced that, with the support of all concerned, the Centre would be successfully implemented. Member States in particular would in due course have to provide indication of financial support on the basis of the scale of contributions that had been proposed by the Board of Governors. For its part, WMO would continue its efforts in co-operation with ECA to seek the necessary additional resources for ACMAD.

408. The Conference adopted the present report.

409. In his closing statement, the Chairman reviewed the accomplishments of the Conference which he said were substantial and had been made possible by the excellent documentation prepared by the secretariat and the significant groundwork done by TEPCOW. He expressed his appreciation to the Executive Secretary and his staff as well as to the Chairman of TEPCOW and the experts for their service to the African cause. He also thanked everybody else who had worked for the organization and servicing of the Conference. He particularly commended the Ministers for their understanding and high sense of duty and thanked them for the confidence they had in him in electing him Chairman of the Conference for the second consecutive year.

Closure of the meeting (agenda item 11)

410. At the formal closing ceremony of the meeting, the Executive Secretary, Mr. Adebayo Adedeji, was conferred with the honour of the Highest Officer of the National Order of the Republic of Niger.

411. In the citation conferring the honour read on behalf of the Supreme Military Council of the Niger by the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Niger, reference was made to the illustrious and distinguished academic and public service career of the Executive Secretary and in particular to his significant contribution to the cause of African development. In his reply, the Executive Secretary expressed his appreciation to the Head of State of the Niger, the Government and the people of the Niger for the honour they had bestowed on him. He pledged that ECA would continue to serve Africa to the greatest extent possible.

412. In a vote of thanks moved by the representative of Tunisia (see attachment to the present report), the Conference expressed its deepest gratitude to His Excellency Colonel Ali Saibou, President of the Supreme Military Council, Head of State and Minister of National Defence of the Republic of Niger, the Government and people of the Niger for the generous hospitality

and brotherly welcome that had made possible the holding in Niamey of all the meetings related to the twenty-third session of the Commission. The Conference was particularly grateful to the Government of the Niger for having made it possible for their Excellencies Dr. Kenneth Kaunda, President of Zambia and current Chairman of the OAU, Dr. Quette Masire, President of Botswana and current Chairman of SADCC and Dr. Julius Nyerere, former President of the United Republic of Tanzania and Chairman of Chama Chama Mapinduzi of Tanzania to grace the occasion of the thirtieth anniversary celebrations of ECA in Niamey by their presence and their addresses during those celebrations.

413. In his closing statement, His Excellency Mr. Hamid Algabid, Prime Minister of the Niger referred to the meeting as one of the most successful in the 30-year history of the Commission. He recalled the various highlights of the meeting including the thirtieth anniversary ceremonies that were held on 16 and 17 April 1988, and the ECA Jubilee Lecture delivered by His Excellency Dr. Julius Nyerere, former President of the United Republic of Tanzania. He said that the Niger had been much honoured by being associated with the Conference and pledged that his country would remain deeply committed to the total economic liberation of Africa.

414. He then declared the meeting closed.

#### D. Programme of work and priorities

415. From 28 April 1987, the secretariat was involved in the implementation of the activities programmed for the third and fourth quarters of 1987 and those carried over from previous periods. As in 1986, the implementation of the programme of work and priorities continued to suffer from the financial crisis facing the United Nations.

416. Details on the implementation of the programme of work and priorities are presented in the Biennial Report of the Executive Secretary, 1986-1987. 7/ The annex to that report presents an analysis of ECA's actual programme performance at output level in 1986-1987 in relation to the commitment in the proposed programme budget for the 1986-1987 biennium (A/40/6) and in the light of the effects of the financial crisis. The contents of that annex will form part of the Secretary-General's report on programme performance to the General Assembly, through the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination.

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

<u>Number</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Page</u>
622 (XXIII)	African Institute for Economic Development and Planning (IDEP)	89
623 (XXIII)	Africa and global modelling	90
624 (XXIII)	Multisectoral planning	91
625 (XXIII)	African demographic training institutes	92
626 (XXIII)	Women's integration in the development process	93
627 (XXIII)	Integration of African women in trade and commerce	95
628 (XXIII)	Establishment of the African Organization for Cartography and Remote Sensing	96
629 (XXIII)	Working Groups of the Intergovernmental Committee for Science and Technology Development	97
630 (XXIII)	Co-operation between ECA, OAU and UNESCO on the follow-up of CASTAFRICA II	98
631 (XXIII)	The Khartoum Declaration: Towards a Human-focused Approach to Socio-economic Recovery and Development in Africa	99
	Annex: The Khartoum Declaration: Towards a Human-focused Approach to Socio-economic Recovery and Development in Africa	100
632 (XXIII)	Support for the United Nations Special Action Programme for Administration and Management	115
633 (XXIII)	Brain drain from Africa	115
634 (XXIII)	Co-operation between ECA and the UNDP Regional Bureau for Arab States and European Programmes	116
635 (XXIII)	Drought and desertification	117
636 (XXIII)	Preferential Trade Area for North Africa	118
637 (XXIII)	Emigration from member countries of the North African MULPOC	119
638 (XXIII)	Development of industry in North Africa	120
639 (XXIII)	United Nations Transport and Communications Decade in Africa	120
640 (XXIII)	Promotion of tourism and the development of hotel management and human resources for the tourism sector	123

<u>Number</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Page</u>
641 (XXIII)	Campaign against migrant locusts and grasshoppers	125
642 (XXIII)	African Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders	126
	Annex: Statute of the African Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders	128
643 (XXIII)	Preparation for the second United Nations Conference on Least Developed Countries	140
644 (XXIII)	Strengthening the capabilities of ECA-sponsored regional and subregional institutions	141
645 (XXIII)	Support to the countries of the south-western Indian Ocean affected by tropical cyclones and natural disasters	142
646 (XXIII)	Biennial report of the Executive Secretary	144
647 (XXIII)	Proposals for extension of the 1984-1989 Medium-Term Plan to 1990-1991	144
648 (XXIII)	Updating of the 1988-1989 programme budget	145
649 (XXIII)	Multisectoral economic integration projects of the African intergovernmental organizations	145
650 (XXIII)	Experiments in grass-root development	147
651 (XXIII)	Resources for the African Centre of Meteorological Applications for Development	147
	Annex: Draft scale of contribution by member States of the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) to the recurrent budget of ACMAD for the initial period of five years, 1988-1993	148
652 (XXIII)	Establishment of a UNDP management facility	150
653 (XXIII)	Memorandum on the contribution of the Economic Commission for Africa to the implementation and mid-term review of the United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development, 1986-1990 (UN-PAAERD): Prospects and recommendations	150
654 (XXIII)	Motion of thanks to the ECA Executive Secretary for his role in the success of the programme for the integration of women in development, 1974-1988	151
655 (XXIII)	Vote of thanks to His Excellency Colonel Ali Saibou, Chairman of the Supreme Military Council, Head of State and Minister of Defence of the Republic of Niger	152



CHAPTER IV

RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED BY THE CONFERENCE  
OF MINISTERS AT ITS FOURTEENTH MEETING

622 (XXIII). African Institute for Economic Development and Planning (IDEP)

The Conference of Ministers,

Recalling its resolution 612 (XXII) of 24 April 1987 in which it noted with satisfaction the conclusions and recommendations of the Evaluation Mission on UNDP Assistance to IDEP and endorsed those recommendations,

Taking note of:

(a) The efforts made by the Institute in the field of training;

(b) The fact that member States have continued to demonstrate their interest in the activities of the Institute both directly and indirectly through the nomination of their nationals for different training programmes at the Institute;

(c) The recent decision of UNDP conveyed to the Governing Council of IDEP at its thirtieth meeting to the effect that UNDP assistance to IDEP's training activities, in other words, funding for management and teaching posts would be terminated at the end of December 1989;

(d) The fact that many member States have not been paying their contributions regularly;

(e) The new five-year medium-term plan adopted by the Governing Council for implementation,

Recognizing that the Institute cannot continue without financial support from member States and the implications of UNDP's decision to withdraw assistance on the future of the Institute,

1. Strongly supports IDEP and requests it to continue and strengthen its training programmes and start its expanded research and new advisory/consultancy services as planned;

2. Requests the Executive Secretary of ECA, the Governing Council of IDEP and the Director to ensure that efforts are made to implement the new Medium-Term Plan approved by the Governing Council at its thirtieth meeting;

3. Strongly urges all member States to translate their expression of support for the Institute into action by paying their annual contributions regularly;

4. Calls on all member States which owe arrears in their contributions to make every effort to pay these arrears at the rate of at least 10 per cent per year in line with the previous resolution;

5. Expresses sincere gratitude to those member States which have been paying their contributions, urges them to continue, and appeals to those members which can make voluntary contributions to do so;

6. Expresses its appreciation to the Executive Secretary of ECA for already agreeing, as announced to the Governing Council at its recent meeting, to provide funding for some management and research posts at IDEP;

7. Invites:

(a) UNDP, firstly to continue the support it has been giving to IDEP though with a shift in emphasis to research and creation of capacity for IDEP's new advisory and consultancy services in line with the recommendations of the Evaluation Mission as adopted by the Governing Council and the ECA Conference of Ministers and secondly to assist it by way of offering projects for implementation by IDEP for payment;

(b) ADB, firstly to assist IDEP to develop its capacity for advisory and consultancy services and secondly, to utilize the services of IDEP as a consultant;

8. Requests the Executive Secretary of ECA, first to support IDEP in the implementation of the five-year plan especially by way of funding posts at IDEP, and secondly to present as part of his programme budget for the 1990-1991 biennium to the General Assembly for approval the request for regular posts for IDEP already approved by ECOSOC and in this connection to begin negotiations immediately as a matter of urgency with the department concerned at United Nations Headquarters;

9. Calls on member States to support at the Fifth Committee of the United Nations ECA's request for four regular posts for IDEP as part of ECA programme budget for the 1990-1991 biennium;

10. Requests the Director of IDEP to approach member States in order to mobilize extra funds particularly for research from other extrabudgetary sources both bilateral and multilateral;

11. Expresses its gratitude to the Government of the Republic of Senegal for its continued support to IDEP.

255th meeting,  
15 April 1988.

623 (XXIII). Africa and global modelling

The Conference of Ministers,

Recalling its resolutions 470 (XVIII) of 2 May 1983 and 501 (XIX) of 26 May 1984,

Taking into consideration the various ongoing efforts at global modelling and their growing applications in analysing and influencing international economic relations,

Conscious of the various advantages that can be derived from Africa's fuller and more accurate representation in global modelling efforts especially as regards the impact of internationally transmitted economic disturbances on individual African countries and the entire region,

Bearing in mind the limited and marginal way in which Africa is generally treated in most of the global models, in terms of individual country, sub-regional and regional coverage, appropriateness and relevance of model specifications that take into account the peculiarities and priorities of the region, and the policy scenarios which emerge from them,

1. Appeals to member States to undertake, at the national level, efforts aimed at widening the scope of national income accounting data, training of required manpower, acquisition of the necessary technical know-how and material such as the necessary computing hardware and software in order to strengthen or initiate the development of modelling capability including, in particular, the initiation of macro-modelling programmes where it does not already exist;

2. Calls upon African research and academic institutions at the national and subregional levels to assist in the realization of modelling by taking concrete steps towards enabling individual countries and subregional groupings to building and maintaining macro-economic models on a continuing and sustainable basis;

3. Requests the ECA secretariat to:

(a) Continue, in collaboration with national and subregional institutions which have experience in modelling, to assist individual countries to initiate or strengthen model building capabilities;

(b) Organize an African meeting of experts on global modelling to bring together those involved in global modelling including African planners and statisticians to draw up a plan of action for Africa and the global modelling systems;

(c) Seek necessary initial technical and financial assistance from donor countries and organizations to support the efforts of ECA and collaborating institutions within the region in the area of modelling.

255th meeting,  
15 April 1988.

624 (XXIII). Multisectoral planning

The Conference of Ministers,

Noting the importance and increasing role of the informal sector in the areas of employment creation, income generation, and satisfaction of basic needs of the African population,

Taking note of the recommendation of the Workshop on Multisectoral Planning Models and Short-term Economic Forecasting for Policy Design in

Development Planning and Management in Africa held in Moscow, USSR, from 15 to 28 September 1986,

Conscious of the necessity of integrating the informal sector in the development planning process in Africa,

Considering the necessity to support macro-economic planning by coherent regional planning at the country level,

1. Requests the ECA secretariat to organize a workshop for African planners, statisticians and demographers on:

(a) The integration of the informal sector in the development planning process;

(b) Regional planning in Africa;

2. Invites donors as well as the agencies of the United Nations system (ILO and UNDP) to provide support and financial assistance for the convening of the workshop.

255th meeting,  
15 April 1988.

625 (XXIII). African demographic training institutes

The Conference of Ministers,

Recalling General Assembly decision 37/444 of 21 December 1982 which approved the statutes of the two African demographic training institutes: the Regional Institute for Population Studies (RIPS) and the Institut de formation et de recherche démographiques (IFORD),

Recalling its resolution 489 (XIX) of 26 May 1984 which took note of the precarious financial state of IFORD due to the insufficiency and irregularity of contributions received from its member States,

Considering the intention of the United Nations Population Fund to progressively reduce its financing of the institutes as approved by resolution 84/21 of the Fund's Governing Council,

Recalling further its resolution 577 (XXI) of 19 April 1986 which recommended that African Governments should progressively take over the financing of the institutes so that by the end of a five-year transition period they will have assumed the financing of a significant part of the institutes' budgets and invited the Executive Secretary to restructure the institutes on the basis of the recommendations of the joint session of the Governing Councils of RIPS and IFORD, including a revision of the statutes and salary scales, as necessitated by this restructuring,

Appreciative of the high-quality population specialists trained at IFORD and RIPS as well as the research work undertaken by the institutes and convinced that the requirements of the African countries in this area are far from being satisfied,

Seriously concerned about the present financial problems facing IFORD which have resulted in non-payment of salaries of local staff and other expenses in the first few months of 1988 and which threaten the present and future functioning of the Institute,

Concerned also about the non-payment of contributions by the majority of member countries of RIPS and its implications for the Institute's restructuring programme,

Fully convinced that RIPS and IFORD cannot be restructured as required by resolution 577 (XXI) of 19 April 1986 unless member States pay their contributions,

1. Urges African Governments to continue their support of the institutes and to strengthen this by paying their arrears as well as paying their future annual contributions regularly;

2. Further urges the member countries of IFORD to respond urgently to the financial crisis facing the Institute and to manifest their support for its proper and effective functioning by paying their 1987 and 1988 contributions;

3. Approves the new statutes of RIPS as amended by its thirteenth Governing Council;

4. Expresses its profound gratitude to the Executive Director of the United Nations Population Fund for the continuous and valuable support to the regular programmes of RIPS and IFORD;

5. Appeals to the Executive Director of the United Nations Population Fund to continue funding the institutes at their present levels in order to ensure their continuous and efficient service to member States;

6. Expresses also its deep appreciation to member States of the institutes and other countries and international organizations who have supported the institutes' training and research activities administratively and financially and calls upon them to continue their support.

255th meeting,  
15 April 1988.

626 (XXIII). Women's integration in the development process

The Conference of Ministers,

Considering the growing activities of ECA in implementing the Mexico Plan of Action, the Arusha and Nairobi Forward-Looking Strategies for the Integration of Women in Development,

Considering further the effectiveness of financial support of UNDP in implementing programmes for the integration of women in the development process in the African continent,



Referring to the UNDP/ECA/ARCC evaluation mission of August 1987 related to the programme for the integration of women in development at the MULPOC level,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 40/258 of 18 December 1987 which requested the Secretary-General to continue his efforts with a view to increasing the number of women in posts subject to geographical distribution for achieving, to the extent possible, an overall participation rate of 30 per cent of the total by 1990,

Recognizing that the programmes and structures at subregional and regional levels have served for co-ordinating activities for the advancement of women and for establishing links between national programmes for the integration of women in development, and for promoting technical co-operation between countries of the same region and between subregions,

1. Sends an urgent appeal to the relevant bodies, especially the two UNDP bureaux for Africa and ECA to ensure that the programme for the integration of women in development within the five MULPOCs is maintained;

2. Urges countries to meet their budgetary contributions to international institutions responsible for financing programmes for the integration of women in development in the MULPOCs;

3. Requests the Executive Secretary of ECA to take all necessary steps for the reinstatement of the posts for the co-ordinators within the MULPOCs;

4. Appeals to bilateral and multilateral funding agencies to co-ordinate their efforts and their interventions in the subregions in order to make the development programmes of the member States more efficient and effective;

5. Recommends to the United Nations that action be taken to ensure that professional women at ECA and especially at the African Training and Research Centre for Women be given permanent posts and that a genuine policy be established to increase their numbers and their promotion to higher professional levels;

6. Requests interested member governments to encourage and promote direct working relations between non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and national machineries for the integration of women in development;

7. Advocates within a multilateral framework the implementation, jointly with NGOs, of subregional projects in which several countries would be associated;

8. Invites African women to celebrate the tenth anniversary of the Africa Regional Co-ordinating Committee during the fourth Regional Conference on the Integration of Women in Development to be held in 1989.

255th meeting,  
15 April 1988.

627 (XXIII). Integration of African women in trade and commerce

The Conference of Ministers,

Having considered the report of the Africa Regional Co-ordinating Committee on the Integration of Women in Development on its ninth meeting, including its consideration of the report of the Regional Workshop on the Integration of Women in Trade and Commerce, held in Niamey from 31 March to 2 April 1988,

Recalling the Lagos Plan of Action and the Arusha and Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women in Development which, inter alia, called for measures to be adopted to enhance the integration of African women in trade, commerce and other critical economic sectors,

Recognizing that African women constitute the backbone of economic and social activities especially in the rural areas where the majority of the populations live and that special measures should be taken urgently in order to improve the working conditions of African women in the commercial sector,

Deeply concerned by the poor conditions in the African traditional markets which lack basic infrastructure and other supporting facilities, taking into account that women constitute the majority of operators in these markets,

1. Endorses the recommendations of the Regional Workshop on the Integration of Women in Trade and Commerce;

2. Congratulates the Executive Secretary and his staff for organizing such an innovative workshop in favour of African women traders;

3. Calls upon African Governments and public and local authorities to accord due recognition to the important role women play in trade and commerce and their significant contribution to the economic development process of the African nations and to adopt relevant policies and legislation in support of the role and contribution of women in trade;

4. Urgently appeals to the relevant authorities as a matter of urgency to significantly improve the conditions in the African traditional markets, both in rural and urban areas through the provision of the necessary facilities including adequate transport, storage, water, health and sanitation, appropriate security welfare and day-care and nursery centres;

5. Further appeals to African Governments to encourage the granting of loans and credits to African women for the purposes of improving their trade and commercial activities;

6. Requests development financing institutions, especially the United Nations Development Programme, the African Development Bank Group, the World Bank Group, the Arab Bank for Economic Development in Africa, the Islamic Development Bank and the International Fund for Agricultural Development to intensify their efforts to encourage the entry and greater participation of African women in trade and commerce and to channel more financial and technical support in this field;

7. Further requests the Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa, the Secretary-General of the Organization of African Unity, the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the Executive Director of the International Trade Centre and the Executive Director of the United Nations Institute for Training and Research for Women to draw up a joint programme for the training of African business women and traders at all levels, in both rural and urban areas, so as to enhance women's technical and managerial capabilities thereby increasing their role and contribution to Africa's social and economic development.

255th meeting,  
15 April 1988.

628 (XXIII). Establishment of the African Organization for Cartography and Remote Sensing

The Conference of Ministers,

Recalling its resolution 477 (XVIII) establishing an Ad Hoc Committee to evaluate the multinational institutions established under the aegis of the Economic Commission for Africa and the Organization of African Unity on their usefulness and effectiveness and ways by which their activities could be better organized, co-ordinated, harmonized and/or merged,

Recalling further its resolution 550 (XX) which approved, among others, the recommendation of the Ad Hoc Committee that the African Association of Cartography (AAC) and the African Remote Sensing Council (ARSC) should be merged as the two institutions were performing complementary role of co-ordinating the cartographic and remote sensing activities in African member States,

Noting with satisfaction all measures taken towards the effective establishment of the African Organization for Cartography and Remote Sensing (AOCRS) including the successful convening of the joint meeting of the Conference of Plenipotentiaries of AAC and ARSC in Kinshasa, Zaire in March 1987 and the first Conference of Plenipotentiaries of AOCRS in February 1988,

1. Welcomes the establishment of the African Organization for Cartography and Remote Sensing after the merging of the African Association of Cartography and African Remote Sensing Council;

2. Congratulates the member States which have already joined the Organization and urges the member States which have not joined yet to do so as soon as possible;

3. Expresses appreciation to Algeria on providing ample facilities for the headquarters of the Organization in Algiers;

4. Expresses appreciation also to the Executive Secretary of ECA on the measures taken leading to a successful establishment of the African Organization for Cartography and Remote Sensing;

5. Appeals to the former members of AAC and ARSC in arrears with their contributions to these institutions to pay them as quickly as possible so that the new Organization formed by the merger of the two bodies may be viable;

6. Further appeals to the member States to pay their contributions to the Organization's budget in order for the Organization to take off and function smoothly;

7. Requests the Executive Secretary, in collaboration with the executive heads of the relevant bodies and specialized agencies of the United Nations system and the Secretary-General of the OAU:

(a) To lend their full support to the African Organization for Cartography and Remote Sensing;

(b) To provide technical and financial assistance to projects in the field of cartography and remote sensing and to the African member States to master the science of cartography and remote sensing.

255th meeting,  
15 April 1988.

629 (XXIII). Working Groups of the Intergovernmental Committee for Science and Technology Development

The Conference of Ministers,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 34/218 of 19 December 1979 on the Vienna Programme of Action for Science and Technology Development, the provisions of operative paragraph 4 of the resolution on the Lagos Plan of Action adopted by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity, Africa's Priority Programme for Economic Recovery, 1986-1990 adopted by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity at its twenty-first ordinary session, General Assembly resolution S-13/2 of 1 June 1986 on the United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development, 1986-1990, and ECA resolutions 248 (XI) and 385 (XV) on the mandate of the Intergovernmental Committee of Experts for Science and Technology Development,

Aware of the catalytic role played by the Working Groups of the Intergovernmental Committee of Experts for Science and Technology Development established by Commission resolution 445 (XVII),

Having considered the recommendations of the Intergovernmental Committee of Experts for Science and Technology Development made at its fifth meeting held in Addis Ababa from 2 to 6 November 1987,

1. Approves the recommendations of the Intergovernmental Committee;

2. Calls upon all member States to give full and active support to the ECA secretariat and its co-operating agencies in the implementation of these recommendation and the activities of the Working Groups;

3. Decides that each MULPOC should co-ordinate the activities of the respective Working Group of the Intergovernmental Committee;

4. Requests the MULPOCs to keep their member States and economic groupings in the subregion fully informed of the tasks and the requirements of the Working Groups;

5. Requests also the Executive Secretary of ECA to take the necessary steps to ensure the implementation of this resolution with the co-operation of the OAU secretariat.

255th meeting,  
15 April 1988.

630 (XXIII). Co-operation between ECA, OAU and UNESCO on the follow-up of CASTAFRICA II

The Conference of Ministers,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 34/218 of 19 December 1979 on the Vienna Programme of Action for Science and Technology Development, the provisions of operative paragraph 4 of the resolution on the Lagos Plan of Action adopted by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity, Africa's Priority Programme for Economic Recovery, 1986-1990, adopted by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity at its twenty-first ordinary session, General Assembly resolution S-13/2 of 1 June 1986 on the United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development, 1986-1990, and ECA resolutions 248 (XI) and 385 (XV) on the mandate of the Intergovernmental Committee of Experts for Science and Technology Development,

Having considered the recommendations of the Intergovernmental Committee of Experts for Science and Technology Development made at its fifth meeting held in Addis Ababa from 2 to 6 November 1987,

Taking note of the Kilimanjaro Declaration by the second Conference of Ministers Responsible for the Application of Science and Technology to Development in Africa which requested the Director-General of UNESCO to take the necessary measures with a view to the setting up of a Standing Conference of Heads of National Science and Technology Policy-Making Bodies of African member States of UNESCO,

Recommends that the ECA secretariat, in collaboration with the OAU and UNESCO, should jointly work out modalities for ensuring that the activities of the Intergovernmental Committee of Experts for Science and Technology Development and of the Standing Conference of Heads of National Science and Technology Policy-making Bodies of African member States of UNESCO are complementary.

255th meeting,  
15 April 1988.

✓631 (XXIII). The Khartoum Declaration: Towards a Human-focused Approach to Socio-economic Recovery and Development in Africa

The Conference of Ministers,

Having considered the report of the Conference of Ministers Responsible for Human Resources Planning, Development and Utilization on its third meeting held in Khartoum, the Sudan from 9 to 13 March 1988, including its resolution on the Khartoum Declaration: Towards a Human-focused Approach to Socio-economic Recovery and Development in Africa,

Convinced of the need for urgent and concerted measures to be embarked upon at the national, subregional, regional and international levels to improve the human condition and sustain human resources development and utilization efforts through the period of recovery and beyond in Africa,

1. Endorses the annexed Khartoum Declaration: Towards a Human-focused Approach to Socio-economic Recovery and Development in Africa;

2. Commends the United Nations Inter-agency Task Force on the Follow-up of the Implementation of the United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development (UN-PAAERD) at the regional level for having successfully convened the International Conference on the Human Dimension of Africa's Economic Recovery and Development;

3. Expresses its gratitude to the Government of the Republic of the Sudan for hosting the Conference so generously and in particular to His Excellency the Honourable Prime Minister of the Sudan for his patronage of the Conference;

4. Urges member States to implement the recommendations of the Khartoum Declaration by making the human dimension an essential focus of their recovery and long-term development programmes;

5. Further urges international financial institutions, bilateral and multilateral donors, organizations of the United Nations system and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) to implement urgently the recommendations contained in the Khartoum Declaration, with a view to ensuring that concern for the human dimension is adequately reflected in their programmes of assistance to African countries;

6. Requests the Secretary-General of the United Nations to transmit the Khartoum Declaration to the Ad Hoc Committee of the Whole set up by the General Assembly of the United Nations to undertake the mid-term review of the implementation of the UN-PAAERD and, through it, to the forty-third session of the United Nations General Assembly;

7. Urges the Secretary-General of the United Nations to institute the necessary actions required for mobilizing the entire United Nations system and the international community in support of the implementation of the recommendations of the Khartoum Declaration;

8. Calls upon the United Nations Inter-agency Task Force to intensify its efforts aimed at the further strengthening of co-operation between agencies



of the United Nations system in search for solutions to Africa's problems of human development within the context of recovery and long-term development;

9. Requests the Executive Secretary of ECA to disseminate the Khartoum Declaration as widely as possible, particularly to member States, all United Nations agencies and organizations, donor countries and organizations, regional and subregional organizations and NGOs, institutions of higher learning and manpower development institutions in Africa;

10. Further requests the Executive Secretary of ECA and Chairman of the Inter-agency Task Force to follow-up, co-ordinate and monitor the implementation of the recommendations of the Khartoum Declaration and to present a report to the fifteenth meeting of the ECA Conference of Ministers on progress in the implementation of the Khartoum Declaration.

255th meeting,  
15 April 1988.

#### ANNEX TO RESOLUTION 631 (XXIII)

#### THE KHARTOUM DECLARATION

#### TOWARDS A HUMAN-FOCUSED APPROACH TO SOCIO-ECONOMIC RECOVERY AND DEVELOPMENT IN AFRICA

##### Preamble

1. Under the auspices of the United Nations, an International Conference on the Human Dimension of Africa's Economic Recovery and Development took place in Khartoum, the Sudan from 5 to 8 March 1988 as part of the follow-up to the implementation of the United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development, 1986-1990 (UN-PAAERD) and Africa's Priority Programme for Economic Recovery, 1986-1990 (APPER) and as a sequel to the International Conference on Africa: The Challenge of Economic Recovery and Accelerated Development held in Abuja, Nigeria in June 1987. The Conference brought together a gathering of about 200 policy- and decision-makers, government officials, professional and technical experts in the field of development and other related fields mostly from various African countries as well as representatives of governmental and non-governmental organizations, agencies of the United Nations system, including the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank, bilateral and multilateral donor organizations and other resource personnel.

2. The Conference was organized with the whole-hearted support of the Government and people of the Sudan and participants enjoyed the warm hospitality of the Sudanese people. His Excellency Mr. El Sadik El Mahdi, Prime Minister of the Republic of the Sudan, addressed the opening of the Conference. The proceedings were conducted in seven plenary sessions and six working groups. The Conference made a deep and detailed analysis of the African situation, particularly the current economic crisis and all its ramifications on the people of Africa. The Conference is unanimous in its conviction that the crisis that confronts the African continent is one that affects the total human condition of the continent and its people, men and women alike. It

is a crisis that challenges the very survival of the African people. It is a crisis of Africa's environment as the desert rapidly overcomes the fertility of the land and the coastlines also recede. It is a crisis of the continent's natural resources exploited more for the benefit of external interests than to meet Africa's dire needs. It is a crisis of the rich cultures of the African people and the cohesion of families broken up by the desperate circumstances of the African reality. It is a crisis that threatens to overwhelm Africa and its people and, in extremis, to reduce them to the helpless gaze depicted in the starving faces of Africa's children in the international media. But it is a crisis that can and must be overcome through the concerted and determined action of the African people and their societies and States, as they develop a clearer understanding of the implications of the current predicament and fashion a decisive and coherent plan of action, with the assistance and understanding of the international community.

3. We are encouraged in this view by the fact that although Africa has been sorely squeezed by the pressures of recent years and millions of Africans have suffered severely, no objective observer can fail to be impressed by the vitality and human creativity which strive and flourish in spite of everything. The large cutbacks and constraints of government and urban production have stimulated communities to devise their own solutions to the problem of meeting their own basic human needs. Self-help groups abound in every country; the extended family, though strained, has often provided the means of survival of many of its members; examples of community action can be found in almost every village. It is important to recognize the enormous potential of the human energy and creativity and find ways to harness it rather than ignore it in the total process of national recovery and development. For these and other reasons we repeat that Africa's crisis, though dire, CAN AND MUST BE OVERCOME.

4. As participants in this event, the overwhelming majority of whom come from the African continent, we are moved to place on record our collective voice on the issues we discussed and we accordingly make this KHARTOUM DECLARATION.

A. Overall assessment of the human condition in Africa

5. Since the human being is the centre of all development, the human condition is the only final measure of development. Improving that condition is essential for the poor and vulnerable human beings who comprise the majority of our peoples in Africa. Africa's men and women are the main factors and the ends for whom and by whom any programme and implementation of development must be justified.

6. Regrettably, over the past decade the human condition of most Africans has deteriorated calamitously. Real incomes of almost all households and families declined sharply. Malnutrition has risen massively, food production has fallen relative to production, the quality and quantity of health and education services have deteriorated. Famine and war have made tens of millions of human beings refugees and displaced persons. In many cases, the slow decline of infant mortality and of death from preventable, epidemic diseases has been reversed. Meanwhile the unemployment and underemployment situation has worsened markedly.

7. Acts of destabilization and aggression, being perpetrated against the countries of Southern Africa by the South Africa regime, have also imposed massive human and economic costs, greatly in excess of military budgets or battle casualties. Of the approximately one million human beings dead in Southern Africa as a result of South African aggression over 1980-1986, about 100,000 were war-dead, narrowly defined. Of the approximately \$US 30 billion in lost production, most relates to the creation of chaos and the loss of peasants' crops and national production.

8. Production and other economic aspects of development - especially distribution - are of crucial importance. Production by the poor is vital if they are to become more able to meet at least their basic needs. But it is just as important who produces what. Production of food, of basic consumer goods, of agricultural inputs and construction materials, of basic services such as health, education, and pure water, as well as of exports are central to improving the human condition. Unsustainable imbalances do matter.

9. Nutrition imbalances are as crucial as trade imbalances. High infant mortality requires just as immediate and as serious an attention as high rates of inflation or huge budget deficits. Ultimately the trade, inflation and budget imbalances are serious obstacles to development because they are barriers to enabling the poor to produce more; to the vulnerable to surviving and rehabilitating themselves; and to the State and the society achieving universal access to basic services.

10. Therefore, a basic test for all stabilization, adjustment and development programmes is whether they will improve the human condition from their inception or, on the contrary, worsen it. Social services and human resources development programmes have high short-, medium- and long-term pay-offs on economic as well as on broader development criteria.

11. They are relevant to the reversal of unsustainable imbalances since survival and rehabilitation assistance to the most vulnerable groups - international refugees and displaced persons, youth, women and children - is an important element in reversing production losses. Similarly, the engagement of Africa's most basic resource - its approximately 250 million economically active people - in production is essential to restoring growth as well as development.

12. The human-centred strategy to the implementing of the Lagos Plan of Action, APPER and the UN-PAAERD is vital for reaching out to the aspirations and needs of Africa's people and especially their poor and vulnerable majorities. It is deliverable through the appropriate mobilization, allocation and use of resources. To bring this about, it will be essential to restore the strained and torn fabrics of our societies, make popular participation in decision-making processes effective, ensure the preservation of basic human rights and fundamental freedoms and eliminate policies that discriminate against minorities and vulnerable groups.

13. Progress in advancing the human condition in Africa depends on the structure, pattern and political context of socio-economic development. The problems and weaknesses in these areas must therefore be recognized and attempts must be made to tackle them in order to achieve the objectives of social

and human development. This is also necessary because the economic crisis which Africa faced from the late 1970s found fertile ground in the structural and political weaknesses that bred the germs that hastened the intolerable deterioration in the human condition.

14. A fundamental problem is the fast rate of population growth and the uneven and uneconomic distribution of the population in the different age groups. The youthful population makes high demands on educational, medical and other social services while the large number of college graduates and school leavers that enter the labour market each year creates an imbalance between labour supply and demand.

15. A further structural factor is the urban bias and socially unequal distribution of critical factors and resources for human development such as employment, income, food and nutrition and health and education. As is well known, this distribution is biased against the majority of the population living mainly in the rural areas and in favour of the politically vocal minority in the urban enclaves. Economic issues have overshadowed social concerns and have prevented African countries from according the needed centrality to the human dimension and the human factor.

16. Finally, the political context for promoting healthy human development has been marred, for more than two decades, by instability, war, intolerance, restrictions on the freedom and human rights of individuals and groups as well as overcentralization of power with attendant restrictions on popular participation in decision-making. In such a context, the motivation of many Africans to achieve their best in productivity and the enhancement of their own and society's well-being has been severely constrained. In times of economic crisis, the politically stronger social groups and individuals survive while the weaker ones go under in increasing deprivation, social dislocation, hunger, ill-health or death.

#### B. The human dimension of structural adjustment programmes

17. From the causes mentioned so far flow the consequences of wretched misery, marginalization and - for millions - very literally premature death. The severity of the African crisis is such that country after country has been putting in place structural adjustment programmes in their effort to halt their economic degradation and achieve a turn-around. Unfortunately, far too many of these programmes - whether nationally conceived or in collaboration with the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund and the donor community - are rending the fabric of the African society. Rather than improve the human condition, some structural adjustment programmes have aggravated it because they are incomplete, mechanistic and of too short a time perspective.

18. Structural adjustment programmes (SAPs) are incomplete because they are often implemented as if fiscal, trade and price balances are ends in themselves and are virtually complete sets of means to production increases. Human condition imbalances as related to employment, incomes, nutrition, health and education do not receive equal priority in attention to macro-economic imbalances. Unless and until they make the elimination of these human condition imbalances central targets, stabilization and adjustment programmes cannot provide Africa's growth and development dynamic.

19. They are too mechanistic in being inadequately grounded in, or sensitive to specific national economic, human and cultural realities. This is aggravated by an incomplete articulation which allows the gaps between macro models and contextual realities to remain largely unobserved. Nor can we evaluate how rapidly production can be expanded; where, by whom and of what. Thus their human condition impact remains inadequately projected instead of being at the centre of target-setting, policy formulation and programme or project choice.

20. They are in too short a time perspective. Africa cannot wait for the attainment of external equilibrium and fiscal balance before seeking to improve the human condition, nor can long-term human investment to strengthen the institutional, scientific, technical and productive capacity operating in environmental balance be postponed. That is essential to attaining the more stable and less vulnerable economic position that we aspire to for the African continent.

21. Further, we must place squarely on record that the external context confronting Africa continues to deteriorate. The terms of trade losses of 1986 vastly exceeded net resource transfers to Africa. APPER is not receiving either the new concessional transfer support or the debt burden relief it projects as essential, or which the UN-PAAERD committed the international community to providing. This is not simply an African view - the World Bank has repeatedly said the same thing as has the United Nations Secretary-General's Advisory Group on Financial Flows for Africa, a majority of whom are practising bankers.

22. We welcome the increased concern for the human dimension in stabilization and adjustment programmes, broadly expressed within the international community. But this is far from being enough. The gap between the expression of concern and actual programme implementation remains wide. Human dimension elements are additions, often long after programme initiation, rather than integral parts of their overall design. Those poor and vulnerable groups to be served are often narrowed down to those who are the victims of the stabilization programme, rather than addressing the human condition of all the absolutely poor and vulnerable people.

23. In the light of all of the foregoing, we do not hesitate to reiterate the central position that the human dimension should be accorded in the stabilization and structural adjustment programmes, for we are convinced beyond doubt that no nation can be great and prosperous if the majority of its people are poor, malnourished, illiterate, miserable and perpetually vulnerable.

24. Overall, we identify five distinct areas on which greater awareness and action must be focused by the African Governments, the international financial institutions and the international community at large. Firstly, all structural adjustment programmes in Africa must be designed, implemented and monitored as part of the long-term framework of Africa's development. These programmes must, therefore, be incontrovertibly compatible with the objectives and aspirations of the African people as outlined in the Lagos Plan of Action and the Final Act of Lagos. Secondly, the human dimension must be the fulcrum of the adjustment programmes. Thirdly, the structural



adjustment policies must incorporate the relevant adjustments of the social sector. Fourthly, considerations must be made of the consequences of macro-policies on the poor and vulnerable not only so as to design temporary and independent compensatory additional programmes but to make the alleviation of absolute and relative poverty and the elimination of gender biases integral parts and factors of the adjustment programmes. Lastly, the entire process of monitoring the stabilization and structural adjustment programmes must incorporate the social aspects and criteria.

25. We regard it as the primary responsibility of African Governments to develop a richer articulation of the total macro-framework within which to reorientate these programmes.

26. Structural adjustment programmes must be made to complement the efforts of African Governments to attain their long-term development objectives. Consequently, they should, through their efforts on the economy and the African social fabric, contribute to the preservation of basic human rights and fundamental freedoms and help to eliminate policies that discriminate against minority and vulnerable groups. Above all, the application of structural adjustment measures should restore, not corrode the dignity of the African as a human being.

17. It is with these concerns in mind that we set forth in the pages that follow our conclusions and detailed recommendations.

### C. Recommendations

28. In the light of the foregoing analysis, the following conclusions and recommendations are proposed for the most careful consideration of African countries and the international community. It is our earnest hope that these recommendations will be taken into account when the mid-term review of the UN-PAAERD is undertaken by the General Assembly of the United Nations at its forty-third session in 1988. Even before that, we hope that individual governments, international agencies and non-governmental organizations will take them fully into account and implement these recommendations in whatever way they may find appropriate, given their respective mandates.

#### I. Incorporating the human factor in the recovery and structural adjustment process

29. Since structural adjustment is intended to improved prospects for longer-term development, the design and context of structural adjustment programmes should incorporate the goals and objectives of long-term development. As the improvement of human condition and welfare is the ultimate objective of development, structural adjustment programmes need to incorporate the human factor into their design and implementation. Towards the achievement of this goal, we call for the following actions at the national, subregional, regional and international levels.

#### Action at the national level

- (i) There is an urgent need to restore the centrality in Africa of long-term development goals and actions;



- (ii) To this end, there is a need for African countries to design their structural adjustment programmes as part and parcel of their long-term development goals. These indigenous programmes should serve as the basis for discussion with the donor community, multilateral as well as bilateral;
- (iii) In this process, the human dimension needs to be brought out both in the definition of the long-term goals and in the priorities and components of the structural adjustment process;
- (iv) Each African Government should translate its pronouncements - regarding the centrality of the social sectors in the process of economic recovery and development, as expressed in APPER and the UN-PAAERD - into concrete action. In particular, a special appeal is to be made to the governments to speedily carry out their pledge to commit 20 to 25 per cent of their annual budgets to the agricultural sector;
- (v) In designing adjustment programmes, a careful analysis should be made of what categories of the population are most severely affected during the adjustment period, of the magnitude of their needs and of the ways and means that these needs, especially of the poor, can be met during the process of adjustment and beyond;
- (vi) In making the protection of the poor an integral part of adjustment, the primary strategy should be that of enhancing their productive capacity through better access to productive resources and assets;
- (vii) In the design of adjustment and development programmes, explicit attention must be paid to gender issues so as to accelerate the integration of women in the whole development process. With the clear awareness of women's major contribution to development, there is a new opportunity for making major progress in this direction;
- (viii) Special attention should be paid to the vulnerable groups, particularly children, the aged, the disabled and refugees and displaced persons. The design of adjustment programmes should incorporate aspects of support of the retrenched employees to enable them become viable entrepreneurs. Such support should include provision of loans and extension and advisory services;
- (ix) In making policy decisions on the question of subsidies, a thorough analysis of the impact of such decisions on the most affected groups should be made and, if possible, alternative approaches should be found, especially as regards the poor and vulnerable;
- (x) Food security and its indispensable adjunct of food self-sufficiency should be treated with the utmost priority in the design of adjustment, recovery and development policies;
- (xi) There should be greater openness in the process of designing the adjustment package, both within government and beyond. In particular, employers, trade unions and other relevant groups should

be closely associated with the process both to improve the design of the programmes and to ensure their fuller understanding and support.

Action at the regional and subregional levels

- (i) National actions will be greatly helped or hindered to the extent that regional and subregional environments are conducive. To this end, African countries need to take more positive steps towards peace, stability, human rights and African solidarity;
- (ii) Subregional and regional data banks, such as PADIS, should strengthen their programmes in order to generate and disseminate current information and data on the social and human conditions in Africa, in order, inter alia, to facilitate the monitoring and implementation of structural adjustment programmes;
- (iii) Exchange of experience and in-depth studies should be undertaken by African countries and institutions as well as international organizations about structural adjustment options that would, inter alia, take fully into account:
  - the human dimension,
  - compatibility with long-term development;
  - full participation of the people in the design and implementing of the alternative;
- (iv) Subregional and regional institutions should take appropriate action to strengthen and improve the capabilities and skills of African countries in their negotiations with their development partners, especially on issues related to structural adjustment;
- (v) In the long term, greater subregional and regional co-operation is needed to ensure the acceleration and sustainability of long-term African development. In this context, African Governments should also try to harmonize the activities of their various institutions in the field of human resources development.

Action at the international level

- (i) Having due regard to the high social costs of structural adjustment programmes, the IMF and the World Bank should endeavour to ensure that adequate and comprehensive safeguards for the protection of vulnerable groups and the human dimension are built into such programmes from the beginning. In this connection, we welcome the recent undertaking by the Bank and the IMF to this effect and we urge its rapid implementation;
- (ii) International organizations should intensify their efforts in the development and use of appropriate indicators for closely monitoring the human and social dimensions of the adjustment process;

- (iii) The World Bank and UNDP, in their various roles as co-ordinators of consultative groups and round tables, should pay full attention to the human dimension of adjustment in the preparation and documentation for and the discussion at these meetings.

## II. Paying special attention to the social sector and the vulnerable groups

30. Africa's people are its most valuable asset. Their healthy social development is a sine qua non for achieving a productive and sustainable transformation in the continent. Yet, for far too long, the vast majority of the African people, especially women and youth, have been locked into poverty and vulnerability, along with the traditionally disadvantaged, the disabled, refugees and displaced persons. Where the most-affected groups inhabit the neglected rural and peri-urban areas, their living conditions have often become intolerable in recent years as a result of the economic crisis and structural adjustment measures. The fundamental problem is that, of late, official policies have paid only scant attention and have given very low priority to the social sector and the vulnerable groups in society.

31. Therefore, we strongly recommend the following urgent actions:

### Action at the national level

- (i) Measures should be adopted to promote equitable patterns of development based on the democratization and decentralization of the decision-making process;
- (ii) Even in times of severe resource constraints, such as experienced during periods of economic adjustment, attempts should be made to ensure acceptable minimum levels of and access to food and social services, particularly for the vulnerable groups. Furthermore, food aid, being an important portion of ODA to Africa, must be used in direct support of food security, particularly to ensure access to food by the vulnerable groups in times of structural adjustment;
- (iii) Investment priorities should be focused on the rural sector so as to raise rural employment, productivity and incomes and to reduce rural poverty;
- (iv) Governments that have not already done so should formulate and implement national population policies as stipulated by the 1984 Kilimanjaro Programme of Action;
- (v) To arrest the current drought and desertification, resulting from long-continuing misuse of renewable natural resources and endangering mostly the vulnerable persons in the rural areas, sustainable development and long-term considerations, rather than immediate, quick benefits should be made the over-riding principle governing all development plans, programmes and projects. In each and every socio-economic development plan, programme and project, conservation of nature and natural resources and maintenance of eco-systems and environmental balances should be in-built primary component;

- (vi) Opportunities should be given to women for greater participation in the nation's political and decision-making processes at all levels, especially at the national centres of power. Where necessary, appropriate training should be given to them to ensure this;
- (vii) Accelerated child development and survival strategies (for example, low-cost immunization and oral re-hydration therapy) should be implemented so as to reduce the very high levels of infant and child mortality and morbidity;
- (viii) Greater efforts should be made to provide the youth with productive employment opportunities and to integrate them more effectively in the development process;
- (ix) Concerted efforts should be made to change prevailing attitudes towards the disabled so as to rehabilitate them and bring them into the mainstream of development.

#### Action at the subregional and regional levels

- (i) Subregional and regional development, research and training and financing institutions should give priority attention in their work programmes to the issues of African women, children, youth and vulnerable groups, particularly the aged, disabled, refugees and displaced persons;
- (ii) Governments of each subregion should devise policies and plans for collectively dealing with the root causes of the problems of refugees and displaced persons. Where possible, arrangements should be made to facilitate the voluntary return of refugees to their home countries.

#### Action at the international level

32. International organizations should intensify their efforts, in co-operation with African countries, in the development and use of appropriate indicators for closely monitoring and measuring progress in the improvement of conditions of human well-being. Instruments should also be developed to provide early warning on deteriorating human conditions.

#### III. Manpower development and utilization for the long term

33. Africa's long-term development prospects depend on its human resources, and for African countries to achieve the goals of APPER, the UN-PAAERD and the Lagos Plan of Action, a significant strengthening of their capabilities to develop and adequately utilize their human resources is called for. These efforts should be aimed at reinforcing, expanding and making more relevant the human resources base, avoiding wastage through underutilization of manpower, or loss through the brain drain, and raising productivity levels, particularly in agriculture, through various support policies and programmes and public sector interventions.

34. In the light of the foregoing observations, the following are recommended:

Action at the national level

- (i) Efforts should be intensified to expand primary and basic education, especially in the urban peripheries and in the rural areas;
- (ii) Higher and technical education must, of urgent necessity, be significantly strengthened and reoriented so as to build within them those capabilities that would enable African countries to produce the required middle- and high-level manpower;
- (iii) Governments should strive to seek greater relevance in education and training so that the outputs of education and training systems are more readily employable and can function better as job-creators re- and hather than as job-seekers, particularly in the rural areas and the agricultural sector;
- (iv) Greater emphasis should be placed on improvements in the teaching of science and technology in African countries, and more effective mechanisms should be evolved for dissemination of the results of scientific and technological research for purposes of application and development;
- (v) Governments should review education expenditure policies with a view to maximizing effectiveness in all areas of education.

35. In view of the seriousness of the unemployment and underemployment problems in African countries and the bleak prognosis for the future in this domain, it is strongly recommended that:

- (i) Every development plan should have, as major expressed objectives, the generation of employment and incomes and the reduction of absolute poverty and income inequality among the people and to this end, effective monitoring and implementation mechanisms should be established to ensure the achievement of these objectives;
- (ii) Investment priorities should be focused on the rural sector so as to raise rural employment, productivity and incomes and to reduce rural poverty;
- (iii) Opportunities should be increased for women to have a greater access to education and training in order to increase their skill levels and enable them to raise their efficiency as a significant group in the African workforce;
- (iv) Greater efforts should be made to provide youth with productive employment opportunities and to integrate them more effectively in the development process;
- (v) Governments should provide a more congenial environment for the development of the informal sector which has a high potential for employment creation in African countries and is a rich and fertile ground for the development of indigenous entrepreneurship.

Action at the subregional and regional levels

36. Governments of the various subregions and of the region as a whole are urged to strengthen their bonds of co-operation in the area of manpower development and utilization. Accordingly, they are urged to:

- (i) Intensify their effort to create, maintain and strengthen regional and subregional institutions with specialization in specific fields of learning and research for the common use of member States;
- (ii) Develop joint research programmes among groups of countries at the subregional and regional levels to focus on common problems of development in fields such as science and technology, medicine, engineering, agriculture, management, etc.;
- (iii) Strive to expand employment markets within a subregional context by embarking upon joint employment-generation investment programmes accompanied by an opening-up of subregional employment market and the promotion of the free movement of people in order to reduce the unemployment problems facing African countries;
- (iv) Enter into agreement among themselves within a subregional context to promote the exchange of experts and to make it easier for skilled manpower from countries within their subregions to find employment in other countries as a means of reducing the brain drain from Africa;
- (v) Participate as fully as possible in ECA's Return of Skills Programme for Africa by exploiting this Programme for the identification and recruitment of high-level manpower to fill vacancies in their public and private sector, higher learning institutions as well as technical assistance posts within their countries.

IV. The role of regional, international and non-governmental organizations

(a) Bilateral donors

37. The Conference calls upon the industrialized countries, particularly OECD and CMEA, to report on the reforms and resource allocations they are making and will undertake in support of their commitments under the UN-PAAERD.

(b) Role of regional and subregional organizations

38. One cannot overstate the fact that international actions and support are vital to the success of the whole programme of African recovery and development. At the subregional and regional levels, several actions are vital:

- (i) African countries should rationalize the structure of their regional organizations and make better use of key organizations vital to the co-ordination of African development;
- (ii) Regional organizations should accord the highest priority to the human dimension in the design and implementation of the recovery



and development programmes of the continent, including the resolution of regional conflicts so that scarce resources are further saved to protect the human dimension;

- (iii) Co-operation at the regional and subregional levels should focus on collective self-reliance to protect the human dimension during the recovery period and beyond;
- (iv) African Governments are at a disadvantage in international negotiations with the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank. This disadvantage must be overcome. African Governments should turn, for assistance, to regional organizations, like ECA, ADB and OAU, which have the capacity to provide technical and political expertise. In particular, the comparative information provided by ECA on the nature, details and constraints of structural adjustment programmes should be exploited to the maximum in order to improve the negotiating position of the African Governments.

(c) The role of international organizations

39. International organizations can and should play a more positive role in Africa's recovery. The major preoccupation of the Conference is the fact that such organizations should be more sensitive and more responsive to the realities of the African countries and societies since political, social and cultural realities condition the dynamics of adjustment, recovery and development. Accordingly, it is proposed that:

- (i) International organizations involved in Africa should undertake high priority actions aimed at supporting and enhancing the human dimension in the recovery and development programmes of Africa;
- (ii) The Conference endorses the proposal of UNDP for the establishment of an Inter-Agency Task Force for the assessment of Africa's human resources needs and the development of an appropriate United Nations system-wide programme of action in the field of human resources development. This task force could, inter alia, establish the modalities and mechanisms for improving co-ordination in the delivery of programmes in areas related to human resources, public sector resource management, use of resources for human resources development and for the creation of information systems and an integrated data base for human resources development and management. Regional monitoring and information exchange will be conducted by ECA. To this end, the Task Force should, in consultation with national governments, draw up a detailed human resources development plan for submission to and approval by a special ECA meeting of ministers;
- (iii) The international financial institutions should make prompt and urgent efforts to catalyse the implementation of the recommendations of the report of the Advisory Group on Financial Flows for Africa; and to bring the attention of the international community to the fact that additional resources and debt reductions are urgently required for Africa's adjustment efforts to succeed;

- (iv) International agencies should strengthen their regional and national units by decentralizing power, responsibilities and resources to the regional offices. Increasingly, decision-making on resource allocation should be decentralized to the regional, subregional and field offices;
- (v) International organizations ought to ensure that their priorities are in line with the aspirations of African countries. In this context, their priorities should be compatible with the stated objectives, priorities and strategies of APPER and the UN-PAAERD and the Lagos Plan of Action;
- (vi) United Nations organizations should make every effort to collaborate and co-ordinate their programmes in order to conserve resources and avoid waste.

(d) The role of non-governmental organizations

40. There is increasing evidence that non-governmental organizations can make an effective contribution, at the grass-root level, to the process of recovery and development. The NGOs present a number of advantages which must be built upon and strengthened, especially in the context of improving the human condition in Africa. The proposals below are made with the conviction that, if they are adopted, there is a lot to be gained by Africa's poor and vulnerable during the recovery period and by the African people at large during the process of development:

- (i) NGOs should always respect Africa's own priorities and sectoral choices as this is the most sure way of contributing to the overall national efforts;
- (ii) NGOs based in donor countries should review their technical assistance with a view to using as much as possible national expertise and, to the extent possible, transferring power to local NGOs;
- (iii) African Governments should give due recognition to African NGOs and create the legal and fiscal framework for their activities. NGOs should improve their policy analysis so as to incorporate longer-term perspectives and commitments;
- (iv) NGOs should have an important role at the international level in monitoring the implementation of international commitments and improving public awareness, among their nationals, of the realities of the African countries and societies. African NGOs should be encouraged, as appropriate, to respond to the human and social needs of the poor, especially in rural areas where structural adjustment programmes have resulted in the reduction of social services.

D. Conclusion and follow-up

41. This Declaration, then, affirms and asserts that the human dimension is the sine qua non of economic recovery. We, the delegates here assembled, will not abide economic rationale, will not tolerate economic formulas, will not apply economic indices, will not legitimize economic policies which fail

to assert the primacy of the human condition. That means, quite simply, that no structural adjustment programme or economic recovery programme should be formulated or can be implemented without having, at its heart, detailed social and human priorities. There can be no real structural adjustment or economic recovery in the absence of the human imperative.

42. And how is that imperative defined?

43. Fundamentally, it means that the vulnerable and the impoverished, the uprooted and the ravaged, women, children, youth, disabled, aged, the rural poor and the urban poor, every group and individual in society who is in some way disadvantaged, must be given paramount consideration in the socio-economic development process. That is a sacrosanct principle. And in the service of that principle, health, education, welfare and all related social sectors become indispensable components of every national policy, every national programme, every national plan, and every regional or subregional collaboration.

44. So should Africa conduct itself. But Africa cannot do it alone. The centre-piece of the UN-PAAERD, 1986-1990 - of which this Declaration is an organic part of the follow-up - enshrines a shared partnership between Africa and the rest of the international community.

45. The understanding is explicit: Africa acts and the international community commensurately responds through its own donor reforms and increased levels of assistance. Fidelity begets fidelity. It is a mutual pact. Both sides have binding obligations.

46. Alas, the international community has not yet fulfilled its part of the bargain. African economic recovery continues to be threatened on every front by catastrophic debt, collapsed commodity prices, stagnating concessional flows, and crippling terms of trade. Because the front-line of recovery is the human dimension, the human dimension is at greatest risk. If structural adjustment with a human face does not succeed, then the failure, in considerable measure, will be laid at the feet of the international community.

47. It is this sense of urgency which has animated this Conference and suffuses this Declaration. We are nearly two years from the United Nations special session. We are on the eve of the Secretary-General's mid-term review. The United Nations Programme ends in 1990. We are in a desperate race with time. No one pretends that African economic recovery is a short-term proposition, but the prospects for the human dimension of recovery will be writ in the actions of the next two years.

48. It is therefore our collective recommendation that this Declaration be endorsed by the third ECA Conference of African Ministers Responsible for Human Resources Planning, Development and Utilization, which follows immediately. It is then our hope that the Ministers will transmit this Declaration to the thirtieth anniversary session of the ECA Conference of Ministers scheduled for Niamey, Niger in mid-April 1988. If then, as we would wish, the Declaration is again embraced, it can be transmitted directly to the General Assembly of the United Nations to be considered by the whole international community of sovereign States, in the highest of forums, as an integral part of the follow-up to the United Nations Programme.

49. When the Prime Minister of the Sudan opened this Conference, to which this Declaration stands as an enduring testament, he called for the restoration of the dignity of the African person, for peaceful relations among peoples and States, and for the pursuit of fundamental human rights rooted in the consent of the governed.

50. In so speaking, he mirrors the principles of the United Nations Charter. This Declaration, with its total focus on the human dimension, is a challenge to Africa and to the world to turn yearning into reality.

Done at Khartoum,  
The Republic of the Sudan,  
8 March 1988

632 (XXIII). Support for the United Nations Special Action Programme for Administration and Management

The Conference of Ministers,

Conscious of the central importance of administration and management effectiveness in Africa's socio-economic recovery and development process,

Further conscious of the high priority accorded to the improvement of administrative and management capabilities by African Governments and their international development partners,

1. Commends the initiative of the United Nations system, particularly the Economic Commission for Africa, the United Nations Development Programme and the Department of Technical Co-operation for Development, with the support of African countries in formulating a Special Action Programme for Administration and Management (SAPAM) for African countries and fully endorses SAPAM;

2. Urges donor countries and funding agencies, and UNDP in particular, to make contributions for the effective and timely implementation of SAPAM;

3. Requests the Executive Secretary of ECA to report on the progress made in the implementation of SAPAM to the annual meetings of the Ministerial Follow-up Committee of Ten as well as to the fourth Conference of Ministers Responsible for Human Resources Planning, Development and Utilization.

255th meeting,  
15 April 1988.

✓633 (XXIII). Brain drain from Africa

The Conference of Ministers,

Aware of the seriousness of the brain drain that affects African economies, and of the added constraints this imposed on Africa's prospects for socio-economic recovery and development,

Conscious of the need to arrest and reverse this negative trend by instituting appropriate measures to encourage the voluntary return to and placement of skilled manpower in African countries,

Appreciative of the assistance provided in this regard by the international community, particularly the European Economic Community (EEC) and the Intergovernmental Committee for Migration (ICM),

Aware that much more needs to be done to create those conditions that would encourage the voluntary return of skilled manpower to Africa,

1. Urges member States to institute measures for improving the working conditions as well as the political and socio-economic environment in their countries;

2. Further urges African Governments to strengthen their co-operation for the exchange of African experts within the region;

3. Requests the international community and donor organizations, particularly the EEC, to provide direct assistance to the "Return of Skills Programme for Africa" being administered by ECA in co-operation with African Governments;

4. Also requests the Intergovernmental Committee for Migration to intensify its support and increase the resources available to the regional programme of the "return of skills to Africa" operated through ECA within the regional framework set by African Governments.

255th meeting,  
15 April 1988.

634 (XXIII). Co-operation between ECA and the UNDP Regional Bureau for Arab States and European Programmes

The Conference of Ministers,

Considering that the Economic Commission for Africa and its secretariat are at the service of all member States of the region with their principal mission being to promote economic co-operation and integration at the sub-regional and regional levels,

Noting that the financial resources allocated by UNDP for the implementation of ECA's regional and subregional projects have to date been granted by the Regional Bureau for Africa whose jurisdiction does not cover the following countries: Algeria, Djibouti, Egypt, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Morocco, Somalia, the Sudan and Tunisia,

Noting also that this dichotomy in the administrative structure of UNDP makes it difficult for ECA to implement regional and subregional project activities for the aforementioned countries which properly fall under the jurisdiction of the Regional Bureau for Arab States and European Programmes,

Reaffirming the preparedness of all member States of ECA to participate actively in all regional or subregional programmes executed by the Commission, for the promotion of economic co-operation and integration of the African continent,

Taking note of the report of the intergovernmental meeting of Arab States on the 1988-1992 UNDP regional programme for Arab States held from 16 to 18 March 1988 in Casablanca, Morocco, more particularly the recommendation on the strengthening of co-operation within the context of the Fourth Arab Regional Programme, 1988-1992,

Urges the Administrator of UNDP to take the necessary measures that would enable the Regional Bureau for Arab States and European Programmes to allocate, within the framework of its Fourth Programming Cycle, the resources needed to participate effectively in the above-mentioned programmes and involve ECA in the preparation and implementation of projects concerning those States.

255th meeting,  
15 April 1988.

635 (XXIII). Drought and desertification

The Conference of Ministers,

Deeply concerned by the impacts of drought and the incidence of desertification and their negative impacts on the African economies notably rural economies,

Aware of the urgency to promote the implementation of the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification, adopted by the United Nations Conference on Desertification held in November 1977,

Aware also of the need to promote the effective implementation of the Regional Plan of Action to Combat the Impact of Drought in Africa, adopted by ECA resolution 499 (XIX) of 10 April 1984,

1. Urges member States to establish appropriate national mechanism for the implementation of the United Nations Plan of Action to Combat Desertification and the Regional Plan of Action to Combat the Impact of Drought in Africa;

2. Requests the Executive Secretary of ECA to explore the feasibility of setting in motion a co-operation process between all African countries as envisaged in the Regional Plan of Action to Combat the Impact of Drought in Africa;

3. Further requests ECA to support the already established subregional organizations to combat more effectively and more efficiently the problems of drought and desertification;

4. Also requests the Executive Secretary of ECA to report to the Conference of Ministers at its fifteenth meeting in 1989 on the implementation of this resolution.

255th meeting,  
15 April 1988.



636 (XXIII). Preferential Trade Area for North Africa

The Conference of Ministers,

Having examined the report of the North African Multinational Programming and Operational Centre (MULPOC) on the Preferential Trade Area for North Africa,

Recalling the Lagos Plan of Action and the Final Act of Lagos which call for the establishment of subregional economic groupings for the promotion of economic integration in Africa leading towards the establishment of an African Common Market and an African Economic Community by the year 2000,

Referring to the resolution on trade promotion in North Africa adopted by the Council of Plenipotentiaries of the Tangier MULPOC at its meetings held in 1985, 1986 and 1987,

Reiterating resolution 593 (XXII) of April 1987 on the commitment of member Governments of the subregion to the establishment of a Preferential Trade Area in North Africa and the need to define actions in view to establishing the Preferential Trade Area,

1. Takes note of the report of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Team of Experts on the establishment of the PTA at its inaugural meeting held in December 1987;

2. Invites the countries of the North African MULPOC to participate fully and effectively at the highest level of expertise in the process of negotiations leading to the establishment of the Preferential Trade Area;

3. Endorses the programme of negotiations as proposed by the Intergovernmental Negotiating Team of Experts at its inaugural meeting in December 1987 and amended by the Council of Plenipotentiaries of the Tangier MULPOC;

4. Urges the Tangier MULPOC countries to establish appropriate national co-ordinating committees to deal with all sectoral issues for negotiations by the national negotiating team of experts;

5. Calls upon member States to provide all necessary data and information to assist the ECA secretariat in the preparation of the studies called for by the Intergovernmental Negotiating Team of Experts and to designate national experts to act as counterparts to the experts and consultants appointed to carry out the required studies;

6. Reiterates its request to the United Nations Development Programme to provide financing support for the successful establishment of the Preferential Trade Area and its secretariat.

255th meeting,  
15 April 1988.

637 (XXIII). Emigration from member countries of the North African MULPOC

The Conference of Ministers,

Having considered the report of the North African Multinational Programming and Operational Centre (MULPOC) at its eighth session in March 1988, in particular resolution No. 4 on the subject,

Recalling resolution No.7 of the sixth meeting of the Council of Plenipotentiaries of the North African MULPOC and considering the report entitled "Migration from North Africa - Some possibilities of subregional co-operation within the framework of the North African MULPOC",

Aware of the need for North African countries to establish mechanisms for improving knowledge on the problems of emigration and solving them,

Considering the crucial nature of this question which concerns the whole subregion, in particular the need for the emigrant's home countries to make arrangements for the voluntary return of their emigrants and to preserve their rights in case of voluntary or forced return to their home countries,

1. Requests the Economic Commission for Africa, in collaboration with ILO and UNDP, to expand the study submitted to the MULPOC in 1986, particularly the aspects pertaining to emigrants returning voluntarily or by force to their home countries regarding their social re-adaptation and re-integration in their home countries system and labour market;

2. Recommends that member States should hold regional consultations among the appropriate departments in collaboration with ECA, ILO and the MULPOC in order to exchange information and experience and to define priority regional projects in the area of re-integration of emigrants;

3. Further recommends that member States should organize, in collaboration with the Arab Labour Organization (ALO), ECA, Centre d'études industrielles du Maghreb (CEIM) and the Arab Labour Institute and MULPOC, a seminar to review the question and make conclusions and recommendations which will be submitted to the next meeting of the MULPOC;

4. Requests ECA to make appropriate arrangements for financing the activities called for by this resolution including the mobilization of extrabudgetary resources;

5. Further requests ECA to report to the Council at its next meeting on the implementation of the activities mentioned in this resolution including the study mentioned in paragraph 1 above.

255th meeting,  
15 April 1988.

638 (XXIII). Development of industry in North Africa

The Conference of Ministers,

Having examined the report of the Council of Plenipotentiaries of the North African Multinational Programming and Operational Centre (MULPOC),

Taking note with satisfaction that the subregional meeting on Industrial Co-operation between North African countries is to be held in Tangier from 30 May to 3 June 1988, according to resolution No. 3 adopted by the Council at its meeting in March 1988,

Referring to the spirit of co-operation so frequently displayed by the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) in aiding North African countries to achieve the economic objectives and programmes adopted,

Aware of the need to reinforce and promote industrial co-operation between the North African States both in terms of the objectives of the Lagos Plan of Action and the Final Act of Lagos and in the context of the Industrial Development Decade for Africa (IDDA) and the establishment of a Preferential Trade Area for North Africa, the aim of which is to promote multisectoral co-operation in general terms and to strengthen, in particular, the elements of complementarity between the industrial sector and other key sectors to prepare for a self-sustaining African Economic Community,

1. Thanks the Director-General of UNIDO for his assistance in this regard;

2. Requests the Director-General of UNIDO to provide all necessary assistance to effect the series of activities and programmes concerning the industrial sector and implement the sectoral study on industry and draw up the protocol on the study within the framework of the treaty on the North African Preferential Trade Area drawn up in collaboration with ECA.

255th meeting,  
15 April 1988.

639 (XXIII). United Nations Transport and Communications Decade in Africa

The Conference of Ministers,

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

Recalling also ECA resolution 341 (XIV) of 29 March 1979 which recommended that member States should give the highest priority to the development of transport and communications,

Appreciative of the financial assistance rendered by the General Assembly, UNDP and bilateral donor countries to the implementation of the programme of the first Decade,

Taking into account the report of the in-depth evaluation of the United Nations Transport and Communications Decade (1978-1988) which concluded that the Decade gave a major boost to the future development of transport and communications by equipping Africa with a strategy and policy as well as institutions and mechanisms for its implementation,

Considering resolution ECA/UNTACDA/Res.84/44 of the fourth meeting of the Conference of African Ministers of Transport, Communications and Planning recommending that Governments of member States should adopt the principle of launching a second United Nations Transport and Communications Decade in Africa,

Taking note of the progress report on the implementation of the second phase of the Decade programme and the report of the sixth meeting of the Conference of African Ministers of Transport, Communications and Planning,

Recalling further ECA resolution 604 (XXII) which requested the Executive Secretary to urgently reactivate the Trans-African Highways Bureau at ECA and also UNDP to provide financial assistance during its Fourth Programming Cycle for the establishment and operation of the Bureau,

Conscious that air transport is one of the key factors for economic development and integration in Africa,

Concerned about the adverse consequences for African air transport of the new civil aeronautic policies emanating from outside the continent,

Bearing in mind resolution ECA/UNTACDA/Res.86/55 of the fifth meeting of the Conference of African Ministers of Transport, Communications and Planning which, inter alia, called upon ECA to provide support to the various African regional and subregional organizations and to assist them in co-ordinating their transport and communications programmes,

Mindful of the heavy investments made by member States towards the implementation of the Pan-African Telecommunications Network (PANAFTEL), and the substantial achievement made in the establishment of the network,

Noting that the in-depth evaluation of the Decade has revealed great deficiencies of the inland water transport systems in Africa,

Having considered the decisions of the Conference of African Ministers of Transport, Communications and Planning at its sixth meeting held in Kinshasa, Zaire, on 23 and 24 March 1988,

1. Endorses resolution ECA/UNTACDA/Res.88/73 of 24 March 1988 of the Conference of African Ministers of Transport, Communications and Planning which recommends that:

(a) A second United Nations Transport and Communications Decade in Africa should be declared covering the period 1991-2000 in order to sustain the momentum of the activities commenced during the first Decade;

(b) The expertise and experience acquired during the first Decade should be maintained by retaining and reappointing the statutory and executing

agencies of the first Decade, namely the Conference of African Ministers of Transport, Communications and Planning as the permanent policy-making body, the Economic Commission for Africa as the "lead agency" responsible, in collaboration with other agencies, for the preparation of the Decade programme and for the harmonization, co-ordination and monitoring of all Decade activities, and the Inter-Agency Co-ordinating Committee (IACC) as the technical body accountable to the Conference of Ministers;

(c) There should be a two-year preparatory period between the end of the first Decade and the launching of the second;

2. Recommends to the General Assembly, through the Economic and Social Council, to declare a second United Nations Transport and Communications Decade in Africa (1991-2000);

3. Expresses its appreciation to the General Assembly, the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme and those members of the international community who were able to provide financial and technical assistance for carrying out the activities of the first Decade for their generous support;

4. Calls upon African Governments, as the primary beneficiaries of the Decade programme, to continue to accord a high priority to the development of transport and communications and, in that connection, to allocate sufficient resources for these sectors and to co-operate with ECA by providing all the information necessary to enable it to discharge its responsibilities;

5. Appeals to the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme to continue to lend support to the Decade activities not only during the two-year preparatory period (1989-1990) but also during the period of the second Decade (1991-2000);

6. Requests bilateral donor countries and financial institutions to intensify their support for the accelerated development of transport and communications in Africa through the provision of the resources necessary for the successful implementation of the programme of the second Decade;

7. Also endorses the following decisions of the sixth meeting of the Conference of African Ministers of Transport, Communications and Planning, to:

(a) Convene, as soon as possible, a special meeting of African Ministers responsible for civil aviation with a view to considering and adopting an African aeronautic policy;

(b) Convene a meeting of experts on problems relating to facilitation of inland water transport in Africa;

(c) Establish, within the Tangier MULPOC, a committee comprising representatives of member States which shall be responsible, in collaboration with the Centre for Transport Studies in the Western Mediterranean (CETMO), for the development of transport including harmonization of transport infrastructure and facilitation of administrative and customs procedures within the North African subregion;

(d) Encourage and promote the use of African intergovernmental organizations as executing agencies for the transport and communications projects in which they have competence;

(e) Reactivate the Trans-African Highways Bureau in ECA and urge African countries to allocate adequate resources for the maintenance and rehabilitation of roads;

(f) Urge African member States to give high priority to the completion of the PANAFTEL links and to make greater use of the existing links for intra-African communications traffic;

(g) Establish ministerial conferences on maritime transport in African subregions where none now exists and convene in 1988 a ministerial meeting of Eastern and Southern African States to consider the recommendations of the meeting of experts;

8. Reiterates its appeal made in resolution 604 (XXII) to UNDP to provide financial assistance to ECA for the reactivation and operation of the Trans-African Highways Bureau at ECA;

9. Appeals to other financial institutions and donor countries to lend their financial support to ECA's efforts to reactivate the Trans-African Highways Bureau;

10. Requests the Executive Secretary to report to its next session on the implementation of this resolution.

255th meeting,  
15 April 1988.

640 (XXIII). Promotion of tourism and the development of hotel management and human resources for the tourism sector

The Conference of Ministers,

Having examined the report of the first meeting of the Conference of African Ministers of Tourism,

Conscious of the contribution that tourism could make to the economic, social, cultural and political integration of African States,

Reaffirming the importance and need to pursue and strengthen the policy of collaboration at all levels, with a view to harmonizing and maximizing the use of available resources as well as enhancing the effectiveness of all activities aimed at developing tourism in Africa,

Reaffirming also the need to integrate the tourism sector in the overall developmental process in Africa and noting that this cannot be achieved without the sincere desire of member States to co-operate in the harmonization of their policies on measures aimed at facilitating travel and tourism,

Noting with satisfaction the progress made in this sector since the Regional Conference on Intra-African Co-operation in Tourism, as well as



the dynamic role played by ECA in the process of intra-African co-operation in tourism and the development of the initial mechanisms for intra-African co-operation,

Noting further that the intervention of transnational hotel management corporations does not offer African partners the benefits they should justly expect, as well as the fact that African countries lose substantial amounts of foreign exchange through the implementation of many of the existing hotel management contracts,

Commending the existence of a number of professional training establishments in Africa in the field of tourism and hotel management even though some of them are far from adequate to cover the various needs in the development of human resources to meet the constantly increasing demands in training in the tourism and hotel industry sector, as well as the fact that States endowed with such training establishments are willing to put them at the disposal of their African partners within the framework of bilateral, multi-lateral and technical assistance agreements,

1. Reaffirms that intra-African tourism is a component of the African policy on the economic, social, cultural and political integration of the continent, as well as a determining factor of development, especially within the framework of existing economic groupings in Africa;

2. Encourages the development of mechanisms and programmes for co-operation in particular activities for the joint promotion of the African tourism product and the creation of inter-State circuits;

3. Requests the Executive Secretary of ECA within the limits of existing resources and from extrabudgetary resources that may be mobilized to:

(a) Intensify co-operation within international organizations, particularly African intergovernmental organizations, with the view to assisting African countries in developing their programmes relating to tourism as well as to mobilizing and co-ordinating available resources in order to maximize their effects on the development of tourism in Africa;

(b) Undertake a study on the tourism activities of subregional intergovernmental organizations in Africa, so as to reactivate such activities and provide them with appropriate technical assistance;

(c) Establish subregional programmes and structures for joint promotion of inter-State tourism and tourism circuits;

(d) Undertake studies aimed at creating inter-State circuits and assist member States to do so;

(e) Establish the African association of tourism and take appropriate measures to ensure its functioning;

(f) Assist African States in setting up national professional tourism associations and provide technical support to the existing associations involved in the promotion of tourism in Africa;

(g) Draw up, in collaboration with the United Nations Centre on Transnational Corporations, the World Tourism Organization and the International Labour Organisation, model management or operations contracts for various types of hotel infrastructure to be submitted as soon as possible to member States for their appraisal, as well as provide effective technical assistance to African States and promoters in the negotiation and monitoring of the execution of the contracts signed with hotel management corporations;

4. Further requests the Executive Secretary of ECA, in collaboration with WTO, ILO and other competent organizations operating in Africa, to undertake the feasibility studies on the following educational and training projects:

(a) The establishment of subregional and regional tourism and hotel educational institutes;

(b) The development of training programmes for enhancing and upgrading the tourism and hotel services at various levels;

(c) The updating and publishing at regular intervals of an African directory for educational and training facilities to ensure co-ordination and mutual co-operation in the fields of education and training;

(d) The organization of periodic African tourism events alongside existing continental, subregional and national trade fairs.

255th meeting,  
15 April 1988.

641 (XXIII). Campaign against migrant locusts and grasshoppers

The Conference of Ministers,

Aware that the migrant locust constitutes an extremely serious and dangerous scourge for the whole African continent,

Aware also that FAO had established in August 1986 an Emergency Centre for Locust Operations (ECLO) with a view to mobilizing resources from donors and for co-ordinating various campaigns aimed at combating the upsurge of migratory locusts in various parts of Africa as well as of grasshoppers in the Sudano-Sahelian belt,

Recalling the United Nations General Assembly resolution passed in January 1987 and the ECOSOC resolution passed in July 1987 both commending FAO for the co-ordination provided to the campaigns against locusts and urging it to continue its co-ordinating role,

1. Urges ECLO to intensify the rapid dissemination of information on the movement and biological and climatic developments and on assistance needed in order to help concerned African countries accelerate the establishment of national steering committees in charge of co-ordinating at the country level the campaign against migrant locusts;

2. Expresses appreciation to the international and regional organizations and all countries which have provided material, human and financial resources to the African countries faced with migrant locusts and grasshoppers;

3. Recommends that African countries, within the subregional framework, establish a joint programme to help prevent and control the invasion of locusts and grasshoppers and reduce or eliminate losses;

4. Requests African countries concerned to co-operate with subregional, regional and international institutions concerned in the control of the locust outbreaks particularly at the breeding stage;

5. Urges the Executive Secretary of ECA, in collaboration with the Director-General of FAO and the Secretary-General of WMO, to help to strengthen and/or set up national and subregional appropriate control capabilities to deal with the locust outbreaks in particular early warning systems at the subregional and regional levels to prevent those outbreaks;

6. Further urges the Executive Secretary of ECA, in collaboration with the Director-General of FAO and the Secretary-General of the World Meteorological Organization and the Secretary-General of ICAO, to intensify and co-ordinate their efforts to mobilize funds needed for the campaigns against this scourge and, in co-operation with research institutes, to establish intensive research programmes;

7. Appeals to UNDP and other financial organizations to support financially the campaigns against migrant locusts.

255th meeting,  
15 April 1988.

642 (XXXIII). African Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders

The Conference of Ministers,

Recalling Commission resolution 392 (XV) of April 1980 which requested the Executive Secretary of ECA, in consultation with the relevant international and regional organizations, to take the appropriate steps to establish a regional institute for the prevention of crime and the treatment of offenders,

Recalling further the important role a regional institute is expected to play in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice,

Conscious of the fact that increased criminality and delinquency has negative consequences and impact on the economic and social development of African countries,

Confirming the pivotal role of a regional institute in assisting member States in the development of appropriate and practical policies, strategies and programmes in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice, with a view to substantially reducing the economic and social costs directly and indirectly related to crime prevention and crime control,

Determined to improve regional and interregional co-operation on issues of crime prevention delinquency and criminal justice,

Acknowledging with satisfaction the activities so far undertaken during the initial operation of the Institute, under the co-ordination efforts of ECA as its interim secretariat,

Having considered the draft Statute of the Institute,

1. Adopts the annexed Statute establishing the African Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders as a legal entity;

2. Decides that the headquarters of the African Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders be located in Kampala, Uganda;

3. Further decides that, for the first four years following the adoption of the Statute, the following member States, in addition to the host country, will serve on the Governing Board of the Institute: Rwanda and Zaire (representing the Gisenyi MULPOC subregion); Botswana and the United Republic of Tanzania (representing the Lusaka MULPOC subregion); Ghana and Guinea (representing the Niamey MULPOC subregion); Egypt and Morocco (representing the Tangier MULPOC subregion); and the Central African Republic and Equatorial Guinea (representing the Yaounde MULPOC subregion), provided that one half of them will retire two years after serving and will be replaced by the same number of member States elected in accordance with the provisions of Article V, paragraphs 1(b) and 3 of the Statute. The member States of the Governing Board will communicate to the ECA secretariat by 30 June 1988 the name(s) of their representative(s) on the Governing Board;

4. Requests the Governing Board to establish a work programme and its corresponding budget for the operation of the Institute, the gross financial contribution of the host country, and a formula for the annual contribution of member States, and submit them to the fifteenth meeting of the Conference of Ministers for consideration;

5. Further requests the Executive Secretary of ECA to finalize the hosting arrangements for the Institute with the host country, in order to allow full operation of the Institute as soon as possible;

6. Urges member States to sign the Statute as soon as possible;

7. Takes note with appreciation of the support and co-operation extended to the Institute by the Department of International Economic and Social Affairs, the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs, the other regional and interregional Institutes for crime prevention and criminal justice, and invites these bodies to continue their assistance to and close co-operation with the Institute;

8. Expresses its appreciation to the United Nations Development Programme for its financial contribution to the activities of the initial phase of the Institute's operation and appeals to it to consider favourably and expeditiously its long-term funding so as to enable the Institute to implement its long-term work programme;

9. Invites governmental, non-governmental, international organizations as well as the United Nations system to support the Institute through technical and financial contributions to enable it to fulfil its objectives;

10. Requests the Executive Secretary of ECA to submit a report to the Conference of Ministers at its fifteenth meeting on the implementation of this resolution.

255th meeting,  
15 April 1988.

ANNEX TO RESOLUTION 642 (XXIII)

STATUTE OF THE AFRICAN INSTITUTE FOR THE PREVENTION OF  
CRIME AND THE TREATMENT OF OFFENDERS

The Conference of Ministers of the Economic Commission for Africa,

Recalling resolution 1979/20 of the United Nations Economic and Social Council requesting the Secretary-General of the United Nations to establish an institute for Africa in crime prevention and the treatment of offenders,

Recalling its own resolution 392 (XV) of April 1980 requesting the Executive Secretary of the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa in consultation with the relevant international and regional organizations, to take all appropriate steps to establish a United Nations Regional Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders for Africa,

Noting resolution 19 of the sixth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders recommending that the Secretary-General should view favourably the establishment in Africa of a regional body for social defence studies, along the lines of those already set up in the other regions of the world,

Mindful of resolution 4 of the seventh United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders, later endorsed by resolution 40/32 of the United Nations General Assembly, urgently requesting the Secretary-General of the United Nations to establish, as a matter of the highest priority, in close collaboration with the Organization of African Unity and with the participation of the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa, an African Regional Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders,

Recalling further its own resolution 609 (XXII) of April 1987 reaffirming the importance and the role the Institute is called upon to play in assisting member States in assessing criminality trends in the region and their impact on national development; in the formulation of policies and programmes for the prevention of crime and the treatment of offenders; in the promotion of criminal justice reforms in the context of development; and in encouraging technical co-operation among African countries in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice,

Convinced that the establishment of an African Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders would serve these purposes,

NOW THEREFORE and on behalf of the member States of the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa, HEREBY AGREES AS FOLLOWS:

## ARTICLE I

### Establishment and membership of the Institute

1. The African Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders (hereinafter referred to as "the Institute") is hereby established.

2. The member States of the Institute shall be the member States of the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (hereinafter referred to as member States) who have acceded to the Statute of the Institute.

## ARTICLE II

### Objectives of the Institute

The objectives of the Institute shall be to:

(a) Assist in the formulation of policies and programmes for the prevention of crime and the treatment of offenders in the context of overall national development planning;

(b) Design and conduct training programmes for different categories and levels of criminal justice and related personnel including policy makers, administrators, judges, prosecutors, lawyers, police and correctional officials, teachers, social workers, researchers, etc., with a focus on the training of trainers, through special interdisciplinary courses, workshops, seminars, fellowships, internships, study tours, in order to upgrade this public service sector as well as impart new knowledge and skills;

(c) Undertake policy-oriented studies and research on priority problems in the region including the collection of information on crime trends and their impact on development and on crime prevention and criminal justice policies and programmes in the region, in order to provide an empirical basis for policy formulation and decision-making;

(d) Assist in the development of effective policies and programmes for the prevention and control of juvenile crime and delinquency and for the treatment of juvenile offenders;

(e) Establish a framework for a data bank and to promote the exchange and transfer of knowledge, expertise and experience and dissemination of information to governments, scholars, practitioners, researchers and organizations involved in the field;

(f) Assist in the promotion of innovative approaches to crime prevention and criminal justice reforms in accordance with United Nations norms and guidelines, drawing upon African traditions and orientations as well as on new developments in the field;



(g) Promote collaboration among the governments of the region in formulating common policies and undertaking joint action on matters of mutual concern in crime prevention and control, including appropriate legal agreements and practical arrangements, at the regional and subregional levels.

### ARTICLE III

#### Headquarters of the Institute

1. The Headquarters of the Institute shall be determined by the Conference of Ministers of the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (hereinafter referred to as the "Conference of Ministers").

2. The Executive Secretary of United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA) shall, as soon as practicable, enter, on behalf of the Conference of Ministers and the Institute, into an agreement with the government of the member State where the Headquarters of the Institute shall be established, concerning the provision and grant, as the case may be, of such adequate premises, facilities, services, privileges and immunities as may be required for the efficient operation of the Institute.

### ARTICLE IV

#### Organs of the Institute

The Institute shall have the following organs:

(a) The Governing Board;

(b) The Secretariat; and

(c) Such other organs as may be necessary for the efficient discharge of its functions and as may be established by the Conference of Ministers.

### ARTICLE V

#### Governing Board: Composition and functions

1. The Governing Board shall consist of:

(a) The Executive Secretary of the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (hereinafter referred to as "the Executive Secretary"), or his representative, who shall be ex officio Chairman of the Governing Board;

(b) A representative each of two member States, from each of the five subregions of the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa, selected by the Conference of Ministers; each such representative shall be selected on the basis of his or her expertise and experience in crime prevention and criminal justice, to serve as a full member;

(c) A representative of the host country as a full member;

(d) A representative of the Organization of African Unity (OAU) without the right to vote;

(e) A representative of the United Nations Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs without the right to vote;

(f) A representative of the United Nations Development Programme without the right to vote;

(g) Representatives of other United Nations institutes for the prevention of crime and the treatment of offenders, by invitation of the Governing Board, as observers without the right to vote;

(h) Representatives of international organizations or institutions interested in the activities of the Institute, as well as donor agencies and eminent experts may also attend the meetings of the Governing Board at the invitation of the Board, as observers without the right to vote.

2. The Director of the Institute, who shall be the Secretary of the Governing Board, shall attend the meetings of the Board in a consultative capacity.

3. The members of the Governing Board selected under subparagraph (b) of paragraph 1 of this article shall hold office for a period of four years and may be eligible for re-election provided, however, that in making selections for the first time, the Conference of Ministers shall direct that one-half of the member States selected by it shall retire two years after serving and shall be replaced by the same number of member States selected by the Conference of Ministers for the purpose.

4. Only full members of the Governing Board shall have the right to vote.

5. When the office of a member of the Governing Board becomes vacant during the term of the member appointed thereto because of retirement, death, incapacity or any other cause, or when the term expires, the Conference of Ministers may appoint a person for the remainder of the term or for further term in accordance with subparagraph (b) of paragraph 1 of this article.

6. The Governing Board shall:

(a) Prescribe the general principles, policies and guidelines governing the operation of the Institute and provide directives of a general nature as to the implementation of such principles, policies and guidelines;

(b) Propose, for the consideration and approval of the Conference of Ministers, the work programmes of the Institute and their corresponding budgets;

(c) Review and approve the annual reports of the Director of the Institute on the activities of the Institute, and submit them to the Conference of Ministers for its consideration and approval;

(d) Appoint professionally qualified auditors to audit the accounts of the Institute;

(e) Examine and approve the financial reports and accounts of the Institute;

(f) Prescribe the administrative, financial, staff, and other rules and regulations governing the operation and administration of the Institute;

(g) Propose, for the consideration and approval of the Conference of Ministers, the contributions to be paid by member States and by the host country to the Institute;

(h) Appoint the Director and senior staff of the Institute;

(i) Establish such technical, financial, and administrative committees as may be necessary for the efficient discharge of the functions of the Institute;

(j) Convene periodically, meetings of donors to consider the funding of the activities of the Institute;

(k) Perform any other functions as may be necessary for the efficient discharge of the functions of the Institute.

7. The Governing Board shall meet in ordinary session once a year and may hold extraordinary sessions at the request of its Chairman or one-third of its members. The first meeting of the Governing Board shall be initiated by the secretariat.

8. The Governing Board shall adopt its own rules of procedure, including procedures for the convening of special or extraordinary sessions.

#### ARTICLE VI

##### The Chairman of the Governing Board

The Chairman shall:

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

(b) Convene and preside over the meetings of the Board;

(c) With the approval of the Governing Board, solicit financial and other assistance from donors, including individual governments outside the region, the United Nations and its specialized agencies or other interested intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and other sources.

#### ARTICLE VII

##### The Director and Secretariat of the Institute

1. The Secretariat of the Institute shall be headed by the Director who shall be the chief executive and administrative officer of the Institute, under the direction of the Governing Board.

2. The Director of the Institute shall be appointed by the Governing Board as provided for in subparagraph (h) paragraph 6 of article V of this Statute. The Director shall initially be appointed for a period of three years and shall be eligible for renewals for such periods as the Governing Board may decide.

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

4. Subject to the policy directive and guidance of the Governing Board, the Director shall, in particular:

(a) Plan, direct, co-ordinate and manage all the technical and administrative activities of the Institute;

(b) Prepare and submit for the consideration of the Governing Board the programme of work, budget, annual reports and audited accounts of the Institute;

(c) Prepare and submit for the consideration of the Governing Board the annual contributions and other special fees to be paid by member States;

(d) Administer the property and assets of the Institute and cause proper accounts to be kept and ensure their timely auditing and presentation to the Governing Board;

(e) Collect and receive contributions and fees and debts due to the Institute;

(f) Subject to the staff and administrative rules and regulations of the Institute, and to such direction as the Governing Board may give, recruit and appoint staff other than those provided for under subparagraph (h) of paragraph 6 of article V of this Statute;

(g) Establish and maintain close contact and collaborative ties with governments, the United Nations and its specialized agencies, institutions, professional associations, individuals and other bodies, and represent the Institute in its external and public relations at national, regional and international levels;

(h) Maintain ongoing relations with the host Government and ensure that the provisions of the host Agreement are observed;

(i) Promote fund-raising by exploring ways and means of ensuring and strengthening the financial base of the Institute;

(j) Prepare and submit for the consideration of the Governing Board, draft rules and regulations governing the financial, administrative and other activities of the Institute;

(k) Prepare, in consultation with the Chairman of the Governing Board, the agenda for the meetings of the Governing Board and attend the meetings as an ex officio;

(1) Keep abreast of mandates by the relevant legislative bodies and new developments in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice and promote their implementation in accordance with the objectives of the Institute;

(m) Undertake such other assignments and activities as may be mandated by the Governing Board.

5. The Director and other staff of the Institute shall neither seek nor accept any instructions, personal remunerations, or gifts from any government or authority or from any sources external to the Institute and shall refrain from any other action which might reflect on their position as international officials.

6. The member States undertake to respect the international character of the responsibilities of the Director and other staff of the Institute and not seek to influence any of their nationals and other staff in the discharge of such responsibilities, provided that this shall not preclude the secondment to the Institute of staff by governments, organizations or institutions.

#### ARTICLE VIII

##### Status, capacity, privileges and immunities

1. To enable it to fulfill its objectives and the functions with which it is entrusted, the Institute shall possess, in the territory of each member State of the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa, juridical personality independent of such States and shall not be considered as forming part of any government. To these ends, the status, privileges, immunities and exemptions set forth in paragraphs 2 to 16 of this article shall be accorded to the Institute in the territory of each member State.

2. The Institute shall have the capacity to:

(a) Enter into contract;

(b) Acquire and dispose of immovable and movable property; and

(c) Sue and be sued.

3. The Institute shall enjoy the autonomy and freedom required for the achievement of its objectives and functions, with particular reference to choice of subjects and methods of teaching and research, the selection of persons and institutions to share in its tasks and freedom of expression.

4. The Institute, its property and assets shall enjoy immunity from every form of legal process except, as in any particular case, it has expressly waived its immunity provided, however, that no measure of execution shall be taken against the property and assets of the Institute without the consent of the Director of the Institute.

5. The headquarters of the Institute shall be inviolable. The property and assets of the Institute shall be immune from search, requisition,

confiscation, expropriation, and any other form of interference whether by executive, administrative, judicial or legislative action.

6. The archives of the Institute, and in general all documents belonging to it or held by it, shall be inviolable.

7. The Institute, its assets, income and other property shall be exempt from all forms of direct taxes provided, however, that such tax exemption shall not extend to the owner or lessor of any property rented by the Institute.

8. Articles imported by the Institute for official purposes shall be exempt from customs duties and other levies and from prohibitions and restrictions on imports and exports, it being understood that customs duty may be payable at the appropriate rate on all or any of the articles imported in accordance with this paragraph, if such articles are sold or disposed of locally, unless they are sold to persons or bodies entitled to purchase such goods without the payment of duty. The Institute however shall not be exempt from the payment of charges of services rendered.

9. The Institute shall, in respect of any transaction to which it is a party, be exempt from taxes, recording fees, and documentary taxes.

10. Members of the Governing Board of the Institute, who are not otherwise officials of the United Nations or of the specialized agencies of the United Nations, attending meetings of or convened by the Institute, shall, while exercising their functions and during their journey to and from the territories of the member States of the Institute, enjoy the following privileges and immunities:

(a) Immunity from personal arrest or detention and from seizure of their personal and official baggage;

(b) Immunity from legal process of any kind and in respect of words, spoken or written and of acts performed by them in their official capacity;

(c) Inviolability of all papers and documents;

(d) The right to use codes and to receive papers or correspondence by courier or in sealed bags;

(e) Exemption in respect of themselves and their spouses from immigration restrictions, alien registration or national service obligations;

(f) The same facilities in respect of currency or exchange restrictions as are accorded to representatives of foreign governments on temporary official missions; and

(g) The same immunities and facilities in respect of their personal baggage as are accorded to diplomatic envoys.

11. The staff of the Institute who are not otherwise officials of the United Nations or the specialized agencies of the United Nations shall:



(a) Be immune from legal process in respect of words spoken or written and all acts performed by them in their official capacity;

(b) Be exempt from taxation on salaries and emoluments paid to them by the Institute;

(c) Be immune from national service obligations;

(d) Be immune, together with their spouses and dependent children, from immigration and alien registration;

(e) Be accorded the same privileges in respect of exchange facilities as are accorded to officials of comparable ranks forming part of diplomatic missions;

(f) Be given, together with their spouses and dependent children and relatives, the same repatriation facilities in time of international crisis as diplomatic envoys;

(g) Have the right to import for their personal use free of duty and other levies, prohibitions and restrictions on imports, within the first twelve months of arrival:

(i) Their furniture, household and personal effects;

(ii) One motor vehicle purchased before customs clearance or from bonded warehouse.

12. Officials of the United Nations or specialized agencies of the United Nations performing functions in connection with the Institute shall enjoy appropriate privileges and immunities provided under the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations, and the convention on the privileges and immunities of the specialized agencies as the case may be.

13. Without prejudice to the foregoing provisions, the member States undertake to accord to all representatives of the member States, all the staff of the Institute and experts providing advice or assistance to the Institute, such facilities and courtesies as are necessary for the exercise of their functions in connection with the Institute.

14. The Director of the Institute shall have the right and duty to waive the immunity of any staff of the Institute who is not an official of the United Nations or of a specialized agency of the United Nations, in cases where in his opinion the immunity would impede the cause of justice and can be waived without prejudice to the interests of the Institute.

15. All persons undergoing training or taking part in a scheme for the exchange of personnel at the Institute in pursuance of the provisions of this Statute and who are not nationals of the member States concerned, shall have the right of entry into, sojourn in, transit through and exit from the territory of each member State when such entry, sojourn, transit

or exit is necessary for their assignment. They shall be granted facilities for speedy travel; visas, where required, shall be granted promptly and free of charge.

16. The Institute shall co-operate at all times with the appropriate authorities of the member States to facilitate the proper administration of justice, secure the observance of national laws and prevent the occurrence of any abuse in connection with the privileges, immunities and facilities mentioned in this article.

#### ARTICLE IX

##### Financial resources of the Institute

1. The Institute shall derive its financial resources from annual contributions made by member States as determined by the Conference of Ministers and from voluntary contributions by donors.

2. The Institute may derive further resources in cash or in kind from the United Nations and its specialized agencies.

3. Member States may be required to make special contributions in kind or in cash in respect of programmes or projects carried out in their territories. The nature and extent of such contributions shall be determined and provided for in agreements entered into by the parties concerned.

4. The Director of the Institute shall, after consultation with the Governing Board, have the power to accept gifts, legacies, grants, loans, and other contributions in cash or in kind from governments, organizations, institutions, and from other sources, provided that such gifts, legacies, grants, loans or other contributions are intended for the furtherance of the objectives of the Institute.

5. The Director of the Institute shall submit to the Governing Board at each annual meeting a report on contributions made and due under paragraphs 1 to 4 of this article.

6. The funds of the Institute shall be held and administered solely for the purpose of the Institute and in accordance with financial rules and regulations governing the operations of the Institute or directives issued by the Governing Board.

7. Funds administered by and for the Institute shall be subject to audit by an auditor appointed by the Governing Board.

#### ARTICLE X

##### Expenses

1. The Director of the Institute may incur expenses for its administrative and operational purposes in accordance with an approved programme of work and within the limits of the budget of the Institute and in accordance with the financial rules and regulations promulgated from time to time by the Governing Board.

2. Expenses incurred by representatives of member States or co-operating States and organizations and by their alternates and advisers as well as expenses incurred by observers for the purpose of attending meetings of the Governing Board, or other organs of the Institute, shall normally be borne by the respective governments or organizations.

#### ARTICLE XI

##### Obligations of member States

The member States shall co-operate in every way so as to assist the Institute in achieving its objectives. They shall in particular:

- (a) Facilitate the timely collection, exchange and dissemination of data and information on crime prevention and the treatment of offenders;
- (b) Make available to the Institute training and research facilities on such terms and conditions as may from time to time be agreed with the appropriate organ of the Institute;
- (c) Make available to the Institute national personnel on such conditions as may be agreed upon with the appropriate organs of the Institute;
- (d) Accord such facilities, privileges and immunities as may be required under the provision of article VIII of this Statute;
- (e) Make timely payment of their annual contributions as may be specified under the provisions of article IX paragraph 1 of this Statute.

#### ARTICLE XII

##### Assistance by the secretariats of the United Nations

1. The Institute shall seek and maintain close working relationships with the secretariats of the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa and the United Nations Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs, which shall, within the limits of their resources, assist the Institute in the achievement of its objectives.

2. Notwithstanding the provisions of this Statute, the secretariat of the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa shall, as appropriate, be entrusted by the Conference of Ministers with the responsibility of seeking assistance from co-operating States and organizations for the implementation of the approved work programme of the Institute, and acting as the executing agency in respect of which it has been able to obtain assistance.

#### ARTICLE XIII

##### Relationship with other States, institutions and organizations

1. The Institute shall seek and maintain active co-operation with States not member States which are desirous of assisting the Institute in achieving its objectives.

2. The Institute shall collaborate closely with the General Secretariat of the Organization of African Unity in furtherance of its objectives.

3. The Institute shall maintain close working relationships with other regional and interregional institutes with similar objectives, United Nations organizations and specialized agencies, academic institutions as well as non-governmental organizations involved in the field of crime prevention and the treatment of offenders.

#### ARTICLE XIV

##### Publications and rights to intellectual property

1. The Institute shall freely publish any results of its research, training and other activities.

2. All rights, including title and copyright in any work or publications, shall be vested in the Institute.

3. The Institute shall use its copyright and other rights and any financial or other benefits derived therewith in furtherance of its objectives.

#### ARTICLE XV

##### Settlement of disputes

1. Any dispute that may arise concerning the interpretation or application of any of the provisions of this Statute which cannot be settled by the parties to the dispute shall be submitted to the Conference of Ministers.

2. If the Conference of Ministers cannot reach a decision on the dispute, or if the decision of the Conference is not accepted by the parties to the dispute concerned, either party to the dispute may request that the matter be submitted to arbitration by an Arbitral Tribunal composed of three members who shall be nominated as follows:

(a) Each party shall nominate one arbitrator;

(b) The third arbitrator who shall be the Chairman of the Arbitral Tribunal shall be chosen by agreement between the arbitrators nominated by the parties.

3. If the Arbitral Tribunal is not constituted within a period of three months from the date of the request for arbitration, any one of the parties to the dispute may request the Chairman of the Conference to make the necessary nominations, except that in cases where the Institute is a party to a dispute, the nominations shall be made by the Executive Secretary of the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa.

4. The decision of the Arbitral Tribunal shall be binding on the parties to the dispute.

5. The provisions of paragraphs 2 and 3 of this article shall be without prejudice to the choice of any other mode of settlement that the parties concerned may decide upon.

#### ARTICLE XVI

##### Dissolution

1. The Institute may be dissolved by agreement of two thirds of the members of the Conference of Ministers.

2. In the case of dissolution of the Institute in pursuance of the provisions of paragraph 1 of this article, the Governing Board shall make provisions for the orderly liquidation of the Institute.

#### ARTICLE XVII

##### Entry into force

This Statute shall enter into force upon its adoption by the Conference of Ministers and signature by 10 member States.

#### ARTICLE XVIII

##### Final and transitional provisions

1. This Statute, of which the English, French and Arabic texts are equally authentic, shall be deposited with the Executive Secretary of the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa.

2. Upon the entry into force of this Statute and until the establishment of the permanent Secretariat of the Institute, the functions of the Secretariat shall be performed by the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the undersigned being accredited by their respective Governments have signed this Statute.

643 (XXIII). Preparation for the second United Nations Conference on Least Developed Countries

##### The Conference of Ministers,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 42/177 of 11 December 1987 on the United Nations Conference on Least Developed Countries (LDCs),

Further recalling its resolution 397 (XV) of 12 April 1980 entrusting the Conference of Ministers of African Least Developed Countries with the responsibility for ensuring the co-ordination of efforts, establishing priorities, monitoring and evaluating progress under the comprehensive New Programme of Action and the Substantial New Programme of Action (SNPA) in African least developed countries,

Recalling also the Final Act of UNCTAD VII which recommended that a high-level United Nations Conference on LDCs should be convened in 1990 to appraise and review the implementation of the SNPA,

Deeply concerned at the continuing deterioration in the socio-economic situation in African LDCs,

Convinced that the proposed international conference will make it possible to evaluate the progress made in the implementation of the Substantial New Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries during the 1980s and to prepare a new strategy to speed up the development of the LDCs during the 1990s,

Noting the series of preparatory meetings to be convened by UNCTAD,

Emphasizing the need for thorough preparations for the United Nations Conference on the LDCs,

1. Approves the devotion of the ninth meeting of the Conference of Ministers of African LDCs to the preparation for the United Nations Conference on LDCs in 1990;

2. Calls upon all African LDCs not only to undertake an evaluation of the progress made in the implementation of the SNPA but also to participate actively in the preparatory meetings of the second United Nations Conference on LDCs;

3. Requests African and international organizations especially ECA, UNCTAD and OAU to provide all necessary technical assistance to the African LDCs in the evaluation of progress made in the implementation of SNPA and in the formulation of the new strategy to be presented to the conference;

4. Urges donor countries and international financial institutions to accord high priority to the preparatory meetings and participate in them at high level.

255th meeting,  
15 April 1988.

644 (XXIII). Strengthening the capabilities of ECA-sponsored regional and subregional organizations

The Conference of Ministers,

Recalling that the Ad Hoc Committee of ECA established by resolution 477 (XVIII) of April 1983 endorsed the relevance and usefulness of ECA-sponsored regional and subregional institutions and made recommendations on the rationalization, co-ordination, harmonization and/or the integration of activities of those institutions,

Recalling also its resolution 550 (XX) of 29 April 1985 by which the Executive Secretary of ECA was requested to consult with the Governments of African member States of the institutions sponsored by them to ascertain



their continuing interest in the institutions, and if so to make a solemn pledge of financial support to these institutions by settling immediately at least 25 per cent of their arrears of contributions and to pay the balance over a five-year period,

Recalling further its resolution 569 (XXI) of 19 April 1986 urging member States and African organizations to use to the fullest extent technical and advisory services available in these institutions,

Recognizing that these institutions have continued, in spite of serious budgetary constraints confronting them, to provide valuable services to member States in the vital area of human resources development, industrial development, socio-economic development planning and management, financial management, trade and transport, and earth resources development, thanks to the resources obtained from extrabudgetary sources,

Appreciative of the financial support provided to these institutions by the few member States which continue to meet their financial obligations,

Gratefully acknowledging the significant role of multilateral and bilateral agencies within and outside the United Nations system in providing substantial extrabudgetary resources which have enabled the institutions to carry out concrete activities in member States,

Seriously concerned that the non-payment and/or irregular payment of contributions have adversely affected the capacity to meet the demand for services to member States and threaten the present and future functioning of these institutions,

1. Strongly urges subregional and regional ECA-sponsored institutions to study carefully all the alternatives recommended by the Ad Hoc Committee;

2. Further urges all member States to implement ECA resolution 550 (XX) on payment of arrears, and continue to meet on a regular basis their financial obligations to these institutions;

3. Invites all member States that have not joined these institutions to do so and actively participate in their activities;

4. Requests the Executive Secretary of ECA to continue with his efforts to implement resolution 550 (XX) to bring the member States to honour their financial obligations and to mobilize extrabudgetary resources for these institutions.

255th meeting,  
15 April 1988.

645 (XXIII). Support to the countries of the south-western Indian Ocean affected by tropical cyclones and natural disasters

The Conference of Ministers,

Recalling its resolution 620 (XXII) of 24 April 1987 requesting support for island countries of the south-western Indian Ocean in their efforts to forecast cyclones and to reduce the adverse effects of such disasters,

Recalling its resolution 288 (XIII) of 1 March 1977 which endorses the establishment of a United Nations Trust Fund for African Development,

Recalling also its resolution 353 (XIV) of 27 March 1979 on least developed, island and most seriously affected African countries,

Recalling further the principles and guidelines of the Lagos Plan of Action for the Implementation of the Monrovia Strategy for the Economic Development of Africa, 1980-2000 on the development of African countries, particularly the poorest countries,

Mindful of the serious consequences of natural disasters on the economic and social development of Africa in general and on that of African least developed countries in particular,

Noting with appreciation the actions undertaken by the World Meteorological Organization (WMO), the Office of the United Nations Disaster Relief Co-ordinator (UNDRO), other institutions and international organizations in their efforts to strengthen national institutions and to set up subregional organizations for forecasting cyclones and to reduce the adverse effects of such disasters,

Conscious of efforts by the countries concerned to strengthen their national structures responsible for forecasting tropical cyclones and other natural disasters,

1. Calls upon all the United Nations specialized agencies carrying out activities with respect to the forecasting and control of natural disasters and the preservation of the environment in Africa, especially the World Meteorological Organization (WMO), the Office of the United Nations Disaster Relief Co-ordinator (UNDRO), the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), the League of Red Cross Societies (LICROSS) and the International Telecommunication Union (ITU), and upon donors to take into account natural disasters and ecological hazards peculiar to the Indian Ocean zone such as cyclones, floods, tidal waves, volcanic eruptions and gas leaks and marine pollution when designing and implementing their programmes;

2. Requests ECA to co-ordinate the activities that other international organizations are conducting in the implementation of resolution 620 (XXII);

3. Requests the Executive Secretary of ECA, working in co-operation with the Secretary-General of OAU and the United Nations Disaster Relief Office (UNDRO) to prepare a plan of action for coping with natural disasters and limiting their adverse effects on the economic and social development of Africa in general and of African least developed countries in particular;

4. Requests also the Executive Secretary to report on the subject to the fifteenth meeting of the Conference of Ministers.

255th meeting,  
15 April 1988.

646 (XXIII). Biennial report of the Executive Secretary

The Conference of Ministers,

Recalling resolution 616 (XXII) of 24 April 1987 on the proposed programme of work and priorities for the biennium 1988-1989,

Having examined the Biennial Report of the Executive Secretary on the 1986-1987 biennium, 8/

Concerned by the effects of the financial crisis of the United Nations on the Commission's biennial programme 1986-1987,

Appreciative of the efforts of the Executive Secretary to implement mandated outputs under circumstances of such severe resource shortages,

1. Endorses the termination of all outputs which have been deferred, postponed or terminated because of the financial crisis;

2. Appeals to the Secretary-General of the United Nations to submit the Biennial Report of the Executive Secretary including the annex on the financial crisis and performance by programme to the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination.

255th meeting,  
15 April 1988.

647 (XXIII). Proposals for extension of the 1984-1989 Medium-Term Plan to 1990-1991

The Conference of Ministers,

Recalling resolution 617 (XXII) of 24 April 1987 on the draft Medium-Term Plan for the period 1990-1995,

Having examined the proposals for the extension of the 1984-1989 Medium-Term Plan to 1990-1991, 9/ prepared on the basis of the decision of the General Assembly to approve as an exceptional measure the continuing through 1991 of the priorities and activities of the Medium-Term Plan for the period 1984-1989,

Conscious of the importance of the ongoing reforms resulting from General Assembly resolution 41/213 of 19 December 1986 on review of the efficiency of the administrative and financial functioning of the United Nations,

1. Endorses the proposals for extension of the 1984-1989 Medium-Term Plan to 1990-1991;

---

8/ E/ECA/CM.14/3.

9/ E/ECA/CM.14/35.

2. Appeals to the Secretary-General of the United Nations to endorse the proposals for submission to the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination for consideration at its twenty-eighth session in 1988.

255th meeting,  
15 April 1988.

648 (XXIII). Updating of the 1988-1989 programme budget

The Conference of Ministers,

Recalling resolution 616 (XXII) of 24 April 1987 on the proposed programme budget for the 1988-1989 biennium,

Having examined the proposals for updating the 1988-1989 programme budget,  
10/

1. Expresses its appreciation to the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination, the Economic and Social Council, the Second and Fifth Committees of the General Assembly of the United Nations, the representatives of African countries in particular and to all the Member States of these Committees for their unequivocal support to the proposals for the programme budget for 1988-1989 and the need for adequate resources to enable the Commission to contribute effectively to the implementation of the United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development, 1986-1990; 11/

2. Also expresses its appreciation to the Secretary-General of the United Nations for exempting the Economic Commission for Africa from the full application of the economy measures;

3. Endorses the proposals for updating the 1988-1989 programme budget;

4. Appeals to the Secretary-General of the United Nations to submit the proposals for updating the 1988-1989 programme budget to the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination.

255th meeting,  
15 April 1988.

649 (XXIII). Multisectoral economic integration projects of the African intergovernmental organizations

The Conference of Ministers,

Considering the Lagos Plan of Action and, in particular, the Final Act of Lagos which invites African States to set up subregional economic communities over the entire continent of Africa,

---

10/ E/ECA/CM.14/34.

11/ A/S-13/2/Annex.

Considering that resolution ES-2/1 adopted by the special session of the ECA Conference of Ministers on 30 October 1986 in Addis Ababa requested the Administrator of UNDP and the Executive Secretary of ECA to continue working closely in carrying out all activities concerning the preparation, formulation and implementation of the African regional programme under UNDP's Fourth Programming Cycle,

Noting with satisfaction the general agreement which has emerged on the concept of and multisectoral approach to the formulation and implementation of the multisectoral projects submitted by the economic integration entities and by the river and lake basin development organizations,

Noting further with satisfaction UNDP's decision to designate ECA as the main executing agency for multisectoral subregional projects formulated by the economic co-operation and integration organizations and by the river and lake basin development organizations with ECA assistance,

Having considered in depth the modalities for implementation of multisectoral economic integration projects as worked out by the meeting with inter-governmental organizations (IGOs), including more specifically the appointment of a co-ordinator for each project, the priority to be given to the recruitment of regional and subregional experts and consultants, the close association of IGOs in project implementation and the establishment of a steering committee for each project that would comprise the main executing agency, UNDP, the specialized agencies and the IGO concerned to monitor project implementation and provide the guidance necessary,

Desirous of speeding up the process of economic integration in each African subregion as one of the factors that would hasten the economic development of the African countries,

1. Welcomes the good working relationship existing among UNDP, ECA, the specialized agencies and the IGOs in their formulation and implementation of economic integration projects under the Fourth Programming Cycle;

2. Requests UNDP to do its utmost to speed up the approval of projects during 1988 covering all the subregions in order to expedite the implementation of the priority integration projects by the various agencies and institutions;

3. Invites ECA, OAU and UNDP to consult each other on the joint organization of intersecretariat annual meetings as a way of harmonizing the activities of subregional economic communities aimed at establishing an African common market and regional economic community, monitoring the implementation of those multisectoral projects approved by UNDP and reporting on them periodically to the ECA Conference of Ministers;

4. Requests the Executive Secretary of ECA to invite African financial institutions to participate regularly in such meetings.

255th meeting,  
15 April 1988.

650 (XXIII). Experiments in grass-root development

The Conference of Ministers,

Having noted the principles set forth during the thirteenth special session of the General Assembly of the United Nations devoted to the critical economic situation in Africa,

Recalling the outcome of the International Conference on the challenge of Africa's accelerated economic recovery and development, held in Abuja, from 15 to 19 June 1987,

Recalling also resolution 607 (XXII) of 24 April 1987 on the seminar on grass-root development,

Taking note of the communication by the National Development Council of the Niger regarding follow-up action on the experiments of African countries presented to the African Symposium on Grass-root Development, held in Niamey, from 8 to 13 June 1987,

1. Invites the Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa, in collaboration with the Secretary-General of the Organization of African Unity and in co-operation with the Government of the Niger, to consider ways and means of implementing the recommendations on follow-up action on experiments in grass-root development;

2. Invites also international organizations to provide technical and financial assistance to give effect to those recommendations, in particular the "special" recommendation.

255th meeting,  
15 April 1988.

651 (XXIII). Resources for the African Centre of Meteorological Applications for Development

The Conference of Ministers,

Aware of ECA resolutions to establish the African Centre of Meteorological Applications for Development (ACMAD), in particular resolution 621 (XXII) of April 1987,

Noting the immense efforts made by the Government of the Niger, the host country of ACMAD, in ensuring that the Centre becomes operational immediately,

Aware of its request by resolution 621 (XXII) for the Board of Governors, in collaboration with the secretariat of Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) and the World Meteorological Organization (WMO), to establish a budget for the operation of ACMAD and a formula for contributions by member States and submit them to the fourteenth meeting of the Conference of Ministers,



Having considered the report 12/ of the inaugural meeting of the Board of Governors of ACMAD held in Niamey, from 12 to 14 April 1988,

Noting that the estimated recurrent budget of ACMAD for the initial five years is \$US 20 million, of which \$US 10 million is for recurrent costs,

Having considered the proposals for the contributions of member States to the recurrent budget of the Centre as contained in the annex to this resolution, 13/

1. Urges those member States who have not yet approved the constitution of ACMAD to do so as soon as possible;

2. Decides that member States shall contribute \$US 1 million representing 50 per cent contribution annually to the recurrent annual budget of the Centre;

3. Adopts the formula for the contribution by member States to the recurrent annual budget of the Centre as contained in the annex to this resolution;

4. Urges member States to honour their contributions to the Centre as soon as possible;

5. Requests the Executive Secretary of ECA, in collaboration with the Secretary-General of WMO and the executive heads of other concerned United Nations agencies, to organize consultations with donors as soon as possible with a view to obtaining contributions towards making the Centre operational;

6. Further requests the Chairman of the Board of Governors to report to the next Conference of Ministers the progress that has been made in implementing this resolution.

255th meeting,  
15 April 1988.

ANNEX TO RESOLUTION 651 (XXIII)

Draft scale of contribution by member States of the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) to the recurrent budget of ACMAD for the initial period of five years, 1988-1993 (in thousands of United States dollars)

No .	Member State	%	Amount
1.	Algeria	8.00	80.00
2.	Angola	2.76	27.60
3.	Benin	0.65	6.50

12/ E/ECA/CM.14/41.

13/ Côte d'Ivoire and Tunisia expressed reservations on the scale of contributions.

No.	Member State	%	Amount
4.	Botswana	0.65	6.50
5.	Burkina Faso	0.65	6.50
6.	Burundi	0.65	6.50
7.	Cameroon	5.10	51.00
8.	Cape Verde	0.65	6.50
9.	Central African Republic	0.65	6.50
10.	Chad	0.65	6.50
11.	Comoros	0.65	6.50
12.	Congo	1.08	10.80
13.	Côte d'Ivoire	3.48	34.80
14.	Djibouti	0.65	6.50
15.	Egypt	8.00	80.00
16.	Equatorial Guinea	0.65	6.50
17.	Ethiopia	2.11	21.10
18.	Gabon	1.74	17.40
19.	Gambia	0.65	6.50
20.	Ghana	4.81	48.10
21.	Guinea	1.11	11.10
22.	Guinea-Bissau	0.65	6.50
23.	Kenya	3.49	34.90
24.	Lesotho	0.65	6.50
25.	Liberia	0.65	6.50
26.	Libyan Arab Jamahiriya	8.00	80.00
27.	Madagascar	1.39	13.90
28.	Mali	0.65	6.50
29.	Malawi	0.65	6.50
30.	Mauritania	0.65	6.50
31.	Mauritius	0.65	6.50
32.	Morocco	2.09	20.90
33.	Mozambique	1.63	16.30
34.	Niger	0.82	8.20
35.	Nigeria	8.00	80.00
36.	Rwanda	0.92	9.20
37.	Sao Tomé and Príncipe	0.65	6.50
38.	Senegal	1.34	13.40
39.	Seychelles	0.65	6.50
40.	Sierra Leone	0.72	7.20
41.	Somalia	1.39	13.90
42.	Sudan	2.35	23.50
43.	Swaziland	0.65	6.50
44.	Togo	0.65	6.50
45.	Tunisia	4.82	48.20
46.	Uganda	0.65	6.50
47.	Tanzania	3.71	37.10
48.	Zaire	1.37	13.70
49.	Zambia	1.55	15.50
50.	Zimbabwe	3.27	32.70
Total		100.00	1,000.00

652 (XXIII). Establishment of a UNDP management facility

The Conference of Ministers,

Having considered UNDP's proposal for the establishment of a UNDP management facility,

Aware that the increased resources now available to UNDP due in particular to currency fluctuations will be used to augment the indicative planning figure (IPF) allocations to member States of UNDP as well as to contribute to the management facility and that the proposed management facility will indeed lead to additional resources,

Appreciative of the UNDP initiative to mobilize additional resources to assist African countries in implementing their economic programmes within Africa's Priority Programme for Economic Recovery (APPER) and the United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development (UN-PAAERD),

1. Welcomes the proposal and supports the establishment of the facility as soon as possible;

2. Appeals to the Administrator of UNDP to ensure that a substantial portion of the increased resources now available to UNDP is used to augment IPF allocations to member States of UNDP;

3. Calls on UNDP and the donor community to contribute funds to the facility;

4. Requests the Administrator of UNDP to ensure a speedy and effective implementation of the facility in favour of African countries;

5. Further requests the Executive Secretary of ECA, in collaboration with the Administrator of UNDP, to submit a progress report on the implementation of this resolution to the fifteenth meeting of the ECA Conference of Ministers.

255th meeting,  
15 April 1988.

653 (XXIII). Memorandum on the contribution of the Economic Commission for Africa to the implementation and mid-term review of the United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development, 1986-1990 (UN-PAAERD): Prospects and recommendations

The Conference of Ministers,

Recalling resolutions S-13/2 of 1 June 1986 and 42/163 of 8 December 1987 of the General Assembly on the United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development, 1986-1990 (UN-PAAERD),

Further recalling resolution 1988/1 of 5 February 1988 of ECOSOC requesting the governing bodies of all relevant organs of the United Nations system

to include an item on the review and appraisal of the Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development, 1986-1990 in the agenda of their forthcoming meetings; and to inviting, inter alia, intergovernmental organizations to report on their contributions, particularly perspectives and efforts related to the implementation of the Programme of Action and to make specific recommendations on further measures that need to be taken for submission to the Ad Hoc Committee,

Having considered the report on the implementation of the United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development included in the agenda of its meeting that took place in Niamey, Niger, from 14 to 17 April 1988 and having subsequently adopted a memorandum on ECA's contribution to the review and appraisal of the UN-PAAERD, 1986-1990, prospects and recommendations,

Requests the current Chairman of the ECA Conference of Ministers to transmit the said memorandum to the Ad Hoc Committee of the Whole on the review and appraisal of the United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development, 1986-1990 (UN-PAAERD).

255th meeting,  
15 April 1988.

654 (XXIII). Motion of thanks to the ECA Executive Secretary for his role in the success of the programme for the integration of women in development 1974-1988

The Conference of Ministers,

Recalling the relevance of ECA initiative taken by the Executive Secretary of ECA to establish the African Training and Research Centre for Women in 1974,

Recalling also the importance of the conferences on the establishment of the Africa Regional Co-ordinating Committee (ARCC) and the setting up of regional, subregional and national machineries for the integration of women in development in Nouakchott in October 1977 and in Rabat in March 1979 under the chairmanship of the Executive Secretary,

Underlining the timeliness of the Lusaka Conference of 1969 and the Arusha Conference of 1984 which were held under the auspices of the Economic Commission for Africa in preparation for the world conferences on the United Nations Decade for Women held in 1980 in Copenhagen and in Nairobi in 1985,

Welcoming the positive contribution of African women at those gatherings,

Appreciating the eminent role played by the African Training and Research Centre for Women since its establishment in organizing conferences, seminars, training, organizing the sharing of experience, preparing several research projects and studies on women and adopting appropriate programmes for the promotion of women in all areas and the improvement of their living conditions particularly in rural areas,

Bearing in mind the effectiveness of the moral and material support of the Executive Secretary in the implementation of well-conceived programmes at the regional, subregional and national levels,

Convinced that the untiring efforts of the Executive Secretary in approaching all institutions, particularly UNDP have resulted in the renewal of the vital assistance of such institutions and in greater awareness of women's programmes,

Considering the consistent endeavours made by the Executive Secretary to maintain, pursue, implement and strengthen those programmes which constitute a considerable contribution to social, cultural and political progress in Africa,

1. Warmly congratulates the Executive Secretary of ECA for his unswerving support which has been instrumental in the ever-growing success of programmes for the integration of women in development;

2. Welcomes the efforts of the Executive Secretary in securing support from UNDP and ensuring that projects for the integration of women in development continue.

255th meeting,  
15 April 1988.

655 (XXIII). Vote of thanks to His Excellency Colonel Ali Saibou, Chairman of the Supreme Military Council, Head of State and Minister of Defence of the Republic of Niger

The Conference of Ministers,

Deeply grateful to His Excellency Colonel Ali Saibou, Chairman of the Supreme Military Council, Head of State and Minister of Defence, to the Government and people of the Republic of Niger for the most generous hospitality, warm and brotherly welcome accorded to all delegations which took part in the various meetings held in Niamey from 31 March to 17 April 1988 as well as for the thoroughgoing co-operation which enabled the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa to hold successfully in Niamey, capital of the Republic of Niger, during the past three weeks, seven major meetings of the Commission and of its subsidiary organs, namely:

(a) Regional Workshop for African Middle-level Women Executives on Trade Promotion, Export Marketing and Import Management Techniques,

(b) Seventh meeting of the Intergovernmental Committee of Experts of African Least Developed Countries,

(c) Ninth meeting of the Africa Regional Co-ordinating Committee for the Integration of Women in Development,

(d) Ninth meeting of the Technical Preparatory Committee of the Whole,

(e) Inaugural meeting of the Board of Governors of the African Centre of Meteorological Applications for Development (ACMAD),

(f) Eighth meeting of the Conference of Ministers of African Least Developed Countries, and

(g) Twenty-third session of the Commission/fourteenth meeting of the Conference of Ministers responsible for economic planning and development and the commemoration of the thirtieth anniversary of ECA,

Also deeply grateful for the invitation which the Government of the Republic of Niger extended to His Excellency Dr. Kenneth Kaunda, President of the Republic of Zambia and current Chairman of the Organization of African Unity, His Excellency Dr. Quette Masire, President of the Republic of Botswana and current Chairman of the Southern African Development Co-ordination Conference (SADCC) and His Excellency Dr. Julius K. Nyerere, former President of the United Republic of Tanzania and President of the South-South Commission to participate in the celebrations marking the thirtieth anniversary of the Commission which took place on 16 and 17 April 1988,

Aware that the co-operation of the Government of the Republic of Niger in organizing and arranging for the holding of the aforementioned meetings in Niamey both enabled and facilitated consideration by the member States of the Commission of various aspects of the current economic situation as listed on the agenda, under the theme "Solidarity for African Economic Recovery and Development",

1. Expresses its appreciation to His Excellency Colonel Ali Saibou, Chairman of the Supreme Military Council, Head of State and Minister of Defence, to the Government and people of the Niger for their hospitality worthy of the best African tradition and for the facilities they so generously placed at the disposal of the Commission and all participants in the aforementioned meetings, contributing largely by so doing to the success of their deliberations;

2. Further expresses its appreciation to His Excellency Colonel Ali Saibou for the excellent commemoration programme marking the thirtieth anniversary of the Commission;

3. Requests the Executive Secretary of ECA to transmit the present resolution to the Government of the Republic of Niger.

256th meeting,  
17 April 1988.



ANNEX I

PRELIMINARY REACTION OF THE ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR AFRICA  
TO THE REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE ADVISORY GROUP  
ON FINANCIAL FLOWS TO AFRICA FINANCING AFRICA'S RECOVERY

1. The Conference of Ministers of the Economic Commission for Africa, during the twenty-third session of the Commission held in Niamey, the Niger, from 14 to 18 April 1988, undertook a preliminary examination of the Report and Recommendations of the Advisory Group on Financial Flows to Africa constituted by the Secretary-General of the United Nations "to assess the critical financial condition of African countries and to propose practical recommendations designed, within agreed programmes, to alleviate the financial burden that they face". The Conference expressed its appreciation to the Secretary-General of the United Nations for the appropriate and timely initiative, and welcomed the expeditious manner in which the Advisory Group had taken up its assignment.
2. The Conference recognizes that the report constitutes a contribution to the analysis of various aspects of Africa's economic crisis. However, it was noted that the measures proposed fall short of the resource requirements of the African region and made no reference to the African Common Position on Africa's External Debt Crisis adopted by the Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity at their third extraordinary session held in November/December 1987 in Addis Ababa.
3. The geographical scope of the study has been narrowed to exclude North Africa and Nigeria. Since the terms of reference of the Group of Eminent Persons was to address the financial problems of the whole of the African continent, the exclusion of these groups of countries, some of which are low-income and debt-distressed, detracts from the usefulness of the work of the Group. The Conference underscored the regional dimension of the economic recovery and development process which Africa has embarked upon. The Conference is of the view that the study ought to be expanded to cover all African countries.
4. Furthermore, the report does not give sufficient consideration to the issue of export earnings of African countries. It concentrates exclusively on solutions related to bilateral and multilateral aid flows and temporary debt-relief measures which will not solve the financial crisis of African countries if the latter continues to be confronted with the continuous loss in export earnings because of the collapse of commodity prices and protectionist policies against Africa's exports.
5. The Conference noted that the Group had taken a narrow view in concentrating mainly on the debt issue. Even in doing so, the report was silent on how Africa could pay its debts. It was felt that the solution to the debt crisis in Africa could not be found in isolation and without due regard being given to the other major components of resource flows to Africa including especially, official development assistance (ODA), capital transfers and export earnings from commodity exports as well as the various factors that influenced such flows namely, interest and exchange rates.

6. The Conference considered that even as a minimum, the resource gap of \$US 5 billion per annum for the period 1988-1990 estimated by the Group represents a gross underestimation of the additional requirements even for the limited number of countries studied, if such an amount was to meet their long-term development needs. The figure therefore needs to be revised upwards to a more realistic level covering all African countries in line with the concern expressed in paragraph 3 above.

7. The Conference emphasized that in order to provide a lasting solution to the problem of resource flows to Africa, all its components should be dealt with simultaneously. These include external debt, official development assistance, direct transfers and export earnings. In doing so, the objective should be to provide Africa with the resources commensurate with its needs.

8. In conclusion, the Conference of Ministers called upon the Secretary-General to continue his initiative by requesting that the study be expanded to include the whole region, as well as the other elements highlighted in this preliminary reaction.

ANNEX II

MEMORANDUM ON THE CONTRIBUTION OF THE ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR AFRICA  
TO THE IMPLEMENTATION AND MID-TERM REVIEW OF THE UNITED NATIONS  
PROGRAMME OF ACTION FOR AFRICAN ECONOMIC RECOVERY AND DEVELOPMENT,  
1986-1990: PROSPECTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

adopted at the twenty-third session of the Commission/fourteenth  
meeting of the Conference of Ministers held at Niamey, Niger,  
from 14 to 17 April 1988

for presentation to the Ad Hoc Committee on the review  
and appraisal of the United Nations Programme of Action for  
African Economic Recovery and Development, 1986-1990

I. Preamble

1. We, the African Ministers responsible for economic development and planning, convening in Niamey, Republic of Niger, for the fourteenth meeting of the Conference of Ministers of the Economic Commission for Africa, twenty-third session and thirtieth anniversary of the Commission, from 14 to 17 April 1988, have reviewed the progress made in the implementation of the United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development, 1986-1990 (UN-PAAERD), adopted by the thirteenth special session of the General Assembly, including the role of the Economic Commission for Africa. This special memorandum was prepared in response to resolution 1988/1 of 5 February 1988 of the Economic and Social Council inviting intergovernmental organizations to report on their contributions, particular perspectives and efforts related to the implementation of the United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development, 1986-1990, and to make specific recommendations.

2. We express our appreciation for the initiatives taken by the United Nations Secretary-General on the implementation of the UN-PAAERD. Similarly, we are encouraged by the fact that most organizations and specialized agencies of the United Nations have taken measures with the view to reflecting in their respective sectoral programmes of work the priorities contained in the UN-PAAERD and that some of them have mobilized additional resources specifically devoted to the United Nations Programme of Action. We appreciate the efforts made by multilateral financial institutions to mobilize additional resources. We are grateful to bilateral donors that have taken measures in support of the efforts of African countries to implement the UN-PAAERD.

3. We reiterate that most of the efforts and resources required for implementing the UN-PAAERD and bringing about long-term development in the region will have to come from African countries themselves. However, the sacrifices of our people have not been adequately supported to yield the expected results.

4. In accordance with the mandate of the Economic Commission for Africa in the overall social and economic development of the region, we have reviewed its contribution to the implementation of the Programme at the regional level with respect to the priority areas of the Programme. In doing so, we have

reviewed the prospects for the successful implementation of the UN-PAAERD and made proposals for accelerating the implementation of the UN-PAAERD at national, subregional, regional and international levels.

## II. Contribution and efforts of the Economic Commission for Africa in the implementation of the UN-PAAERD

5. A major task of the Commission, after the adoption of the programme, was therefore to maintain the momentum generated by the special session of the General Assembly. First, it was essential for African countries to adopt the necessary measures required for the full implementation of the Programme and for the international community to devise ways and means of providing the necessary financial and technical support to complement Africa's effort. Secondly, it was important to closely monitor the developments at national, regional and international levels by improving information flows and ascertaining the overall picture in terms of both quantitative and qualitative changes in economic performance. Thirdly, there was need to provide African countries with the necessary support especially in the priority sectors and areas of the UN-PAAERD.

### 1. Promoting a framework for the accelerated implementation of the UN-PAAERD

6. The Commission authorized the administration of questionnaires based on specific criteria related to each of the priority areas of the UN-PAAERD. The questionnaires provided guidelines for individual countries and intergovernmental organizations for monitoring the implementation of the UN-PAAERD at national, subregional and regional levels. The analysis of the first questionnaire made a major contribution to the preparation of the report of the Secretary-General of the United Nations to the General Assembly at its forty-second session. The second questionnaire will constitute an input to the Mid-term Review of the UN-PAAERD, 1986-1988 scheduled for the forty-third session of the General Assembly.

7. The Commission has continued to monitor the work of the United Nations Inter-agency Task Force on the implementation of the UN-PAAERD, which is headed by its Executive Secretary. Its report on improving information flows on the follow-up process to African economic recovery and development specifically deals with the types of information required for monitoring the UN-PAAERD at national, subregional, regional and international levels.

8. Soon after the adoption of the UN-PAAERD the Commission was convened at a special session to discuss UNDP's draft orientation paper for the Fourth Regional Programme for Africa for the period 1987-1991. This document was aimed at focusing the Programme on the priority areas of the UN-PAAERD.

9. The technical assistance activities of the Commission were refocused on the priority areas of the UN-PAAERD. Thus, the resources mobilized from extrabudgetary sources were mainly directed to activities in those areas.

2. Monitoring of the implementation of the UN-PAAERD at the regional level

10. The annual session of the Commission and annual meeting of the Conference of Ministers provides a unique opportunity to review and assess the degree of implementation of the UN-PAAERD. Since the twenty-second session, both the annual Survey of Economic and Social Conditions in Africa and the Survey on the Implementation of the UN-PAAERD have made it possible for the Commission to monitor closely not only the economic conditions in African countries but also the progress in achieving the global and sectoral objectives of the Programme.
11. The International Conference on Africa: The Challenge of Economic Recovery and Development was held in Abuja, Nigeria, on the initiative of the Economic Commission for Africa in June 1987. It was a direct follow-up to the special session of the General Assembly and constituted a unique forum where the various actors in the implementation of the UN-PAAERD undertook a preliminary assessment, evaluation of the prospects for economic recovery and accelerated development in Africa as well as recommended necessary future actions.
12. The Abuja international conference noted that African countries had undertaken measures that had yielded some positive results, which should be continued and that a number of positive steps had been taken since 1986 by the international community. The conference, however, expressed concern that those efforts may not be adequate to meet the external resource needs of Africa for its recovery programme, particularly in the face of the dramatic fall in commodity prices and the escalation of debt-burden obligations. The conference urgently called for a comprehensive approach to African external resource needs rather than ad hoc and partial actions. Such an approach should take due account of the link between commodity price level, external debt and international resource flows to Africa. The Abuja Statement was submitted to various forums including the General Assembly at its forty-second session.
13. After the Abuja conference, a second international conference was organized in Khartoum, the Sudan, in March 1988 to critically assess the central role the human factor plays, both as a means to and objective of development, in Africa's efforts towards achieving economic recovery and accelerated, self-sustaining and self-reliant development. The conference reviewed the progress in human resources development and utilization in Africa as well as the actions required in the context of ongoing structural adjustment efforts, including the strengthening and further development of human capabilities and the enhancement of the conditions of human well-being.
14. The Khartoum Declaration entitled Towards a Human-focused Approach to Socio-economic Recovery and Development in Africa has provided an overall assessment of the human factor in Africa, with respect to such aspects as production of essential items, especially food and provision of basic services. It focused on the human dimension of structural adjustment programmes. In general, the conference was of the view that some programmes, rather than improving the economic and social conditions of the people, have aggravated them.

15. It is in the above context that specific recommendations were made at national, regional and international levels with respect to incorporating the human factor in the recovery and structural adjustment process; paying special attention to the social sector and the vulnerable groups; and devising manpower development and utilization plans for the long term. The conference finally resolved to submit the Khartoum Declaration to the General Assembly of the United Nations at its forty-third session, as an integral part of the follow-up to the UN-PAAERD.

16. The Commission has closely collaborated with the Organization of African Unity and UNDP in monitoring the UN-PAAERD. This collaboration has given the opportunity to the three organizations to assist some member States in increasing their efforts on the implementation of the UN-PAAERD.

3. Activities of the Economic Commission for Africa related to the priority areas of the UN-PAAERD

17. In addition to providing guidelines for the implementation of the UN-PAAERD at national, regional and international levels, and monitoring the overall implementation process, the Economic Commission for Africa and its secretariat have also focused their activities on each of the priority areas of the Programme of Action. It should be pointed out that much more would have been done if the Commission had not been confronted with lack of adequate resources.

a. Food and agriculture

18. Accorded the highest priority, food and agriculture has featured prominently on the agenda for action by the Commission. In this regard, various proposals have been put forward by the Commission to African countries and to the international community with a view to bringing about a major transformation of the agriculture sector and to redress its pervasive structural disequilibria in terms of the balance between food and export crops, as well as rainfed and irrigated agriculture. The proposals include, inter alia, policy measures and institutional measures for forest conservation management and development; land-use policies and farming systems; mobilization of financial and technological resources for increased food and agriculture production; subregional co-operation in the production of cereals and tubers; agricultural research and training for the development of appropriate technology for food production in Africa; and the reduction of food waste and losses.

19. In the field of agricultural policies, the Commission has repeatedly laid particular emphasis on the need for all African countries to achieve, by 1990, the target of raising the share of agriculture in total public investment to between 20 and 25 per cent. Other measures that have been promoted in the region since the adoption of the UN-PAAERD relate to the adoption of remunerative producer prices and other incentives to farmers such as credit facilities for the acquisition of essential inputs.

20. Various activities were undertaken including training and technical advisory services to countries in such fields as investment plans and programmes formulation, improvement of agricultural institutions and services, and co-operation in trade in food and agricultural products. A major activity



of the African countries has been the formulation and implementation of food strategies integrating the production of cereals and tubers, livestock and fishery products, and providing a framework for greater food security.

21. Another initiative of the Commission was the establishment of a network of maize research centres in some member States through the launching of pilot maize research and demonstration trials for small-scale farmers. Other activities included the promotion of the integrated development of fishery industries in the region, plant protection and the establishment of an insect control centre.

b. Other sectors in support of agriculture

22. Soon after the adoption of the UN-PAAERD, the Conference of African Ministers of Industry, a subsidiary organ of the Commission, defined priority measures within the programme of the Industrial Development Decade for Africa with a view to accelerating the implementation of the programme. Specifically African countries were urged to accord high priority to short-term rehabilitation measures of industries directly linked to agriculture such as those processing food products and those producing agricultural inputs. In the framework of preparatory activities, the second General Conference of UNIDO adopted a Memorandum on Industrial Development in Africa <sup>1/</sup> which identifies measures at national, subregional, regional and international levels aimed at making the industrial sector an engine of growth and more supportive to agriculture. In this regard, industries producing widely consumed goods especially in the rural areas as well as agro-related basic industries were given high priority. The Conference of African Ministers of Industry also recommended a review of the first Decade and the launching of a second International Development Decade for Africa (IDDA) in the 1990s.

23. Technical advisory services were provided to some African countries for the promotion of food processing technologies, and for the integrated development at subregional level of fertilizers, pesticides and agro-related engineering industries. The Commission has put greater emphasis on policies and institutions for the development of small-scale industries and the improvement of the capabilities of entrepreneurs of small-scale industries.

24. Since the adoption of the UN-PAAERD, the United Nations Transport and Communications Decade in Africa (UNTACDA) has been refocused on the improvement of transport and communications to production areas, and the development of these infrastructures for increased intra-African trade in agricultural and agro-industrial products. Moreover, the Conference of African Ministers of Transport, Communications and Planning, a subsidiary organ of the Commission, had undertaken an in-depth evaluation of the UNTACDA programme at its sixth meeting held in Kinshasa, Zaire, in March 1988. The Kinshasa Conference recommended the launching of a second UNTACDA in view of the vital role of the transport and communications sector in the physical integration of African economies at national, subregional and regional levels, an important element in their recovery and long-term development, in line with the UN-PAAERD.

---

<sup>1/</sup> ECA/IND/CAMI.I.SP/M/1/Rev.3, 17 October 1987.

25. In the field of trade, the African Regional Experts Group on Domestic and Intra-African Trade which met in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, in November 1987 formulated recommendations for the promotion of African products and the improvement of information flows on supply and demand for such products especially foodstuffs. The recommendations of the African Regional Experts Group were translated into concrete actions by the Commission particularly through its assistance to subregional economic groupings such as the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), the Preferential Trade Area (PTA) for Eastern and Southern African States and the Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS). They were taken into account by the secretariat in the negotiations for the establishment of a Preferential Trade Area for the North African subregion.

26. Issues related to Africa's external sector were the main focus of the deliberations of the Conference of African Ministers Responsible for Trade and Development during its meeting preparatory to the seventh session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD VII), held in March 1987 in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. The Conference adopted a Declaration on African Common Position for UNCTAD VII 2/ which presents a comprehensive and integrated package of proposals relating, inter alia, to resources for development including financial and monetary questions, commodities and international trade and least developed countries. These proposals were, to some extent, reflected in the outcome of UNCTAD VII and particularly in paragraph 44 of its Final Act with respect to Africa's debt crisis.

c. Drought and desertification

27. The decision of the twenty-second session of the Commission to establish the African Centre of Meteorological Applications for Development (ACMAD) in Niamey, the Niger 3/ in response to the severe drought of 1983-1985 was an important measure in the implementation of the UN-PAAERD. The major activities of ACMAD will include the strengthening of capabilities of the member States in the application and use of meteorological and climatological data; the devising and operation of a meteorological and climatological early warning system for natural disasters including tropical cyclones which regularly affect the African countries of the south-west Indian Ocean and locust invasions; the development of appropriate methodologies of applied meteorology to food crop production, water resources management and the development of alternative renewable sources of energy; collection, analysis, storage and dissemination of data and information; and the provision of training in the application of meteorological data and information to economic and social conditions in the region. At the twenty-third session of the Commission, the Governing Council of ACMAD met to discuss issues relating to the functioning of the Centre.

28. In addition, the Commission, along with other relevant regional organizations, provided assistance to some member States in the area of institution-building for combating drought and desertification. This assistance has

---

2/ E/ECA/TRADE/70, 18 March 1987.

3/ ECA Conference of Ministers, resolution 621 (XXII) of April 1987.

helped member States to develop and strengthen related national, subregional and regional training machineries, such as training in the fields of formulation, implementation, monitoring and evaluation.

29. The Commission has strengthened its programme in environment in order to contribute to the establishment of national and regional data bases for environmental planning. In addition, the Commission has been providing assistance in incorporating environmental components in the training programmes of ECA-sponsored institutions.

d. Human resources development, planning and utilization

30. The Khartoum Declaration already referred to was subsequently endorsed by the third ECA Conference of African Ministers Responsible for Human Resources Planning, Development and Utilization which followed immediately. The African ministers for human resources adopted specific measures aimed at putting the vast human resources potential available in Africa at the service of recovery and sustained long-term development through an integrated approach to human resources planning, development and utilization.

31. The human factor is central to economic development. Thus, the Commission provided its full support to the initiative of the Government of the Republic of Niger in convening a symposium on grass-root development approaches in the context of African economic recovery and development in June 1987 at Niamey.

32. With respect to higher learning in Africa, the Commission focused its attention on the follow-up to the recommendations of the third meeting of the ECA/Association of African Universities Conference of Vice-Chancellors, Presidents and Rectors of Institutions of Higher Learning in Africa. Specifically the efforts were directed at the mobilization of resources for the training and placement of African trainees in some critical fields, namely science, administration, management and planning. In addition, the identification of measures aimed at facilitating the return of African experts living abroad was also given attention.

e. Policy reforms

33. In the field of public administration and finance, the Commission prepared recommendations for member States on the organization of management services systems and the strengthening of government expenditure control. Training was provided in 1986 and 1987 for various individual countries with respect to procurement and supply management; development of modern management skills and techniques; institutional reforms for development management; and the improvement of budgetary and financial management including efficient programming of public expenditure. The Commission, in co-operation with the United Nations Development Programme and the United Nations Department of Technical Co-operation for Development, launched the Special Action Programme for Administration and Management (SAPAM) in Africa which is a major initiative designed to strengthen the capabilities of African countries in those important areas to enable them to better manage their economies and resources.

34. The Commission had established a Working Group on the Study of Structural Adjustment in Africa with a view to providing an African framework for structural adjustment and transformation. The study, which will be available by the end of 1988, will cover such aspects as fiscal and monetary policies; external debt management; pricing policies; public/private sectors programmes; export promotion and diversification; industrial sector rehabilitation; and institutional reforms. Such initiative is supported by an International Advisory Board including high officials of international and national development institutions as well as university scholars in the field of development issues and policies.

35. The implementation of the provisions contained in the UN-PAAERD had been the major focus of the Joint Conference of African Planners, Statisticians and Demographers at its fifth session held in March 1988 in Addis Ababa. Some of the basic issues considered were related to short-term economic management; national accounts statistics; integration of demographic, social and related economic statistics in development planning in Africa; and household survey techniques. Advisory services to some individual member States in above areas were also provided.

36. The Joint Conference of African Planners, Statisticians and Demographers reviewed the implementation of the Kilimanjaro Programme of Action (KPA) for African Population and Self-reliant Development, adopted by the second African Population Conference held in Arusha, the United Republic of Tanzania, in January 1984. In this regard, various activities were undertaken, including training workshop on demographic data estimates and projections; preparation of guidelines for the integration of demographic variables in socio-economic development planning; advisory services to several countries on census survey and vital registration data analysis; and studies on methods for population estimates and projections, mortality levels and integrated maternal and child health family programmes in Africa.

37. In recognition of the importance of the participation of the people in development, two major issues were addressed by the Commission, namely modalities of popular participation in development in Africa and strategies for enhancing popular participation with emphasis on women and youth. In addition, a major concern has been the mobilization of youth for its effective participation in development efforts and the provision of adequate opportunities to such vulnerable groups as the disabled, in order to bring those groups into the mainstream of development efforts as active agents.

38. The Africa Regional Co-ordinating Committee for the Integration of Women in Development, a subsidiary organ of the Commission, has played a prominent role in highlighting issues relating to women and development. Specifically, the contribution of women to the food and agricultural sector has been accorded high priority. Such a focus was translated into the organization of seminars on preparation, implementation and evaluation of rural development projects; and the role of women as traders and especially in the marketing of foodstuffs; the role of co-operatives as a means of integrating women in development. The need to diversify women's experience in industry, especially agro-industries, was also given due attention. Moreover, advisory services were provided to member States for technical backstopping of national machineries for the integration of women in development.

39. The Commission had reviewed social trends and major social development problems in the light of the policy reforms initiated by member States. It may be recalled that in 1986 an intergovernmental committee drafted an African Charter for Social Action which is to be considered in June 1988 by the fifth meeting of the Conference of African Ministers of Social Affairs, a subsidiary organ of the Commission.

### III. Prospects for the successful implementation of the UN-PAAERD

#### 1. Trends in Africa's economic recovery and development 4/

40. African countries have individually and collectively made great efforts to implement the UN-PAAERD. Despite these efforts, the economic situation has not improved to the extent to yield the expected results. In 1987, the growth rate of GDP was estimated at 0.8 per cent as compared to a population growth rate of around 3 per cent. This has therefore resulted in the deterioration of the living conditions of the population. Gross fixed capital formation has remained low at 17.3 per cent of total GDP, highlighting the difficulty faced by the region in devoting adequate resources to finance growth and development.

41. Agriculture, which is the priority sector of the UN-PAAERD, increased by a mere 0.5 per cent in 1987. With respect to food, cereal production declined by 8 per cent while roots and tubers have only increased slightly (about 1.6 per cent). The main reason for the disappointing performance was the recurrence of drought in that year but this was not as severe as in 1983-1984.

42. Although manufacturing value-added increased by about 3.7 per cent in 1987, food processing, which is the largest branch, recorded a lower growth rate (about 2.5 per cent). A major cause of the poor performance of this sector is the under-utilization of installed capacity.

43. Overall, the level of Africa's export earnings in 1987 was 12 per cent lower than that of 1985 before the adoption of the UN-PAAERD. That is why, in spite of the drastic reduction in imports in the context of the austerity measures adopted in many countries, the current account deficit remained at \$US 11.2 billion in 1987. Between 1985 and 1987, the terms of trade deteriorated by about 17 per cent. The external debt of the region was estimated at \$US 218.1 billion in 1987. The ratio of debt servicing as a percentage of exports remained high (35.8 per cent).

#### 2. Basic requirements for the successful implementation of the UN-PAAERD

44. The basic requirements for the successful implementation of the UN-PAAERD on the side of African Governments include policy reforms; rationalization of the public sector; decentralization of decision-making process in socio-economic development; grass-root development and democratization of the development process; and economic co-operation and integration. With respect

---

4/ Source: Survey of Economic and Social Conditions in Africa, 1986-1987 (E/ECA/CM.14/4).



to the international community, these comprise, inter alia, favourable external economic environment, more effective debt-relief measures, better commodity prices, and increased external resource flows.

45. To ensure economic recovery, African countries must intensify their efforts in policy reforms, in putting greater emphasis on the rationalization of the public sector, so as to contribute effectively to the recovery process. In addition, it is essential to create favourable conditions for decentralizing the decision-making process in socio-economic development and promoting increased access to development resources so as to broaden the participation of the population in the recovery process.

46. For the successful implementation of the UN-PAAERD, it is essential that the ongoing structural adjustment programmes shall be consistent with the requirements for recovery and long-term development. The policy reforms must take into account the need to minimize the adverse social impact of various measures taken. In this regard, budgetary cuts in the framework of austerity measures must not affect the development and operation of social infrastructure, particularly health and education services. Structural adjustment programmes should provide the basis for economic reconstruction and rehabilitation for long-term development.

47. It is increasingly recognized that the successful implementation of the UN-PAAERD will require intensified and comprehensive approach to economic co-operation and integration. The actions required should accelerate the recovery process and bring about the required structural changes. They should focus on such aspects as strengthening of existing subregional economic groupings, the joint planning and development of community project in key economic sectors and intensification of efforts towards the setting up of an African Common Market.

48. The prospects for a successful implementation of the UN-PAAERD depend to a large extent on the external economic environment. The performance of the African external sector has been disappointing in many respects during the past two years of the implementation of the UN-PAAERD. The fall in export earnings has forced most African countries to reduce imports including essential goods required for development projects.

49. The forecast is for exports to grow by a mere 1.3 per cent during the period 1988-1990 in real terms and, if prices continue to be depressed at the same level as in 1986-1988, the value of exports in 1990 will be below that for 1986. To enable African countries to maintain the rate of imports compatible with the needs of economic recovery and development, the resource flows to Africa must increase appreciably from \$US 18.9 billion in 1986 to \$US 29.7 billion in 1990. 5/ Such a requirement is not likely to materialize in the prevailing economic environment.

50. Africa's outstanding debt is forecast to reach \$US 237 billion in 1990, with a debt-service obligation of about 45 per cent of export earnings. 5/ Interest payments alone will amount to 20 per cent of export earnings in 1990 as compared to 13 per cent in 1985. 5/ Undoubtedly, such drain on

---

5/ Source: Beyond recovery: ECA-revised perspectives of Africa's development, 1988-2008 (E/ECA/CM.14/31).



resources, if it is allowed to occur, will lead to further worsening of the economic situation of the region, well below its 1985 level before the adoption of the UN-PAAERD.

51. It is important to recall that there should be a link among commodity prices levels, external debt and resources flow. As a matter of fact, increased aid flows will not provide adequate resources for economic recovery and development if, at the same time, Africa's export earnings continue the present decline. Similarly, it has been recognized that continued rescheduling of debt, even at favourable interest rates, will not constitute a lasting solution if African countries cannot generate enough resources to service their debts. Such resources can only come from stabilized export earnings at remunerative levels and substantial increases in aid flows. There should therefore be an integrated package to reverse the situation which has turned Africa into a net exporter of capital.

52. The success of economic reforms in African countries will depend to a large extent on financial and economic policies adopted in industrialized countries such as interest rates and exchange rates. These countries should take measures to facilitate access of African exports to their markets.

#### IV. Summary of recommendations

53. From the above review, it is clear that the African Governments are committed to pursuing measures aimed at restructuring and improving their economies; managing their debts; ensuring efficient mobilization and utilization of domestic resources; enhancing economic subregional and regional co-operation and integration, as well as managing natural disasters. They should continue to pursue these measures.

54. The international community has recognized the need to provide African countries with adequate resources with the view to complementing their efforts for the implementation of the UN-PAAERD. Such recognition needs to be translated into concrete actions linking the issues of external debt, export earnings and aid flows.

55. With particular reference to external debt, the international conference on the external debt of the region requested by African Heads of State and Government should be convened without delay. This conference will enable the beginning of a constructive dialogue on the basis of proposals contained in "African Common Position on Africa's External Debt Crisis" adopted by the third extraordinary session of the OAU Summit.

56. Four issues need to be addressed urgently to reverse the present declining trend in Africa's export earnings. First, the demand for Africa's primary exports should be expanded, especially through growth-oriented policies in the world economy and the removal of protectionist policies. Secondly, current initiatives for bringing the Common Fund for Commodities into operation as soon as possible should be speeded up. Thirdly, consideration must be given to the adoption of a generalized programme of stabilization of export earnings parallel to the existing STABEX. Finally, the resources of the IMF Compensatory Financing Facility should be substantially increased.

57. In addition to recent initiatives in this regard by some bilateral donors, a substantial increase in bilateral aid is required with a view to achieving, by the 1990s the target of 0.7 per cent of gross national product for ODA, as already realized by some donor countries. Similarly, additional and significant increases in concessional resources through multilateral institutions is also required. In this regard, it is essential to issue new Special Drawing Rights which are commensurate with Africa's development needs and to ensure that contributions to the agreed replenishment of International Development Association (IDA) and African Development Fund (ADF) are paid up and that IFAD's Third Replenishment and IDA's Ninth Replenishment are successfully and satisfactorily concluded.

#### V. Conclusion

58. We, the Ministers responsible for Economic Planning and Development of the Economic Commission for Africa, have prepared this memorandum with the firm conviction that the adoption of the UN-PAAERD is a clear recognition, by the international community, of the need to develop the African region. It is therefore imperative that the commitment thus made be speedily translated into concrete actions. We therefore invite the Ad Hoc Committee to consider very carefully the views and proposals put forward in this Memorandum on the contribution of ECA to the review and appraisal of the UN-PAAERD, prospects and recommendations.

59. We trust that the international community, on its part, will join hands with Africa and fulfil its commitment towards the implementation of the UN-PAAERD. The international community must realize that Africa should not remain the weakest link in the world economic system and that the worsening and the persistence of the economic crisis throughout the continent could constitute a threat to world peace and stability. We are therefore hopeful that the forthcoming mid-term review of the implementation of the UN-PAAERD will provide an opportunity for the international community to express in concrete terms its full commitment to the Programme.

ANNEX III

NIAMEY DECLARATION ON THE OCCASION OF THE THIRTIETH ANNIVERSARY  
CELEBRATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR AFRICA

1. We, the African Ministers responsible for economic development and planning, assembled at the Palais des Congrès, Niamey, Republic of Niger, from 14 to 17 April 1988, on the occasion of the celebration of the Thirtieth Anniversary of the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa, held during the twenty-third session of the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa/fourteenth meeting of the Conference of African Ministers responsible for economic development and planning, under the Conference theme "Solidarity for African Economic Recovery and Development", acting for and on behalf of the Governments and peoples of Africa, make the Niamey Declaration marking the Thirtieth Anniversary of the Commission.

2. We recall with satisfaction Economic and Social Council resolution 671 A (XXV) of 29 April 1958 by which the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) was established as the first regional organization in Africa. At the time when ECA was established, a large part of Africa was still under colonial rule and Africa was represented by eight independent member States. We have watched that number grow to fifty member States. Subsequently, other regional organizations, notably the Organization of African Unity (OAU) and the African Development Bank (ADB), came into being and joined hands with ECA to provide technical support and advisory services to our member States. We further recall General Assembly resolution 3201 (S-VI) and 3202 (S-VI) of 1 May 1974 containing the Declaration and the Programme of Action on the Establishment of the New International Economic Order which further strengthened the role of the Commission in international economic relations and General Assembly resolution 32/197 and other resolutions on the restructuring of the economic and social sectors of the United Nations including resolution 32/202 which conferred the status of autonomous executing agency of operational projects on the regional commissions.

3. In the framework of these international decisions and declarations and of the Commission's activities in the past thirty years, we recall with pride and satisfaction the initiatives taken by the Commission and the achievements obtained particularly in the crucial areas of continuous clarification of development and economic growth concepts and issues in the region and means of settling economic and social problems attested to concretely by such epoch-making documents prepared jointly with OAU such as the Monrovia Strategy for the Economic Development of Africa, the Lagos Plan of Action for the Economic and Social Development of Africa and the Final Act of Lagos (1980), Africa's Priority Programme for Economic Recovery (1985), Africa's Submission to the Special Session of the General Assembly of the United Nations on Africa's Economic and Social Crisis (1986) and the United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development (1986).

4. We further recall with satisfaction ECA's consistent and persistent championing of the cause of African economic and social development in all international forums; the provision of technical assistance including the integrated development of human resources; the initiation and promotion of specific programmes geared towards the solution of identified problems as attested to by the programmes of the United Nations Transport and

Communications Decade in Africa, the United Nations Industrial Development Decade for Africa, the Arusha Strategies for the Integration of Women in Development, and the Kilimanjaro Programme of Action on Population to name only a few. The Commission has promoted and sponsored the establishment of development institutions for economic co-operation and integration and strengthened its role in the execution of technical co-operation activities and operational projects where the Commission is now in the forefront as the principal executing agency of UNDP multinational and regional projects.

5. During the past 30 years, with the technical support and advisory services of the ECA secretariat and other bilateral, multilateral and international organizations, we have achieved considerable progress in the economic and social fields. We have experienced the evolution of our continent from a relatively insignificant role to the rank of an important voice at the international level in favour of world peace, solidarity and liberty by all peoples. We have played our role in international forums such as the United Nations General Assembly and its specialized agencies, the Organization of African Unity, the Non-Aligned Movement and the Islamic Conference. We played a major role in the creation of the Group of 77 and in sponsoring a large number of conferences on commodities, trade, money and finance, environment and natural resources.

6. One of the main achievements which our Commission would like to cite is in the establishment of development institutions at the national, subregional and regional levels to respond more effectively to the social and economic requirements of the changing times. Among these may be cited the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS); the Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS); and the Preferential Trade Area for Eastern and Southern African States (PTA). Some ECA-sponsored institutions have also been established over the period, among which may be mentioned the African Development Bank (ADB). These institutions have enhanced the articulation of the development objectives and priorities in implementing programmes for collective self-reliance.

7. In many economic sectors, appreciable advancement has been made over the past thirty years. For instance, we have witnessed improvement in the infrastructures - transport and communications; there are better intra-African airlinks and inter-State highways than there were thirty years ago; there are more hospitals and clinics available in both rural and urban areas and there are more schools, colleges, universities and institutions of higher learning. Some progress has also been achieved in agricultural research and productivity including better farming methods; seeds and animal breeding; industrial development and manufacturing has registered higher rates of growth; and the application of science and technology is more responsive to African social and economic conditions than ever before.

8. We are fully aware that this record of achievement could have been better and that the social and economic conditions of our peoples need considerable improvements. For instance, we note with dismay the deterioration in our economic performance. In the 1960s, African economies were characterized by an active export sector and the prices of our primary commodities were relatively remunerative and the balance of payments, in the majority of cases, was positive; incomes and production grew faster than the rates of population growth and generally standards of living were visibly improving. Africa

was also a net exporter of food. The situation turned for the worse in the 1970s with the increase in import bills of energy, manufactures, capital goods and food against a steadily declining trend in export earnings. While our economies were adversely affected by these developments, we were nevertheless able to keep our heads above the water. With the turn of the 1980s, the situation quickly climaxed to a crisis situation. There was a collapse in the prices of primary commodities which reached the lowest levels in fifty years; export earning capacities of our countries were seriously eroded; balance-of-payments deficits became chronic and were aggravated by a hostile international economic environment; import bills mounted to a level that seriously robbed us of the resources for development and, above all, the mounting external debt-servicing obligations thwarted virtually all our efforts towards economic recovery and self-sustaining growth. This was further exacerbated by the advancing desertification, the unprecedented drought of 1983 and 1985, cyclones, hurricanes and floods and recently the locust invasion.

9. To the above development problems should be added the destabilization of our political, social and economic structures by external forces and in some cases the changing political climate in member States, which have acted as a serious obstacle to our efforts to enhance our social and economic advancement. We therefore denounce the continued abhorrent oppression of the people of South Africa under the obnoxious policy of apartheid and resolve individually and collectively to step up the momentum for the immediate accession of the Namibian people to nationhood and the establishment of majority rule in South Africa. We equally denounce the vicious acts of economic, military and political destabilization including the frequent callous acts of outright aggression being meted out by the Pretoria racist regime on the front-line States.

10. We recall with satisfaction the sustained effort which has been undertaken by our respective Governments during the past three decades to improve the standards of living of our people and make man the focal point of economic development. The adverse effects of unfavourable external factors have, however, seriously hampered our efforts and frustrated our ambitions. There is an enormous task facing us in our efforts to reduce the distance that remains to be travelled before we can attain the rank of interdependent partners in the world economic system.

11. We have reviewed progress made so far in the implementation of APPER and the UN-PAAERD and note with satisfaction that across the continent, our countries are taking all possible steps to improve domestic resource mobilization and the management of the economies generally as amplified in the Abuja Statement on Africa's Economic Recovery and Accelerated Development adopted at Abuja, the new capital of Nigeria, in June 1987. Substantial efforts are also being made towards economic policy reforms and structural adjustments particularly in the food and agriculture sector. All these reform measures are being implemented at considerable social and political cost so much so that we have now built a common position around a more human-focused approach to socio-economic recovery and development in Africa, as embodied in the Khartoum Declaration adopted by the International Conference on the Human Dimension of Africa's Economic Recovery and Development which was held



in Khartoum, the Sudan, from 5 to 8 March 1988 and whose findings and recommendations we now commend to all concerned including especially the donor countries and regional and international development finance institutions.

12. Moreover, while bearing in mind the various initiatives taken recently by the international community, particularly bilateral donors, international organizations especially multilateral funding agencies as well as the various specialized development funds, we remain gravely concerned at the continuing unfavourable situation in the international economic environment particularly the very dim prospects for the fulfillment of the assurances made by the international community in the UN-PAAERD for adequate financial and technical support as well as the right external environment to support Africa's own domestic efforts at recovery and development.

13. We are particularly concerned at the disproportionately low level of net actual resource flows to Africa; the continuing slump in commodity prices; the aggravation of the excruciating debt burden of African countries which at the end of 1987 amounted to about \$US 218.2 billion for the region as a whole and has reached unsustainable levels in some countries; and the generally deteriorating social and economic conditions in our countries.

14. We reiterate our faith in our own abilities and are now more determined than ever before to redress the economic and social crisis of the 1980s and to enter the 1990s with new hopes, expectations, determination and commitment to not only uplift our economies from the situation but also to ensure true economic recovery and self-sustained growth. To this end, we re-dedicate ourselves to the principles and objectives of the Lagos Plan of Action for the Economic Development of Africa and the Final Act of Lagos 1/ adopted by our Heads of State and Government at their economic summit held in Lagos, Nigeria, on 28 and 29 April 1980. We resolve to continue to pursue with renewed vigour and with all possible means within our reach the implementation of the provisions of Africa's Priority Programme for Economic Recovery, 1986-1990 (APPER) 2/ adopted by our Heads of State and Government at the twenty-first ordinary session of their Assembly held in July 1985 as well as of those of the United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development, 1986-1990 (UN-PAAERD) 3/ adopted by the United Nations General Assembly at its thirteenth special session in June 1986. We are convinced that the full realization of these programmes is the best hope that Africa has for achieving economic recovery and laying the basis for long-term economic growth and development.

15. Indeed, we are convinced more than ever before that in the light of the prevailing observed limitations and constraints to recovery and development and especially the mounting external debt-service obligations and instabilities in our export earnings, the road to national economic survival is inextricably

---

1/ A/S-11/14 annex I and annex II.

2/ A/40/666.

3/ A/S-13/2 annex.



linked to a strategy of regional co-operation and integration. To this end, the establishment and fostering of multilateral organizations and institutions for development, and the promotion of inter-country joint planning and programming within the framework of such organizations and institutions are important.

16. To this end, we resolve to redouble our efforts towards the strengthening of our common development policy organs and our subregional and regional organizations with a view to facilitating further the free movement of resources, goods and peoples; the greater sharing of knowledge; the elimination of inter-country conflicts; and the general enhancement of solidarity for the pursuit of accelerated structural transformation of our economies through more joint planning and programming, joint production, enhanced intra-African trade and the free movement of factor-inputs across our respective national borders.

17. We uphold the principle of enhancing economic co-operation and integration as the most effective formula for resolving our development problems and we resolve to ensure that the subregional and regional approach to the solution of national problems is fully integrated into national decision-making, planning, programming and project execution processes. We therefore pledge to increase our financial and material support to, and make greater use of the services available at each and all our regional and subregional technical institutions which are among the most effective instruments available to us for collective self-reliant growth and development.

18. We fully realize, as we have stated before in other forums, that in a world of economic and social interdependence, the African economic crisis cannot be viewed as an isolated phenomenon but as part of a wider global economic malaise. As such, we are convinced that our present and future national, subregional and regional efforts and programmes towards economic recovery and self-sustained growth need to be fully supported and complemented by similar actions and programmes at the international level. It is with this in mind and in the light of earlier commitments already undertaken towards Africa that we appeal to our partners in the developed countries to continue to lend their helping hand to our efforts.

19. In this regard we recall the "Common African Position on Africa's External Debt Crisis" adopted by the Assembly of African Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity at its third Extraordinary Summit held from 30 November to 1 December 1987 in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

20. We also reiterate the call made by the Assembly of African Heads of State and Government for an International Conference on Africa's External Debt. At that conference, external debt issues, resource flows and export earnings should be considered in their interrelationships.

21. We reaffirm our confidence in the Economic Commission for Africa for the valuable role it has played and continues to play in the clarification of development concepts, identification of development problems and their solutions, dissemination of information. It has also been instrumental in promoting closer economic links among African Governments, catalysing awareness

of the imperatives of regional economic co-operation and integration and particularly in the establishment of our various subregional and regional economic co-operation groupings.

22. We also call upon donor governments, the specialized agencies, programmes and funds of the United Nations, regional and international development and financial institutions, to provide all possible technical and financial support to the Commission in its role as the main general economic and social development centre and team leader responsible for fostering development co-ordination and economic co-operation in Africa.

23. We pledge to increase our support to the Commission and particularly to its Multinational Programming and Operational Centres (MULPOCs) so that they can intensify their role as catalysts for the accelerated integration of our economies through especially the identification, formulation and the promotion of the implementation of infrastructural and production-integrating programmes and projects. In this regard, we call upon the United Nations General Assembly and the Secretary-General of the United Nations to provide, in spite of the current financial crisis facing the Organization, adequate resources to strengthen the capabilities of the Commission.

24. We call upon the Executive Secretary of the Commission to spare no effort in providing all possible assistance to member States of the North African subregion in their current efforts to establish a preferential trade area. The early establishment of such a preferential trade area is desirable not only because it will complete the coverage of the continent by subregional economic co-operation groupings as explicitly stated in the Lagos Plan of Action for the Economic and Social Development of Africa and the Final Act of Lagos, but also because of the way in which it will help to enhance the process of integration between the countries of the subregion.

25. We warmly commend the spirit of co-operation that has existed between the Commission, the Organization of African Unity, the United Nations Development Programme, the African Development Bank and other regional and international organizations. We now call upon the Executive Secretary of the Commission, the Secretary-General of the Organization of African Unity, the President of the African Development Bank and heads of the other institutions, to continue to intensify their joint programmes of technical assistance and advisory services to our member States.

26. We have made this solemn declaration in the absolute faith in mankind and with the firm conviction that through our own efforts, individually and collectively and with the support of our partners in the rest of the world, we can resolve the present African economic and social crisis and lay firm foundations for self-sustained growth and development. We have also made this declaration in the hope and belief that the commitment already made by the developed countries and international development and financial institutions to support our efforts will be implemented to the fullest extent.

Done at Niamey, the Republic of Niger, this 17th day of April 1988

ANNEX IV

REPORT OF THE NINTH MEETING OF THE  
TECHNICAL PREPARATORY COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

A. Attendance and organization of work

1. The ninth meeting of the Technical Preparatory Committee of the Whole (TEPCOW) was held at the Palais des Congrès, Niamey, the Niger, from 6 to 13 April 1988. The meeting was formally opened by His Excellency Mr. Almoustapha Soumaila, Minister of Planning of the Republic of Niger. Statements were also delivered at the opening ceremony by Mr. Adebayo Adedeji, Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa, and by H.E. Mr. Abdourahamane Hama, the Chairman of the eighth meeting of the Committee.

2. The meeting was attended by representatives of the following States members of the Commission: Algeria, Angola, Benin, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Chad, the Comoros, Côte d'Ivoire, Egypt, Ethiopia, Gabon, the Gambia, Ghana, Guinea-Bissau, Kenya, Lesotho, the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Morocco, the Niger, Nigeria, Rwanda, Senegal, Sierra Leone, the Sudan, Togo, Tunisia, Uganda, the United Republic of Tanzania, Zaire, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

3. Observers from the following States Members of the United Nations, not members of the Commission, were present: China, France, Germany, Federal Republic of, India, the Netherlands and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.

4. In accordance with the Commission's rules of procedure, the South West Africa People's Organization (SWAPO) and the African National Congress (ANC) were represented.

5. The following United Nations bodies and specialized agencies were represented: United Nations Regional Commissions Liaison Office, United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), World Food Council (WFC), International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), International Labour Organisation (ILO), World Food Programme (WFP), Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), Office of the United Nations Disaster Relief Co-ordinator (UNDRO), United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM), International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), World Health Organization (WHO), International Telecommunication Union (ITU) and World Meteorological Organization (WMO).

6. Observers were present from the following intergovernmental organizations: African Development Bank (ADB), African Centre for Applied Research and Training in Social Development (ACARTSOD), African Regional Centre for Technology (ARCT), African Regional Organization for Standardization (ARSO), Central African Mineral Resources Development Centre (CAMRDC), Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), Eastern and Southern African Management Institute (ESAMI), Inter-African Committee on Traditional Practices Affecting the Health of Women and Children (IACTP), International Chamber of Commerce (ICC), Institut de formation et de recherche démographiques (IFORD), Organization of African Unity (OAU), Organization for the Development of the River

Senegal (OHVS), Pan-African News Agency (PANA), Regional Centre for Training in Aerospace Surveys (RECTAS) and Regional Institute for Population Studies (RIPS).

7. An observer was present from the Lutheran World Federation (LWF), a non-governmental organization.

8. The Committee unanimously elected the following officers:

Chairman:	The Niger
First Vice-Chairman:	Tunisia
Second Vice-Chairman:	Burundi
Rapporteur:	The United Republic of Tanzania

9. The Committee decided to establish an open-ended resolutions committee to be chaired by the first Vice-Chairman. Two other open-ended committees were also established: one to prepare, under the chairmanship of the second Vice-Chairman, the draft memorandum to ECOSOC in response to ECOSOC resolution 1988/1 on Arrangements for the meeting of the Ad Hoc Committee of the Whole on the review and appraisal of the United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development, 1986-1990 (UN-PAAERD); and the other to prepare, under the chairmanship of the Rapporteur, the Niamey Declaration on the occasion of the thirtieth anniversary of the Commission.

#### B. Agenda

10. On 6 April 1988, the Committee adopted the following agenda:

1. Opening of the meeting.
2. Election of officers.
3. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work.
4. Biennial report of the Executive Secretary on ECA activities, 1986-1987.
5. Mid-term review and appraisal of the implementation of the United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development (UN-PAAERD) and Africa's Priority Programme for Economic Recovery (APPER):
  - (a) Survey of economic and social conditions in Africa, 1986-1987;
  - (b) ECA/ADB economic report on Africa, 1988;
  - (c) Preliminary mid-term review and appraisal of the implementation of the United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development, 1986-1990 (UN-PAAERD), and Africa's Priority Programme for Economic Recovery, 1986-1990 (APPER);

- (d) Financing Africa's recovery: Report and recommendations of the Advisory Group on Financial Flows for Africa;
- (e) Response to ECOSOC resolution 1988/1 - Arrangements for the meeting of the Ad Hoc Committee of the Whole on the review and appraisal of the United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development, 1986-1990.

6. Special studies and reports:

- (a) The situation of food and agriculture in Africa:
  - (i) Subregional co-operation in the production of cereals and tubers with special emphasis on the role of women;
  - (ii) Improvement in the status of sedentary, rural populations and of nomadic societies through the reduction of food waste and losses at the production level;
- (b) Natural resources and energy:
  - (i) Key issues concerning the implementation of the Mar del Plata Action Plan in Africa;
  - (ii) Report on the establishment of the African Organization for Cartography and Remote Sensing;
- (c) Industrial development in Africa:
  - (i) Progress report on the implementation of the programme for the Industrial Development Decade for Africa (IDDA);
  - (ii) Report on UNIDO II;
- (d) Transport and communications in Africa:
  - (i) Report on the implementation of the resolutions of the fifth meeting of the Conference of African Ministers of Transport, Communications and Planning;
  - (ii) United Nations Transport and Communications Decade in Africa: Report on progress in the implementation of the second phase of the Decade programme;
- (e) Issues in social development:
  - (i) The African social situation, 1982-1987;
  - (ii) Changing socio-economic conditions of women in Africa in the context of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women;
- (f) Trade and development:

7. Recommendations from the subsidiary organs and sectoral bodies of the Commission:
  - (a) Fifth session of the Joint Conference of African Planners, Statisticians and Demographers - Recommendations and resolutions;
  - (b) Third meeting of the Conference of African Ministers Responsible for Human Resources Planning, Development and Utilization - Recommendations and resolutions;
  - (c) Seventh meeting of the Intergovernmental Committee of Experts of African Least Developed Countries - Recommendations and resolutions;
  - (d) Ninth meeting of the Africa Regional Co-ordinating Committee for the Integration of Women in Development - Recommendations and resolutions;
  - (e) Fifth meeting of the Intergovernmental Committee for Science and Technology Development - Recommendations and resolutions;
  - (f) Sixth meeting of the Conference of African Ministers of Transport, Communications and Planning - Recommendations and resolutions;
  - (g) First meeting of the Conference of African Ministers of Tourism - Recommendations and resolutions.
8. Issues in economic co-operation and integration:
  - (a) Report of the meeting of the Council of Plenipotentiaries of the North African MULPOC - Progress report on the establishment of the Preferential Trade Area for North African countries;
  - (b) Biennial consolidated report on the activities, work programmes and budget of ECA-sponsored regional and subregional institutions;
  - (c) Eighth meeting of the Conference of Chief Executives of the ECA-sponsored Regional and Subregional Institutions - Recommendations and resolutions;
  - (d) Progress report on the submissions for the UNDP Fourth Programming Cycle for Africa (1987-1991);
  - (e) Locust Control in North Africa.
9. Proposed UNDP-sponsored management facility as a means of mobilizing additional resources for African development.
10. ECA and African development:



- Beyond recovery: ECA-revised perspectives of Africa's development, 1988-2008.

11. Statutory issues:

- (a) Follow-up on resolutions of the Commission and resolutions and decisions adopted by the General Assembly and ECOSOC that are of interest to Africa:
  - (i) Follow-up action on relevant resolutions adopted by the twenty-second session of the Commission and the thirteenth meeting of the Conference of Ministers;
  - (ii) Resolutions adopted by ECOSOC at its second session of 1987 and by the General Assembly at its forty-second session in the economic and social sectors that are of interest to Africa;
- (b) Programme of work and priorities of the Commission:
  - (i) Proposals for updating the 1988-1989 programme budget;
  - (ii) Proposals for the extension of the 1984-1989 Medium-term Plan to 1990-1991.

12. Any other business.

13. Date and venue of the tenth meeting of the Technical Preparatory Committee of the Whole.

14. Adoption of the report.

15. Closure of the meeting.

C. Account of proceedings

Opening addresses

11. In his opening address H.E. Mr. Almoustapha Soumaila, Minister of Planning of the Republic of Niger, underlined the importance which his country attached to the ECA meetings being held in Niamey and commended the catalytic and co-ordinating role which the Commission was playing in the development affairs of African countries. The ninth meeting of the Technical Preparatory Committee of the Whole was taking place at a critical time in the economic and social development of the continent. Because of severe drought conditions in 1984-1986, the fragility of economic structures, the fall in export earnings and the increasing seriousness of the debt problem, the African economy had not benefited from the temporary improvement in the world economy which began in 1985.

12. In reviewing recent performance in the major economic sectors, the Minister of Planning of Niger noted the general improvement realized in 1986 in the agriculture sector with food production increasing substantially in several parts of the region. In 1987, the return of drought conditions and

the proliferation of pests particularly in North and West Africa had virtually wiped out the gains in food production made in the preceding year. There had been an improvement in the availability of domestic raw materials and energy which had led to a slight expansion of the manufacturing sector. Growth in the value of exports was constrained by weak primary commodity prices and low world demand, leading to a deterioration in the terms of trade in the current account of the balance of payments. Those two factors coupled with a fall in capital transfers and high interest rates had worsened the debt problem.

13. Many countries had sought to reschedule their debt and had adopted vigorous programmes of adjustment and reform under the auspices of international financial institutions. On the domestic front, efforts had been made to mobilize all resources. Africa's Priority Programme for Economic Recovery, 1986-1990 and the United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development, 1986-1990 represented the collective will of African countries for self-reliant development. African countries had every reason to take subregional and regional co-operation as the theoretical and practical basis of development. Member States should enhance their material and financial support to the economic co-operation and integration organizations and institutions. ECA, which had done commendable work in that area, should intensify its efforts so as to bring about the collective harmonious development of African countries.

14. Referring to the agenda before the meeting, the Minister of Planning of the Republic of Niger noted that it covered virtually all problems of socio-economic development of concern to Africa. He reminded the meeting that the relevance of the decisions that the ECA Conference of Ministers responsible for economic development and planning would take would depend to a great extent, on the recommendations that the Committee would submit to it.

15. He wished the participants a successful meeting and declared the meeting open.

16. The Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa, Mr. Adebayo Adedeji, welcomed the delegates to Niamey and expressed heartfelt thanks, on his own behalf and on that of the Commission, to His Excellency Colonel Ali Saibou, President of the Supreme Military Council, Head of State and Minister of National Defence of the Republic of Niger, and through him to the people of Niger for their generosity and hospitality and for all the efforts they had made in hosting the current session of the Commission. He also thanked H.E. Mr. Almoustapha Soumaila, Minister of Planning of the Republic of Niger, for his inspiring opening statement.

17. The Executive Secretary said that in commemorating the thirtieth anniversary of the Commission, one was also recognizing the important role that TEPCOW had continued to play in the life and functioning of the Commission and congratulated members of the Committee on the occasion of that august anniversary.

18. The twenty-third session of the Commission for which the meeting of the Committee would prepare was taking place at about the half-way mark of the life of the United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development, 1986-1990 (UN-PAAERD). The General Assembly would

itself be reviewing and appraising the implementation of UN-PAAERD later in the year. The General Assembly had to that end established an Ad Hoc Committee of the Whole entrusted with the task of preparing for the review and appraisal and the Economic and Social Council in its resolution 1988/1 had requested all relevant organizations to submit to the Ad Hoc Committee reports on their contributions and perspectives for the implementation of the United Nations Programme of Action. The elaboration of the response by the Commission to that request was accordingly one of the most important tasks of the Committee at its current meeting.

19. The Executive Secretary said that the current trends in the African economy had to be judged against the background of the slump in commodity prices, the level of resource inflows that was far short of actual requirements, and the aggravation of the excruciating debt burden. In addition to those factors which together constituted veritable strangleholds on recovery, growth and development in Africa, there was of course the devastating impact of unfavourable weather conditions.

20. ECA's revised estimate for total regional output was for an average rate of growth of only 0.8 per cent in 1987 compared with 0.5 per cent in 1986 which in the face of the prevailing average rate of population growth of about 3 per cent and high levels of unemployment, implied further deterioration in overall living standards. Performance had been uniformly poor in both groups of oil-exporting and non-oil-exporting countries; and apart from the Eastern and Southern African subregion which had registered an average annual overall growth rate of 2.8 per cent, there had been little differences in the fortunes of the other subregions. A total of 15 countries experienced outright decline in their economies.

21. Development in 1987 in the food and agriculture sector - the number one priority sector - had been particularly saddening, the sector having expanded by only 0.5 per cent which must be taken as a serious set-back in the overall economic recovery process. The excessive dependence of the manufacturing sector on foreign factor inputs, including raw materials, had in the prevailing tight foreign exchange resource situation meant continuing low growth and widespread capacity under-utilization. Because of mandatory production levels and poor demand conditions in the oil sector as well as production difficulties for some non-fuel commodities, developments in the mining sector were no more encouraging.

22. Africa's economic prospects in 1988 and the immediate future were shrouded in many uncertainties. The general prognosis was the possibility of a recession in the developed-market economies especially of Europe and North America which if it were allowed to occur, would put Africa in a very difficult situation. Under a more optimistic scenario based on favourable assumptions with respect to the weather, the value of the United States dollar, commodity prices, and the continuation of the reform process, the growth rate in overall regional production should be around 2.7 per cent in 1988. Both scenarios pointed to the need to find appropriate solutions to the issue of resource flows to Africa.

23. The Executive Secretary said that the agenda before the meeting was as usual necessarily crowded. The continuing overall poor performance of the African economies as well as the uncertainties and gloom in the immediate

outlook underlined the importance of the vigilance and comprehensiveness with which the Commission should continue to monitor and make practical recommendations in respect of the various priority areas. He referred to the documentation before the Committee and hoped that it provided sufficient background for the Committee's examination of progress made in the implementation of the UN-PAAERD at mid-term. The situation of food and agriculture was again placed high on the agenda. The Committee would, of course, also examine major issues in the other sectors that were usually supportive of agriculture, namely the need to rehabilitate and transform the industrial sector, progress in the implementation of the United Nations Transport and Communications Decade in Africa which would end in 1988, and problems in the area of trade and finance.

24. The other sectoral questions which the Committee would consider on the basis of substantive documents prepared by the secretariat and/or the reports of the various subsidiary organs of the Commission included issues in social development; natural resources and energy; human resources planning, development and utilization; science and technology; and tourism. The meeting would also consider the report of the meeting of the Council of Plenipotentiaries of the North African MULPOC - the only MULPOC whose policy organ met in 1988. That meeting was significant particularly for its decisions and recommendations on further measures to be taken towards the early establishment of a Preferential Trade Area in North Africa. The Executive Secretary referred to the perennial problem of inadequate resources arising mainly from the non-payment of contributions on the part of member States which still plagued the effectiveness of the ECA-sponsored regional and subregional institutions and underlined the need for enhanced and sustained government support for, and the effective utilization of, each and every institution.

25. In concluding his statement, the Executive Secretary paid glorious tribute to H.E. Mr. Abdurahamane Hama, Ambassador of Niger to Socialist Ethiopia, outgoing Chairman of the Committee who, throughout his term of office, had worked closely with the secretariat.

26. The representative of Rwanda speaking on behalf of all delegations expressed profound gratitude to H.E. Mr. Almoustapha Soumaila, Minister of Planning of the Republic of Niger, for his opening speech which he said would guide the deliberations of the Committee. The outcome of the Committee's work should be worthy of all the material and financial sacrifices that had been made by the Government of Niger to host the twenty-third session of the Commission. He requested the Minister of Planning of Niger to convey to His Excellency Colonel Ali Saibou, Chairman of the Supreme Military Council, Head of State and Minister of National Defence and through him, the people of Niger, the appreciation of the Committee for the excellent welcome, hospitality and the facilities provided for the meeting.

Biennial report of the Executive Secretary on ECA activities, 1986-1987 (agenda item 4)

27. The Executive Secretary introduced his biennial report on ECA activities, 1986-1987 (E/ECA/CM.14/3) which he said was the fifth in the series he had initiated in 1978. ECA activities in the 1986-1987 biennium should be seen against the background of an Africa that was just emerging from the effects of the worst drought in living memory (1983-1985), when hope for

economic recovery and development centred on the successful implementation of Africa's Priority Programme for Economic Recovery, 1986-1990 (APPER) and the United Nations Programme of Action for Economic Recovery and Development, 1986-1990 (UN-PAAERD). They should also be seen against the serious budgetary crisis of the United Nations, which had resulted, inter alia, in a freeze on recruitment with serious consequences for the level of programme implementation. Extrabudgetary resources which had been a significant supplement to regular budgetary resources had also been stagnating while the slide in the value of the United States dollar had also adversely affected the real value of available financial resources.

28. The Executive Secretary explained that although the work programme and priorities of the Commission had been established before APPER and UN-PAAERD were adopted, they were consistent with those programmes and had needed only minor adjustments to bring them effectively to focus on the implementation of the programmes.

29. The Executive Secretary drew the attention of participants to Chapter III of the document which described the activities that had been implemented under each programme in 1986-1987 including the problems encountered and to the annex to the report on the quantitative analysis of programme performance. He said that the future was faced with the prospects of more resource constraints and invited the Committee to consider ways and means by which additional resources could be mobilized to enable the Commission to effectively implement its work programme in the 1988-1989 biennium.

30. In the ensuing discussion, delegates expressed appreciation to the Executive Secretary for the comprehensiveness of the report. One participant commended the work of the secretariat in the field of energy and in doing so called for closer co-operation between ECA and OAU to avoid duplication and to optimize the use of resources. In the population area, the same participant pointed out that there had been an undue emphasis on population control. While population growth in Africa was a problem, it could be contained if greater emphasis were placed on development and growth, particularly in the agricultural sector. The need to step up activities for the promotion of regional economic co-operation and integration was stressed. Greater co-operation was in particular urgently needed in the area of air transport. The importance of the Commission's work in the area of integration of women in development was underlined and in that regard, it was stressed that there was need to redress the imbalance in the opportunities available to men and women.

31. In his reaction to the issues raised, the Executive Secretary underscored the urgency for greater co-operation and integration. He however believed that development and population were closely interrelated. The Kilimanjaro Programme of Action was precisely based on that close inter-relationship and had guided the work of the secretariat. With respect to the integration of women in development, he noted that while there was no legal discrimination against women, their concerns were seldom fully reflected in decision-making.

32. The observer for India informed the meeting that as part of his Government's programme of technical assistance for Africa was financing various ECA projects which included the setting up of a Development, Demonstration



and Replication Centre for Technologies suitable for rural development in Dakar (Senegal); "Engineering Industry Development Programme for Eastern and Southern Africa", Consultancy Advisory Services project and one that had just been signed with ECA on the "Promotion of Small-scale Industries in Africa" for which part of the technical assistance grant of approximately \$US 400,000 had already been made available to the Commission. He assured the meeting that India would continue that programme of co-operation.

33. The meeting took note of the co-operation between the Commission and the Government of India and acknowledged it as a testimony of India's commitment to South-South co-operation. It urged the Government of India to continue its efforts.

34. The meeting took note of the report, and adopted draft resolution 25 (IX).

Survey of economic and social conditions in Africa, 1986-1987 [agenda item 5 (a)]

35. A representative of the secretariat presented document E/ECA/CM.14/4. He pointed out that recent economic performance in developing African countries had been disappointing with GDP growing by a mere 0.8 per cent in 1987 compared to 0.5 per cent in 1986. Bad weather conditions had affected several parts of the region, and there had been a deterioration in overall agricultural output, especially food production, in 1987. The momentum of policy reforms in the agricultural sector had however been maintained in the majority of African countries. Increased emphasis had been placed on issues such as food security, marketing services, mechanization, supply of modern inputs, research and extension services, the efficiency of land use and farming systems, livestock development, conservation of forests and assistance programmes for small holders. Manufacturing value-added had increased by 3.7 per cent in 1987 compared with 2.4 per cent in 1986. Structural factors such as the limited size of the market, poor intersectoral linkages particularly with the other sectors, lack of skilled manpower, inappropriate technology, and the inadequacy of foreign exchange resources had continued to constrain the development of the sector. Developments in the mining sector had been greatly influenced by the world market for minerals and by domestic structural limitations particularly in the non-fuel sectors.

36. With regard to the external sector, the representative of the secretariat pointed out that the current account deficit of the region as a whole was estimated at \$US 11.2 billion in 1987, down from \$US 13.7 billion in 1986. Meanwhile, in real terms, net resource flows to sub-Saharan Africa had declined by 6.7 per cent in 1987. The external debt of developing Africa had grown steeply to an estimated \$US 218.2 billion in 1987, about 54.2 per cent of which had been owed by sub-Saharan African countries. It was the size of debt obligations in relation to available resources for servicing them that rendered the African debt problem particularly difficult.

37. The representative of the secretariat referred to economic prospects in 1988 and pointed out that GDP was expected to grow by 2.7 per cent. Assumptions for such a development were based on normal weather conditions, an estimated price for oil of not less than 16 dollars per barrel, a more desirable and stable exchange rate for the United States currency and the maintenance of ongoing structural adjustment programmes.



38. In the ensuing discussion, various participants commended the secretariat for the comprehensiveness and high quality of the document. On the basis of the analysis contained in the Survey, a number of issues were taken up by the participants, notably national inward-looking strategies in the economic recovery process, intra-African trade, exchange rate management, and the impact of the structural adjustment programmes particularly on the vulnerable groups in the society.

39. In commenting on paragraph 90 dealing with the key areas of economic reforms, one participant felt that the secretariat should also have emphasized the inward-looking strategies followed by certain African countries when undertaking economic recovery programmes. That was very important as net resource flows to African countries had been falling continuously. Another participant argued that the state and public sectors still had an important role to play. The public sector only needed to be reformed. He concluded that agricultural organization and technology should not be overlooked even when justifiable emphasis was put on the key role of incentives in agricultural production.

40. Another participant underscored the fact that the low level of intra-African trade was due more to a lack of information on what goods each respective African country could trade at regional and subregional levels than to a lack of complementary markets. He therefore called upon the ECA to bridge this information gap and endeavour to facilitate increased intra-African trade. This he believed could provide added incentive to member States to improve transport and communication links among them.

41. With regard to the issue of exchange rate, one participant called upon the secretariat to focus on the issue of currency devaluation policies and to assist those countries which had been resisting devaluation measures. He drew the attention of participants to the unsatisfactory results achieved in his own country following those measures and requested the secretariat to make a thorough reassessment of devaluation policies.

42. Participants also referred to the importance attached to structural adjustment programmes in many African countries and the mixed results so far achieved. They urged the ECA secretariat to undertake studies to determine the social and economic implications of structural adjustment programmes on the African economies.

43. A number of participants suggested that amendments should be made to the Survey in order to enhance its technical quality. Some of them commented on the analysis on their respective country profiles and highlighted particular errors and discrepancies in the information that had been provided. Participants promised to provide the secretariat with up-to-date data so that the errors and discrepancies could be corrected. One delegate provided information on the actual situation in her country as against what was stated in paragraph 277. Another participant found the document too long and reminded the secretariat of the need for an executive summary. One participant pointed out that the information on his country's territorial area given in table 1 page A.3 of the Survey was incorrect and should be rectified by a figure he provided to the meeting. Another participant said that the question of territorial boundaries was a political issue which should not be raised at a forum like TEPCOW. He argued that the secretariat had used the information that was internationally recognized.

44. In reacting to the issues raised by the participants, the Executive Secretary assured them that unlike in the past, the document was being presented to the meeting in draft form and urged member States to provide the secretariat soon with up-to-date information so as to enable the secretariat to finalize the Survey. With regard to the thorough evaluation of structural adjustment programmes requested by delegates he informed the Committee that the secretariat was in the process of conducting an in-depth study on the nature and socio-political consequences of such programmes and promised that the results would be submitted to the next meeting of TEPCOW.

ECA/ADB economic report on Africa, 1988 [agenda item 5 (b)]

45. As the report was not available to the meeting, no discussion took place.

Preliminary mid-term review and appraisal of the implementation of the United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development, 1986-1990 (UN-PAAERD) and Africa's Priority Programme for Economic Recovery, 1986-1990 (APPER) [agenda item 5 (c)]

46. In introducing document E/ECA/CM.14/6, a representative of the secretariat recalled Commission resolution 603 (XXII) by which, inter alia, the Executive Secretary was requested to prepare a comprehensive report on the implementation of the UN-PAAERD including an assessment of the contribution of the international community. The document was a response to that request and was a follow-up to an earlier report that had been presented to the thirteenth session of the Conference of Ministers.

47. To prepare the report, the secretariat had distributed a questionnaire to member States in December 1987. Unfortunately at the time of preparing the report (January 1988) only seven countries - Botswana, Burundi, the Comoros, the Niger, Nigeria, Somalia and Swaziland - had responded to the questionnaire. Three more countries, namely Algeria, the Congo and Guinea had returned the questionnaire since the meeting began. Because of the poor response to the questionnaire, the report had been prepared mainly on the basis of data available from international data banks and secondary sources. That was why it was being treated as preliminary.

48. The report had two main parts: Part I which dealt with general issues including an assessment of the economic situation following the adoption of UN-PAAERD and a review of policy measures adopted by countries and their impact on economic performance; and Part II which covered the priority areas identified in UN-PAAERD.

49. The representative of the secretariat outlined the findings of the report and highlighted the fact that Africa had yet to emerge from the economic crisis and that the economic performance of the region gave rise to very serious concern.

50. The report generated a very lively discussion to which several representatives of member States and observers contributed. Many participants felt that the report was incomplete and failed to fully reflect the progress made in the implementation of UN-PAAERD because the number of responses was not representative enough. While acknowledging the fact that inadequate response

to the questionnaire contributed to the incompleteness of the report, participants complained that the questionnaire had been sent rather late and that it was too voluminous with many open-ended questions. It was asserted that some questions amounted to calling for political statements or commitments. Concern was expressed over poor communication between the ECA secretariat and its member States as evidenced by the inadequacy of the information contained in the report. The point was made that greater effort should have been made by the secretariat to obtain data from the countries.

51. The representative of Benin informed the meeting that his country had transmitted its response to the questionnaire through the UNDP office in his country.

52. With regard to the substance of the report, some members deplored the fact that support from the international community had fallen in the period of UN-PAAERD under review. A question was raised as to why that support had particularly fallen in North Africa. A question was also raised as to whether there had been a comparative study between structural adjustment programmes and UN-PAAERD to show whether they were complementary or contradictory.

53. The meeting generally agreed with the conclusion of the report that there had not been much improvement in the economic situation of African countries during the period under review. Some delegates felt that the situation was in fact getting worse. In that regard, there was need for new and more effective measures aimed especially at promoting intra-African trade, improving communications, information and entrepreneurial capabilities and addressing the root causes of under-development generally.

54. The observer for UNESCO remarked that the two parts of the report should have dealt with the efforts of member States and those of the agencies of the United Nations system respectively. The same observer was of the opinion that the report should also have benefited from the contents of two recent publications by his organization, one entitled "Getting to the Roots of the Problem" and the other, in collaboration with FAO, UNDP, UNFPA and the University of Edinburgh entitled "Beyond the Economic Choice" as those publications were designed with the requirements of APPER and UN-PAAERD in mind.

55. The observer for ILO informed the meeting about many activities carried out by her organization particularly the organization of a meeting on employment and structural changes which had adopted recommendations and resolutions on the need to take urgent measures to stop the imbalance of the world economy in order to speed up employment-generating programmes and combat unemployment. Her organization had fully reflected the recommendations of that meeting in its 1988-1989 work programme which envisaged in particular the organization of a tripartite symposium on structural changes and employment in sub-Saharan Africa.

56. In response to the issues raised, the secretariat reiterated the preliminary nature of the report and emphasized the need for member States to complete and return the questionnaire so as to enable the secretariat to finalize the report. While secondary sources could be used, they did not always reflect the views of member States. On the question of why support for the implementation of UN-PAAERD had particularly fallen in North Africa, the secretariat promised to look at the data again. With respect to the

question on whether a study had been carried out on the relationship between UN-PAAERD and structural adjustment programmes, the secretariat informed the Committee that no such study had been carried out. However, as already indicated during the discussion on the Survey of economic and social conditions in Africa, the secretariat was in the process of undertaking a study on the social and political consequences of structural adjustment programmes. The Executive Secretary appealed to member States to fill and return the questionnaire since any deficient analysis from Africa would give a bad impression to the international community in general and the Ad Hoc Committee on the Mid-Term Review in particular.

57. The observer for the Organization of African Unity (OAU) also appealed for the early completion and return of the questionnaire particularly since a review paper which was to be presented jointly by OAU and ECA secretariats to the Permanent Steering Committee would be based on its analysis. After these explanations, the Chairman observed that from the interventions of participants it was clear that the Committee was of the opinion that the report was incomplete and that much more needed to be done to get it up to the required standard and to reflect the true situation of the implementation of UN-PAAERD in Africa. Moreover, it was also clear that without information from member States, no realistic review and appraisal of the implementation of UN-PAAERD could be undertaken. Therefore, he would appeal strongly to member States to ensure that the questionnaire was completed and returned to the secretariat.

58. The Committee also decided that the Vice-Chairman of the meeting should contact the representatives of member States at the meeting to urge their governments to respond to the questionnaire without any further delay.

59. The representative of Morocco expressed reservation on the involvement of the OAU Permanent Steering Committee in the review exercise.

Financing Africa's recovery: Report and recommendations of the Advisory Group on financial flows for Africa [agenda item 5 (d)]

60. In introducing this item, a representative of the secretariat pointed out that, by early 1987, it had become clear that the efforts for economic recovery undertaken in many African countries within the framework of the United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development, 1986-1990 (UN-PAAERD) were being undermined by a deteriorating financial situation and that additional action was needed to prevent further economic decline and human suffering in those countries.

61. The Secretary-General of the United Nations who had been entrusted with the responsibility for monitoring the process of implementation of the programme had thus decided in April 1987, after consultation with interested governments and the managements of the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund, to set up an advisory group of eminent persons with particular competence in the area of international financial flows and to ask them to recommend specific measures within agreed programmes for alleviating the financial burdens of the affected countries. The Group which had been made up of 13 members, including three Africans acting in their individual capacities, had presented its report to the Secretary-General on 22 February 1988. The report had been made available to the Committee in pursuance of the decision of the Secretary-General to disseminate the report widely and to obtain

as many views as possible on the recommendations of the Group to enable him to present a comprehensive report to the Ad Hoc Committee of the Whole of the General Assembly entrusted with the preparation of the mid-term review and appraisal of the Programme of Action.

62. The representative of the secretariat outlined the main contents of the report and drew the attention of the meeting to (i) the assessment made by the Group of the shortage of financial resources which Africa had experienced and continued to experience; (ii) the rationale of the Group in limiting the study to the countries of sub-Saharan Africa with the exception of Nigeria, thus excluding five countries in North Africa and Nigeria; and (iii) the measures proposed by the Group and which might be taken by the international community to make good the financial resource shortage of the countries covered.

63. A basic finding of the Group was that the need for financial help for the next few years amounted to about \$US 5 billion a year in addition to what, in the middle of 1987, the African countries had been expected to receive over the rest of the decade. That amount was necessary simply to restore the prospects for development and growth as of the early 1980s. The Group hoped that the above sum would be mobilized as follows: (a) 60 per cent through the commitments already made at the end of 1987, namely \$US 1.5 billion a year from the enhancement of the structural adjustment facility of the IMF, \$US 1.0 billion a year from the World Bank's special facility for Africa, and \$US 0.5 billion a year from the enlarged African Development Fund; (b) 20 per cent through improved debt management which would lead to debt relief and reduction to the tune of \$US 1 billion a year; and (c) 20 per cent (\$US 1 billion) through new flows of resources especially from bilateral sources.

64. The representative of the secretariat finally pointed out that the Group had believed that if its recommendations were ignored or not acted upon, current adjustment policies might be placed at risk. According to the Group, the international agencies assisting African countries in working out programmes for development and structural changes unanimously held that the risk was very great.

65. The meeting expressed its gratitude to the Secretary-General for the efforts he had deployed in monitoring the process of implementation of UN-PAAERD in general and in finding solutions to the critical financial resource situation in Africa in particular.

66. The commissioning of the Group of eminent persons was generally considered as a positive step towards instituting a dialogue between Africa and its creditors. However, the Committee expressed reservations on the composition of the Group itself. Strong reservations were also expressed on the report which, the meeting felt, did not contain any innovative or imaginative measure to increase actual resource flows to Africa on a sustained and lasting basis. The sources from which the additional resources proposed were to flow were already known and available.

67. The meeting specifically questioned rationale behind the geographical scope of the study. It was noted that UN-PAAERD was concerned with the economic recovery and development of the whole of Africa. The exclusion of the countries of North Africa and Nigeria from the study was also strongly deplored. Excluding some countries such as had been done by the Group, in



any consideration of the resource requirements of the region, was therefore divisive and unacceptable. The arguments advanced by the Group for excluding Nigeria from the study were not tenable. Nigeria, with one quarter of the population of Africa and an economy which was about 25 per cent of that of the continent could simply not be excluded from the study. Contrary to what was stated in the report, Nigeria faced considerable difficulties in handling its sizeable debts. The Group had failed to take into account the substantial falls in the value of exports of that country and which would continue to adversely affect its capacity to repay its debts. Moreover the Group had used a 1985 GDP per capita figure of \$US 707 which had since dropped to about \$US 350, placing Nigeria squarely in the income range of the group of countries considered.

68. The meeting also questioned the very narrow view the Group had taken of the resource problem of the region concentrating mainly as it had done on the debt issue. More important was the fact that the report was silent on how Africa could pay its debts. It was felt that the solution to the debt crisis in Africa could not be found in isolation and without due regard being given to the other major components of resource flows to Africa including especially official development assistance (ODA), capital transfers, and export earnings from commodity exports as well as the various factors that influenced such flows, namely interest rates and currency parities. Unless those various factors were considered together in their complex interrelationship, no lasting solution would be found to Africa's financial resource problems. In any case, in its treatment of the debt issue, the Group had chosen to make no reference to the common position on Africa's external debt which the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity had adopted at its third extraordinary session held in November/December 1987. The meeting felt that that common position represented the framework for international dialogue and action. The representative of Morocco expressed reservation on that.

69. The meeting considered the amount of \$US 5 billion per annum estimated by the Group as a gross underestimation of the additional requirements even for the limited number of countries covered by the Group's study. The figure needed to be revised upward to a more realistic level and to cover all Africa.

70. The Executive Secretary, in reacting to the debate, thanked the delegates for their various interventions on the important issue. He reiterated the commitment of the Secretary-General to effectively carry out his mandate regarding the monitoring of the process of implementation of the UN-PAAERD. The report and recommendations of the Group remained the responsibility of the Group as did the scope of the study and the methodologies and approaches used. However, the Secretary-General was very much interested in gathering any reactions and comments on the report and recommendations of the Group to enable him to prepare a comprehensive report to the Ad Hoc Committee of the Whole entrusted with the review and appraisal of the Programme of Action. In that regard, the Executive Secretary underlined the special importance that the Secretary-General attached to the collective views and position of the Conference of African Ministers responsible for economic development and planning. Accordingly, all member States should forward their respective views to the Secretary-General as soon as possible.

71. The meeting concluded its debate on the report by adopting a draft position paper on it for the consideration of the Conference of Ministers which



is attached to the present report as annex I. The meeting also urged delegates to ensure that the views of their respective member States reached the Secretary-General as soon as possible.

Response to ECOSOC resolution 1988/1 - Arrangements for the meeting of the Ad Hoc Committee of the Whole on the review and appraisal of the United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development, 1986-1990 [agenda item 5 (e)]

72. The Executive Secretary introduced this item by drawing the attention of the Committee to ECOSOC resolution 1988/1 of 5 February 1988 by which the Economic and Social Council had invited all intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to report to the Ad Hoc Committee of the Whole of the General Assembly which had been entrusted with the task of preparing the mid-term review and appraisal of the Programme of Action on their contribution to, and on specific aspects and perspectives of the implementation of the United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development, 1986-1990. He recalled that the meeting had already set up an Ad Hoc Committee under the chairmanship of the second Vice-Chairman, to prepare a draft memorandum in response to the resolution, which would be considered by TEPCOW for submission to the ECA Conference of Ministers.

73. The meeting took note of the resolution and adopted the draft memorandum addressed to the Ad Hoc Committee of the Whole of the General Assembly (annex II).

Subregional co-operation in the production of cereals and tubers with special emphasis on the role of women [agenda item 6 (a) (i)]

74. In introducing document E/ECA/CM.14/8, a representative of the secretariat explained that Africa which had been self-sufficient in its food requirements in the mid-1950s had since become dependent on food imports and that the situation had continued to deteriorate for a number of reasons. Rural-urban migration had left behind in the rural areas mostly women and children. The role of women was ignored, and girls were not trained in production. Export crops had been promoted at the expense of food crops, and research had favoured export crops against food crops. Besides, public spending had neglected the rural sector. As a consequence, there had been increasing dependency on food imports.

75. Eastern and Southern Africa with a population of about 170 million provided a large market, yet it was one of the poorest subregions, with pronounced food imbalances. Some areas were surplus food producers and others were deficit ones. Yet there was no effective exchange of goods between them. The area had tremendous potential. The representative of the secretariat stressed that it was the rural areas that would help in ensuring food security, and appropriate policies would have to be adopted. A change in consumption habits to reduce imports was one solution probably for the urban areas but it would not help for the rural areas. Special consideration had to be given to the role of women and their contribution to production, and to the strengthening of subregional co-operation among PTA and SADCC member States.

76. In the ensuing discussion, delegates congratulated the secretariat for the report and for the importance it attached to the role of women in agriculture. That role had often not been fully appreciated. The report was timely

and its pioneering spirit very commendable, and so also were its attempts at proposing solutions aimed at alleviating the problems of food security. It was hoped that the study was only the beginning of further efforts in the area.

77. Delegates emphasized the long hours women usually put into production, even at the cost of their own health. Many women were not literate, and in some cases, traditional practices determined the roles women were to play from very early ages. They proposed a number of ways for enhancing production including the commercialization of food production, establishment of special farming programmes for women, and modernization and introduction of new technologies capable of alleviating their daily chores. A proposal for special farming programmes for women received particular attention as it was felt that the programmes would enable women to be gainfully employed, raise productivity and even assist in creating jobs for migrant men workers as they returned to rural areas from neighbouring countries.

78. The need for strengthening subregional co-operation was acknowledged and it was noted that there were regional complementarities which could be exploited. However, there were constraints against co-operation, and the need for feasibility studies was emphasized. Delegates also felt that the role of traditional trading practices in promoting subregional co-operation in food needed to be enhanced.

79. The observer for the United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM) congratulated the secretariat for its distinctive report and stated that measures had to be taken to increase productivity. She explained that the sexual division of labour was no longer true since as a result of rural-urban migration, women were left to play roles previously reserved for men. She supported the proposal for Special Farming Programmes to increase the access of women to resources and intellectual knowledge.

80. The observer for the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) congratulated the secretariat for the very interesting report, which in many respects echoed the preoccupation of IFAD on the development of small-holders and the rural poor of which women constituted a large proportion. He informed the Committee of his agency's Special Programme for Sub-Saharan African Countries, a major component of which related to the development of drought-resistant food crops. Concerning regional co-operation, he informed the meeting of IFAD's recent programming mission to the SADCC region and of the recommendations on regional co-operation for small-holder development with specific project proposals for women.

81. The observer for the World Food Council noted that the report's accent on economic co-operation and integration with respect to the food sector was in line with UN-PAAERD, an area in which the World Food Council (WFC) was already co-operating closely with ECA and some African intergovernmental organizations. He noted further that the document contained good project ideas but suggested the addition of agricultural research, training and extension.

82. Responding to the issues raised by the delegates, the representative of the secretariat emphasized that women's programmes would have to be considered at the same level as men's and agreed that women should be given greater access to inputs, and that women's share of the produce should be proportional to their contribution to production.

Improvement in the status of sedentary, rural populations and nomadic societies through the reduction of food waste and losses at the production level [agenda item 6(a)(ii)]

83. In presenting document E/ECA/CM.14/9, the representative of the secretariat stated that the aim of the document was to focus attention on the general problems of nomads. He referred to the recent decline in production in the Sahelian countries which caused as much havoc by many years of drought as the general deterioration in the economic and social conditions of nomads. He observed that even though some nomadic people had opted for settled life in order to benefit from such amenities as water supply, pasture and secure food supplies, most settlement areas were faced with inadequate and irregular supplies of food.

84. With regard to traditional herding, as practised by the nomadic people in the Sahel, he noted that the practice had been based on ancestral techniques of nomadism, transhumance and collective management of pasture and cattle paths, which depended on the maintenance of critical ecological balance. However, that centuries-old balance had now been disrupted by structural changes in the environment resulting in a significant reduction of available arable and pastoral land. The new situation underlined the need for new strategies that would lead to overall improvement in the well-being of those groups of people through the fullest use of limited space at minimum economic, social and environmental costs. The representative of the secretariat called for greater collaboration between ECA and other United Nations agencies such as FAO, IFAD, WFC and WFP to address the problem. He pointed out that a seminar at which the general problems of nomads would be examined had been scheduled to take place in Mali later in 1988.

85. In the discussion that followed, several delegates expressed satisfaction with the document and commended the secretariat for bringing the issue of nomads to the attention of member States, in view of the very important role that nomads played in the economic life of countries. A number of participants provided figures to underline the substantial contribution of nomads to agricultural production in their own countries. In that light, some participants felt that the study should have covered other areas of the continent as well, such as the Masais, Turkana and Karamojong of East Africa and expressed the hope that those areas would be studied by ECA in the immediate future.

86. Some participants supported settlement programmes for nomads on the grounds that such programmes would benefit nomadic societies by bringing them within the realms of scientific progress and enable them to benefit from technological development. It was also felt that by settling nomads, the problems of desertification, environmental degradation, social strife and tension would be minimized. It was believed that in any case, the traditional mode of nomadic life would be overtaken by the ongoing modernization of production within Africa and that an alternative way of life should be provided for nomads.

87. Other participants argued however that the nomadic way of life should be protected and preserved since it was best suited and attuned to the harsh environment in which the nomads found themselves and would not wreak greater damage on the environment. The observer for OAU remarked that some of the

projects that had been established to help the nomads had ended in creating new problems for them. In that regard, he underscored the need to approach the whole issue of nomads in an interdisciplinary manner as the problems faced embraced all aspects of economic, cultural, ecological, psychological, political as well as social life. If that mode of existence were to be undermined, the people would be put into greater jeopardy and their very survival compromised. The observer for UNIFEM supported that argument, adding that the free movement of nomads did in itself facilitate intra-African economic integration and posed no threat since nomads usually returned to their place of origin after the rains. She further referred to the important problem of displaced persons, created as a result of drought. She observed that those left behind as a result of such phenomena, mainly women, generally suffered and the problem should not be overlooked when the issue was examined at the proposed ECA seminar in Mali.

88. In spite of the two opposing views, the meeting generally agreed on the need to institute long-term programmes to address the problems faced by nomads. In this connection, several ongoing experiences were cited. The representative of Nigeria informed the meeting of the mobile education system that had been started with the assistance of UNESCO in order to provide education to the Fulani children within his country. The representative of Algeria also talked about his country's experience with respect to the sedentarization of nomads which was based on the nomads voluntarily accepting the sedentarization policy which included the establishment of agro-pastoral villages, boarding schools for nomads' children, centres for the distribution of essential foodstuffs and mobile polyclinics. In Burkina Faso, the problem was being addressed through land reform and better rural land management with the assistance of the World Bank and other donors.

89. There was general agreement on finding long-term solutions to the nomadic way of life through national efforts. Given the fact that the problem of nomadic societies became compounded by the problem of refugees, it was stressed that any solution to the problem of nomads could be better achieved within the context of subregional and regional co-operation in Africa. The meeting therefore urged ECA to continue to undertake in-depth studies on the subject and to extend the study coverage to other countries of the region as well.

90. The Committee took note of the document.

Key issues concerning the implementation of the Mar del Plata Action Plan in Africa [agenda item 6 (b) (i)]

91. In presenting document E/ECA/CM.14/10, a representative of the secretariat recalled the United Nations Water Conference held at Mar del Plata, Argentina, in March 1977, which had adopted the Mar del Plata Action Plan (MPAP) and the subsequent designation in 1980 by the United Nations General Assembly of the period 1981-1990 as the International Drinking Water Supply and Sanitation Decade (IDWSSD). He noted that progress in the implementation of the MPAP and IDWSSD in the African region had been and continued to be slow due mainly to financial constraints. That was exemplified by the very low lending of the World Bank to the region for water supply and sewerage. Africa received the lowest loans in the period 1985-1987. Given the high costs involved in the supply of water and sanitation facilities to the urban and rural populations and the present performance, it was evident that most African countries could not achieve the goals set for the IDWSSD. Furthermore, the high rate

of urban population growth meant that even where the Decade's targets were met, the results could rapidly be negated.

92. In the light of the implementation situation in Africa and the similar slow progress made in the other developing regions, the United Nations Administrative Co-ordination Committee (ACC), Inter-secretariat Group for Water and the Steering Committee for Co-operative Action for the IDWSSD were already preparing strategies for the 1990s, the post-Decade period. The new strategies would help to establish specific regional priorities and phased programmes to accelerate water resources development. To that end, ECA and other regional commissions would be called upon to provide inputs reflecting their respective regional and subregional perspectives. In order to fulfil that role, the report recommended that the ECA secretariat should strengthen its water resources unit and intensify its operational activities, particularly with regard to inter-country programmes and projects of the river and lake basin organizations. It further recommended that the secretariat should report periodically to the Conference of Ministers on development in those areas.

93. In the discussion that followed, many participants stressed the vital importance of water to life itself and to the social and economic development of the continent. It was therefore regrettable that financial and technical constraints had prevented most countries from achieving the desired progress in the supply of water and sanitation facilities to their people during the Decade. Special attention was drawn to the burdens placed on rural women who had to walk very long distances to fetch water, a situation which seriously hampered their other social and productive activities. In that regard, one participant suggested that the Africa Regional Co-ordinating Committee for the Integration of Women in Development (ARCC) should take measures to publicize the IDWSSD in its remaining three years. She also suggested that participants in future TEPCOW meetings should be specifically requested to bring country reports on the water situation.

94. Although several participants did report to the Committee on the considerable efforts their countries were making to increase the supply of water and sanitation facilities, it had been noted that serious problems existed with regard to the financing of water supply and sanitation projects, proper planning of water and sanitation to suit the different needs of the urban and rural populations, water legislation, institutional competence and management, maintenance of water works and sanitation facilities and charging and recovery of costs. Referring to the scientific, technological and human resources development problems raised, the observer from UNESCO informed the meeting of his organization's past and continuing activities in those areas in the African region.

95. The Committee therefore urged member States and donor agencies to intensify their efforts to overcome those problems and requested the ECA secretariat to give greater attention to water resources activities and promote water development programmes in the member States.

96. The Committee took note of the report.



Report on the establishment of the African Organization for Cartography and Remote Sensing [agenda item 6 (b)(ii)]

97. A representative of the secretariat introduced Document E/ECA/CM.14/11 and in doing so explained that the African Organization for Cartography and Remote Sensing (AOCRS) had been established in pursuance of resolution 550 (XX) on the ECA-sponsored institutions by which the Commission, inter alia, had decided to merge the African Remote Sensing Council and the African Association of Cartography. The first meeting of the Conference of Plenipotentiaries of AOCRS had been held in February 1988. At that meeting the constitution of the new organization had been signed by 16 member States. The constitution had remained open for signature at the ECA secretariat which was the depository. At that meeting also, the Executive Board of the Organization had been established and its members appointed; Algeria had been selected as host country for the secretariat of the Organization; the 1988 budget of the Organization had been approved; and a Secretary-General had been appointed in an ad interim capacity for a fixed period of one year. A number of administrative and management arrangements had also been established for the transitional period.

98. The representative of the secretariat appealed to member States who had not already done so to join AOCRS and to pay their contributions to ensure that the Organization operated smoothly.

99. In the discussion which followed, the representative of Algeria, the host country of the Organization, said AOCRS was an organization which should be given every support because it was the first concrete example of the implementation of resolution 550 (XX). He assured the meeting that Algeria would fulfil all its obligations under the host country agreement. He recalled resolution 602 (XXII) which requested ECA to provide assistance to AOCRS. He supported the request made by the AOCRS for a single subvention of \$US 100,000. One other delegation enquired about the holding of the next meeting of the United Nations Regional Cartographic Conference for Africa and another wished to know whether all the member States of the Commission were obliged to join AOCRS.

100. The representative of the secretariat explained that resolution 602 (XXII) did not request ECA to make available to AOCRS an amount of \$US 100,000; the resolution rather requested the secretariat to take appropriate steps to establish AOCRS. He said that the seventh United Nations Regional Cartographic Conference for Africa was scheduled to take place in November 1989. On the membership of the Organization, he explained that it was desirable that all member States joined the Organization. A total of 25 member States had attended the first meeting of the Conference of Plenipotentiaries of AOCRS but to date only 16 of them had signed the constitution of the Organization.

101. The meeting took note of the report and adopted draft resolution 7 (IX).

Industrial development in Africa [agenda item 6(c)]

- (i) Progress report on the implementation of the programme for the Industrial Development Decade for Africa (IDDA)



(ii) Report on UNIDO II

102. A representative of the secretariat presented documents E/ECA/CM.14/12 and E/ECA/CM.14/13 on these two agenda items respectively.

103. In introducing document E/ECA/CM.14/12 on the implementation of the programme for the IDDA, which was jointly prepared by the secretariats of ECA, OAU and UNIDO, the ECA representative cautioned that the report was an interim report as it did not contain information on member States' contribution and urged those governments which had not done so to respond to the questionnaire which had been sent to member States so as to enable the secretariats to prepare a more comprehensive progress report which would be submitted to the ninth meeting of the Conference of African Ministers of Industry. He briefed the Committee on the various activities that had been carried out by the ECA, OAU and UNIDO secretariats and highlighted the problems encountered. He also suggested future actions that would be required to accelerate the suggested implementation of the programme. He pointed out that as in previous review periods, the inadequacy of resources available to ECA and UNIDO for the Decade had continued to be a major obstacle to the full implementation of the programme.

104. At the level of member States, the major constraints that had hampered the speedy achievement of the basic objective of the programme had included inadequacies in overall economic performance, poor industrial policies, limited financial resources, small market size, the inadequacy of domestic factor inputs, including human resources, and difficulties in subregional and regional co-operation. To accelerate the implementation of the programme, industrial policies, strategies, plans and institutional infrastructure needed to be adjusted to prevailing economic needs and priorities. Emphasis must continue to be placed on the development of core and agro-related industries through an integrated programming approach; priority would also have to be accorded to the elaboration and implementation of industrial manpower development plans and programmes, the development and acquisition of technology and energy resources, the development and promotion of small-scale industries and the requisite entrepreneurial capabilities, the mobilization of financial resources, the promotion of intra-African industrial co-operation and integration, and the encouragement of economic and technical co-operation among developing countries.

105. The observer for the Organization of African Unity (OAU) supplemented the presentation of the ECA secretariat by saying that he endorsed the issues raised. He then appealed to member States to complete and return the questionnaire that had been distributed and to co-operate with the three secretariats in their efforts to enable to finalize the report. The observer for UNIDO expressed his appreciation for the level of co-operation between UNIDO, ECA and OAU secretariats and informed the meeting of the forthcoming mid-term independent evaluation of the Decade programme as well as the steps taken so far by UNDP and UNIDO to have the study undertaken. He further pointed out that UNIDO's activities were then being rearranged in the light of Africa's present priorities within the framework of APPER and UN-PAAERD and that though the exact date had not been fixed, member States had been generally enthusiastic about the proposed proclamation of the African Industrialization Day. He concluded by urging member States to consider seriously the suggested actions and thanked ECA and OAU for their respective support.

106. The observer from UNIDO expressed his appreciation for the level of co-operation among the secretariats of UNIDO, OAU and ECA, and informed the

meeting that UNIDO's activities in Africa were being reoriented in line with Africa's prevailing priorities within the framework of APPER and UN-PAAERD. He drew the attention of the Committee to the mid-term independent evaluation of the Decade programme and thanked UNDP for contributing to the financing of the evaluation and urged member States and relevant organizations to extend maximum co-operation to the evaluation when it visited their respective countries and organizations. He further pointed out that although the exact date had not been fixed, member States had enthusiastically welcomed, during a recent mission by a UNIDO consultant, the proposed proclamation of an African Industrialization Day.

107. The representative of the ECA secretariat then introduced document E/ECA/CM.14/13: Report on UNIDO II. In doing so, he said that the report provided an account of both the preparatory activities in Africa for, as well as the main results of, the second General Conference of UNIDO. The special meeting of the Conference of African Ministers of Industry preparatory to the second regular session of the General Conference of UNIDO which was held in October 1987 had focused its deliberations on (i) restructuring and rehabilitation of African industry in the context of the Industrial Development Decade for Africa; (ii) development of human resources and technological capabilities; (iii) financing of industrial development in Africa and external debt; (iv) the UNIDO system of consultations; and (v) UNIDO institutional arrangements with respect to Africa. He indicated that those issues had served as a basis for the preparation and adoption of the African Memorandum on Industrial Development in Africa: Issues, conclusions and recommendations, which the Conference of African Ministers of Industry had adopted at its special meeting.

108. The representative of the ECA secretariat highlighted the main conclusions and recommendations of the second regular session of the General Conference of UNIDO that were of interest to the continent and made an appeal to the delegates to ensure that the follow-up measures were effectively implemented at both national and regional levels. He informed the meeting that the Memorandum adopted by the Conference of African Ministers of Industry had been noted with interest by the General Conference and had been included in its final document. The General Conference had elected 26 new members to the Industrial Development Board including the following six from Africa: Algeria, Botswana, Cameroon, Ghana, Guinea and the United Republic of Tanzania. Other African members of the Board whose term would end in 1989 were: Côte d'Ivoire, Egypt, Kenya, Nigeria, Tunisia, Zaire and Zambia. New members of the Programme and Budget Committee had also been elected. They included Algeria, Côte d'Ivoire, Morocco, Nigeria and Zimbabwe.

109. He concluded by stressing the need for effective follow-up action to ensure the full implementation of the decisions of the General Conference and that follow-up activities were fully in line with the orientations contained in the African Memorandum. At subregional and regional levels, there was a need to monitor the mid-term evaluation of the programme with the assistance of the joint ECA/OAU/UNIDO Committee in the implementation of the IDDA programme. At international level, there was a need to increase the size of the African Group in Vienna and strengthen its negotiating capability.

110. The presentation by the ECA secretariat was supplemented by the observer from UNIDO who provided information on the measures being taken by UNIDO for the implementation of the decisions of the Conference, especially in

respect of the IDDA, institutional arrangements for UNIDO in Africa and of the Memorandum on Industrial Development in Africa.

111. In the discussion that followed, one delegation suggested that since UNIDO was the specialized agency responsible for industrialization, the title of the report should have indicated that it was prepared by UNIDO in collaboration with ECA and OAU instead of indicating that it was prepared jointly.

112. In response, the three secretariats explained that in accordance with the General Assembly resolution which established the IDDA, ECA and UNIDO were jointly made responsible for monitoring its implementation. Similarly, when the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of OAU adopted the programme, it entrusted OAU, ECA and UNIDO secretariats with joint responsibility for monitoring its implementation. In the context of those decisions, the secretariats of the three organizations had been jointly monitoring the implementation and preparing joint reports for consideration by their respective legislative organs and the General Assembly of the United Nations. It was as a result of division of labour that the finalization of each report had been the responsibility, on a rotational basis, of each secretariat although they bore joint responsibility for the contents.

113. The representative of Morocco expressed reservation on any reference to the eighth meeting of the Conference of African Ministers of Industry.

114. After the explanation, the Committee took note of the reports.

Report on the implementation of the resolutions of the fifth meeting of the Conference of African Ministers of Transport, Communications and Planning  
[agenda item 6 (d) (i)]

115. In introducing document E/ECA/CM.14/14, a representative of the secretariat outlined the various actions taken by the ECA member States, United Nations bodies and other organizations in pursuance of the implementation of the resolutions of the fifth meeting of the Conference of African Ministers of Transport, Communications and Planning which was held in Harare, Zimbabwe, in March 1986 and endorsed by the ECA Conference of Ministers at its twelfth meeting.

116. The resolutions concerned had covered the implementation of the second phase of the programme of the Decade, implications of the recommendations of the Joint Inspection Unit on UNTACDA, implementation of the work programme of the Technical Committee on Air Transport in Africa, co-ordinated network of aircraft maintenance and overhaul centres in Africa, harmonization of measures for the full participation of African countries in maritime transport, telecommunications for socio-economic development, and analysis of new projects submitted for inclusion in the second phase of the Decade programme by the bureau of the fifth meeting of the Conference of African Ministers of Transport, Communications and Planning.

117. In the discussion that followed, several representatives and observers for interested organizations intervened and expressed the importance of transport and communications for the accelerated development of Africa. The observer for ICAO briefly reviewed the constraints to the development and integration of African air transport which were thoroughly discussed during

the last session of the Conference of African Ministers of Transport, Communications and Planning held in Kinshasa. Among those, were difficulties currently experienced by African airlines in transferring their revenues which hinder the opening or the continuation of intra-African air links. In particular, problems confronting air transport in Africa were raised. It was stressed that political and technical co-operation was required if an effective intra-African telecommunications network was to be established.

118. The representative of the secretariat informed the meeting that the issues raised would be discussed further under the next item on the agenda.

119. The meeting took note of the document.

United Nations Transport and Communications Decade in Africa: Report on progress in the implementation of the second phase of the Decade programme [agenda item 6 (d) (ii)]

120. In introducing document E/ECA/CM.14/15, a representative of the secretariat explained that the purpose of the report was to brief delegates on progress made in the implementation of the second phase of the United Nations Transport and Communications Decade programme. Altogether, there were 1,048 projects in the second phase at a total cost of \$US 18,322 million. He informed the Committee of the improvement in the flow of information for monitoring, and provided details of completed projects as well as those under implementation. Since the Decade programme was still in progress, the available data had to be considered as provisional. He reported on the progress made in the implementation of PANAFTEL and RASCOM and called upon the representatives of the other participating agencies to provide additional information on the progress attained.

121. The observer for the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) underscored the importance of telecommunications in development and then reported that important achievements had been made in the implementation of PANAFTEL. Ninety-six per cent of the network had been completed in the Eastern and Southern African subregion, 89 per cent in the West African subregion and 30 per cent in the Central African subregion. He appealed to the countries of the Central African subregion to complete the interconnections. He informed the Committee that UNDP had contributed about \$US 16 million towards the implementation of PANAFTEL and that African countries themselves had contributed about \$US 600 million during the second phase of the Decade programme. The PANAFTEL network was however underutilized, and extra-African transit centres were still being used to route African telecommunications traffic. He appealed to African countries to make use of the completed networks. He then explained the objectives of RASCOM and the importance of the project to Africa. A project office with qualified African experts had already been established. As of now, 49 African countries were participating in the project study, with most of them having established national multisectoral co-ordination committees which are carrying out the study. He appealed to the Ministries of Economic Planning to be actively involved in the RASCOM studies to ensure co-ordinated national reports.

122. The observer for OAU noted the excellent co-operation between the participating agencies, and explained that the odds against Africa underlined the need for continued political and economic co-operation. The investment in

the PANAFTEL network had already been considerable; efforts had therefore to be made to utilize the network. He stressed the unique nature of RASCOM and informed the Committee of his organization's contribution to the project.

123. In the ensuing discussion, delegates questioned the non-developmental approach used in the progress report, and in particular the lack of development indicators. It was necessary, they argued, to show achievement towards the objectives of the Decade programme. They pointed out, further, that the title of the report did not convey the lack of progress which was evident in the contents of the report. It was suggested that the title of the report could have been "Results of the Implementation of the Programme" rather than "Progress". They appealed for the reorientation of African communications traffic so as to utilize the PANAFTEL network. In that connection, they re-emphasized the need to interconnect African airline routes. African solidarity had not only to be talked about, but also to be practised.

124. In responding to the issues raised by the delegates, the representative of the secretariat explained that the progress report pertained to the 1,048 projects of the Decade of the second phase and that the report did not attempt to cover other issues which would be discussed under other items of the agenda and in other fora. He informed the Committee that a report would be presented to the meeting under agenda item 7 on the evaluation of UNTACDA. Furthermore, a colloquium would be taking place in Addis Ababa on problems of integration and development and the role of transport and communications in the integration of Africa would be one of the issues to be discussed. He acknowledged that the implementation rate was indeed low, but that should not be the reason for changing the title of the report since it reflected the progressive nature of the implementation of the Decade programme.

125. The Committee then took note of the report.

Issues in social development: The African social situation, 1982-1987 [agenda item 6 (e) (i)]

126. A representative of the secretariat introduced document E/ECA/CM.14/16 entitled "The African social situation, 1982-1987" and highlighted the main conclusions of the study. Since the mid-1970s, Africa had been undergoing a human crisis resulting from structural imbalances, ill-conceived policies and growing economic difficulties. The drought of 1982-1985 had worsened the problem, creating an intolerable social situation. Poverty, which had been basically linked to unequal access to income and other social development resources, had become widespread. Famine and malnutrition had decimated the population and thousands of Africans were displaced by cyclical ecological disasters. Economic issues overshadowed social concerns in development planning, social needs were not always taken into account in economic policy-making and economic growth had not always led to social improvements. Indeed, the structural adjustment programmes adopted by many African countries were directed at financial stability and speedy economic recovery, often to the detriment of the well-being of the vast majority of people, in particular the rural and urban poor, women and children.

127. The representative of the secretariat stated that the paper contained proposals on policy shifts and measures that would help to solve the particular



problems of population, employment, food and nutrition, health, housing, education and literacy as well as social integration. Those proposals had taken into account the Lagos Plan of Action, Africa's Priority Programme for Economic Recovery, 1986-1990, the United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development, 1986-1990 and other seminal documents. The proposals focused on strategies that would decentralize decision-making and promote the effective participation of people at all levels of the development process. They also focused on striking a judicious balance between economic and social needs in the action programmes and development plans pursued. Accordingly, the necessary resources should be harmoniously apportioned for the implementation of such programmes while indicating the measures taken to prevent or to reduce, to the minimum, the negative effects on the environment, in particular on the most disadvantaged social strata. That was especially needed for women, the rural and urban poor, unemployed youth and slum children. In other words, it called for research on socially harmonious programmes and policies which governmental agencies, non-governmental organizations and local people themselves would need to institute. It also called for effective management, monitoring and evaluation of social development programmes.

128. The structural adjustment programmes advocated by the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund should have an impact that was genuinely social and not only financial. Finally, member States should strengthen co-operation in the area of research and find solutions to common social problems such as poverty, unemployment, refugees and displaced persons. They should also ask the United Nations organizations, in particular ECA, to help them in formulating their social development policies.

129. During the ensuing debate, representatives congratulated the secretariat for the indisputable quality of the document and also for the very competent manner in which it was presented. The study, it was felt, had brought social issues to the fore, stressing as it did people as the focus of development. One participant stated that for appropriate resources to be devoted to programmes affecting the most disadvantaged in society, governments should maintain political stability and spend less on military expenditure. The current educational system which generally inculcated the notion that going to school qualified one for doing white collar jobs only needed to be re-oriented. Some traditional eating habits also needed to be changed by providing local food that was better balanced nutritionally. One participant pointed out the need for considering the cultural aspects of development, especially in view of the proclamation, by the United Nations General Assembly, of 1988-1997 as the World Cultural Development Decade.

130. Several participants commented that while it was necessary to undertake macro-economic structural adjustments, those adjustments must be carried out bearing in mind the human factor, so that the new development structures and modes of economic growth were equitable, thus ensuring the full participation of the people and the interests of the poorest socio-economic strata. Thus, short- and medium-term measures must always be linked to long-term development goals and strategies. Other participants suggested that sufficient budgetary allocations must be devoted to the social sectors, and must be regarded as investment with multiplier effects on human development. One participant was, however, of the opinion that the problem was not on the sufficiency of funds; substantial allocations were made in National Development



Plans. The problem was on the effectiveness of the social programmes; hence the need for a re-appraisal. It was also urged that donor agencies should be more sensitive to the social needs of African countries in providing their assistance. One participant pointed out that the study had not dealt sufficiently with the question of refugees.

131. In her reaction to the issues raised, the representative of the secretariat stated that structural change affecting equitable social development stemmed from the States' political will and that a more judicious balance between production, employment and education must come first in human resources mobilization, development and utilization. As to the poor, they did not need charity but rather developmental assistance from the other levels of society.

132. The Executive Secretary assured the Committee that ECA would continue to be involved with questions and problems of social development. Current high unemployment rates, rising crime and juvenile delinquency were dominant tendencies which impeded social and economic development. The time was opportune to devote particular attention to social change. He informed the Committee that, as a sign of its concern for the social consequences of structural adjustment programmes, the World Bank, in collaboration with UNDP, had decided to evaluate the social impact of such programmes to the tune of about \$US 45 million. He assured participants that efforts would be made to improve the statistical data in future reports of the social situation which might have to be produced annually.

133. The meeting took note of the document.

Changing socio-economic conditions of women in Africa in the context of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women [agenda item 6(e) (ii)]

134. In presenting document E/ECA/CM.14/17, a representative of the secretariat pointed out that the paper was an attempt to provide a coherent regional picture on the situation of African women since the adoption of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women. The document was based on a desk study and on the few responses to a questionnaire sent to member States in December 1987. It reviewed measures that African Governments and the United Nations bodies and agencies had taken to translate the strategies into concrete action as far as the African region was concerned, and the impact those measures had had on the socio-economic conditions of women in Africa.

135. The representative of the secretariat pointed out that at the ECA secretariat level the African Training and Research Centre for Women had been the focal point for the integration of women in development programme, and that most other programmes of the secretariat had a women's component. At the national level, initiatives had been taken by the national machineries and/or structures to sensitize governments and non-governmental bodies on the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies. At the subregional level, a series of conferences had been held to set up machineries to facilitate communications and the dissemination of information on women and women's activities in the region. The MULPOC had also spearheaded and promoted women's activities at the subregional level. At the regional level, the Africa Regional Coordinating Committee (ARCC) had vigorously pursued the goals of integrating

women in the mainstream of economic, social and political activities by harmonizing and co-ordinating the subregional programmes on women in development, mobilizing resources for the implementation of programmes agreed upon at the regional and subregional levels and monitoring the programmes on behalf of African women.

136. A large number of governments had taken action to increase and improve the role of women in several areas of economic life. However, the participation of women in national decision-making processes still left much to be desired. There was a need to improve the conditions of work for women in the informal sector not only with respect to increasing their access to improved technologies but also by bettering their work environment and welfare. Opportunities available to women to participate more fully in the industrial sector also needed substantial improvement. As regards education and training, while women's enrolment at all levels had been increasing in some countries, an equitable balance between the sexes had yet to be reached in many others. There was in particular a need to increase the number of women and girls entering scientific and technical fields of education. In the areas of health, nutrition, water and sanitation, there had been increased efforts to strengthen the maternal and child health, primary health care, family planning programmes, immunization programmes as well as programmes designed to bring water within women's reach.

137. In the ensuing discussion, a number of participants commended the quality of the study. It was however pointed out that the coverage of the study could have been more enriched had there been responses to the questionnaire sent to member States. However, there was need for the secretariat to give sufficient time for the completion of questionnaires not only because of the care needed for filling such questionnaires but also because of communication difficulties in Africa. It was also noted that in the future the questionnaires should include a guide on how to complete them. Some delegates promised to provide relevant statistical data on their respective countries to update the study.

138. Some delegates objected to the use of the phrase "Sub-Saharan Africa" since it gave the impression that the African region was made up of two distinct and separate entities.

139. One delegate referred to the experience of his country with regard to the role played by women in agriculture, education and employment. He pointed out that historically women had played prominent role in agricultural production, and indicated that women's productivity and participation in the rural areas could be much more enhanced through the provision of modern inputs. Referring to employment opportunities, the delegate stated that many women were re-employed at the higher echelons of government and occupied responsible positions in universities and other institutions. However, the vast majority were concentrated in the informal sector, particularly in retail trade. He cited the tremendous efforts made by his government to accelerate the participation of women at the three levels of the educational ladder, and emphasized the need for women to organize themselves effectively since their socio-economic transformation depended much on the sharing of political power.

140. A delegate congratulated the Executive Secretary for bringing to fruition the objectives of the women's programme within the ECA secretariat and suggested that a motion of appreciation should be adopted in that regard on

the occasion of the thirtieth anniversary of the Commission. The meeting accepted that suggestion and adopted the motion of appreciation as attached to the report.

141. The observer for UNIFEM suggested that the ECA secretariat should adopt a more dynamic approach to the use of questionnaires and should use formal and informal means to increase the rate of responses. UNIFEM's offices in Dakar and Harare would work more closely with the ECA secretariat in that regard. She stressed the need to send questionnaires well ahead of time.

142. The observer for UNESCO recalled the importance his organization attached to the role of women in development, and emphasized the need for concerted action through the United Nations system in preparing the ground and helping the national planning offices that were best placed to ameliorate the conditions of women. The observer for IFAD suggested that policy pronouncements for effective participation of women should be translated into concrete action through the provision of credit, storage and other ancillary services.

143. The observer for UNIDO underscored the urgent need to promote the participation of women in the process of industrialization in Africa, a task that would require better education and training in science and technology. UNIDO was working in close co-operation with ECA towards that goal.

144. The observer for ILO questioned the various assertions made in the study on the functions of the informal sector and suggested the need to make the necessary corrections. She then gave a brief account of the contribution of ILO in the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for Action 1986-1987 and activities to be carried out in 1988-1989 contained in the Medium-term Plan, 1990-1995.

145. In its reaction to the issues raised by participants, the secretariat thanked the participants for their contributions which, when taken into account, would improve the quality of the publication to be undertaken later. It also suggested that there was need to publish a survey at least once every two years to reflect the changing socio-economic conditions particularly in the areas of agriculture, employment, education and training, law and legislation, health and nutrition, water and sanitation and drought and desertification. To enable the secretariat to perform that task properly, there was need to obtain the necessary data. That was why it was important for member States to complete questionnaires and return them in time. With respect to the question of sufficient time for the completion of questionnaires, the secretariat promised to take that point into account in the use of questionnaires in the future.

146. The Committee took note of the document.

Trade and development: Report on UNCTAD VII [agenda item 6 (f)]

147. In introducing document E/ECA/CM.14/18, a representative of the secretariat briefed the meeting on the purpose and objectives of UNCTAD VII which was held in Geneva from 3 to 31 July 1987. He outlined what Africa had expected from that Conference and assessed its final outcome. Africa's concerns at the Conference had centred on the trend and pattern of resource flows; the instability in international commodity markets; protectionism

in the industrialized countries; and the special problems of the least developed countries.

148. The representative of the secretariat affirmed that there had been no major breakthrough at the Conference. A number of industrialized countries had refused to accept the position adopted by the Group of 77 as a basis for negotiations. There had been a general feeling among the Group of 77 that the developed countries were increasingly regarding UNCTAD not as a forum for negotiation, and as such, had become more reluctant to discuss pertinent issues that were of concern to the developing countries.

149. The observer for UNCTAD pointed out that the assessment made of UNCTAD VII by the ECA was pertinent. He informed the meeting that on the eve of UNCTAD VII, it was the very survival of UNCTAD as an organization that was at stake. He praised the contribution of the African Group to that Conference and noted that the adoption of the Final Act of UNCTAD VII was itself a major step forward. The Final Act provided the international community with a platform for stronger international co-operation and contained a number of important proposals which were of great importance to Africa. In that regard, he referred in particular to the Conference's concern for a balance between adjustment and growth and the role to be played by the international community in bringing about that balance. He also pointed out that the Conference had endorsed UNCTAD's activities and had given a particular boost to the prospects of operationalizing the Common Fund.

150. The observer for UNCTAD also referred to the planned global activities in preparation for the second United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries to be held in 1990. He appealed to African countries to participate actively in those preparations. He finally drew the attention of the meeting to the decision taken to strengthen multilateral co-operation.

151. The observer for OAU thanked the ECA and UNCTAD secretariats for their continued efforts in the area of trade and development and for the co-operation his organization had received from those institutions in that regard. He reaffirmed the assessment made of UNCTAD VII's achievement by the ECA secretariat, and urged member States to be more vigilant in their efforts to ensure the survival and effectiveness of the Conference. He informed the meeting that the OAU Council of Ministers had requested the OAU and ECA secretariats to hold consultations with a view to implementing the decisions of the Final Act of UNCTAD VII and had requested member States to keep the two secretariats informed of the progress made from time to time.

152. During the discussion, concern was expressed over the coverage of the report. The report would have been more meaningful if it had (i) dealt with the evaluation of the Conference in greater detail; (ii) contained guidelines for strengthening trade and development in Africa; (iii) shown the interrelationship between international trade, the African debt problem, resource flows and commodity prices, all of which had been considered at UNCTAD VII.

153. The representative of Morocco expressed his Government's reservation on any reference to the ninth meeting of the Conference of African Ministers of Trade held in Addis Ababa in March 1987.

154. The Committee took note of the report.

Fifth session of the Joint Conference of African Planners, Statisticians and Demographers - Recommendations and resolutions [agenda item 7 (a)]

155. The representative of Nigeria whose country was the Vice-Chairman of the fifth session of the Joint Conference of African Planners, Statisticians and Demographers, held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, from 21 to 28 March 1988 introduced document E/ECA/CM.14/19 Summary.

156. Among the general issues considered by the Joint Conference at its fifth session were progress made with respect to economic recovery, Africa's development perspectives to the year 2008, the debt problem, and the issue of monitoring the social dimensions of structural adjustment.

157. In the field of statistics, the Joint Conference had, inter alia, considered and made several recommendations on data collection related to development programmes and aid flows. The Conference had expressed satisfaction at the considerable progress made by the Statistical Training Programme for Africa (STPA) and had recommended ways by which the programme could be developed further. It had also considered and endorsed the proposed activities of the secretariat in the new field of environment statistics. While appreciation was expressed for the contribution made by various United Nations agencies and by multilateral and bilateral donors in the area of technical and financial assistance in planning, statistics, demography and information science, the Joint Conference had noted the various shortcomings encountered by some African countries in technical assistance co-operation activities.

158. In the field of planning, the Joint Conference had underscored the importance of introducing changes in planning and had urged the ECA secretariat to (i) undertake a comprehensive study on various African planning experiences; (ii) ensure that planning institutions were closely associated in the preparation of adjustment programmes; (iii) work on a conceptual framework for the optimal allocation of investment resources; (iv) undertake a comprehensive review of on-going adjustment programmes to ascertain their effects; and (v) support modelling efforts on regional level and improve Africa's integration in global models.

159. The Joint Conference had also considered population dynamics; population distribution, redistribution and drought; ECA regional population training and research institutes; and other issues related to the work of the secretariat in the population field. A number of recommendations had been made in this area.

160. In the field of information and documentation, the Conference had examined the study on the use of micro-computers in documentation and information centres in Africa. It had requested the secretariat to prepare a glossary of terms in use in information science and advised PADIS management to engage in a concerted promotional activity using, among other things, national participating centres and national press agencies as well as by producing publicity materials. The following members of the Regional Technical Committee of PADIS, namely Algeria, Ethiopia, the Niger, Zaire and Zambia, whose terms of office had expired, had had their terms extended for another period.

161. The Joint Conference had also recommended that the name of the Conference should remain unchanged and that the duration of its meetings should be reduced to six working days.



162. The meeting took note of the report and adopted draft resolutions 1 (IX), 2 (IX), 3 (IX) and 4 (IX).

Third meeting of the Conference of African Ministers Responsible for Human Resources Planning, Development and Utilization - Recommendations and resolutions [agenda item 7(b)]

163. The representative of the Republic of Sudan whose country was the Chairman of the third meeting of the Conference of Ministers Responsible for Human Resources Planning, Development and Utilization, which took place in Khartoum, the Sudan, on 12 and 13 March 1988 presented document E/ECA/CM.14/20/Summary. He informed the meeting that the Conference had considered and endorsed the Khartoum Declaration: Towards a Human-focused Approach to Socio-economic Recovery and Development in Africa, which had been adopted by the International Conference on the Human Dimension of Africa's Economic Recovery and Development which had also taken place in Khartoum from 5 to 8 March 1988. He added that the Ministerial Conference had been preceded by a meeting of its Committee of Experts and that of the Ministerial Follow-up Committee of Ten.

164. The representative of the Sudan outlined the basis and objectives of the Khartoum Declaration. That Declaration sought to ensure that the human factor was adequately incorporated into the design and implementation of recovery and structural adjustment processes and programmes, that special attention was given to the social sector and the vulnerable groups in African societies, and that capabilities for developing and utilizing human resources for long-term development were created and sustained. The Conference had decided to submit the Declaration to the ECA Conference of Ministers responsible for economic development and planning for its endorsement and subsequent transmittal to the Ad Hoc Committee of the Whole set up by the General Assembly to undertake a mid-term review of the implementation of UN-PAAERD, and through it to the forty-third session of the General Assembly.

165. The Conference had also adopted two other resolutions, one on Combating the brain drain and the other on Support for the United Nations Special Action Programme for Administration and Management (SAPAM).

166. In the discussion that followed, one delegate wondered whether in its consideration of the brain drain, the Conference had considered the possibilities for facilitating the return of highly skilled refugees who had settled inside and outside the region but whose skills were badly needed in some African countries.

167. In response, the Executive Secretary explained that the issue was indeed an important one. While the question of the brain drain had been considered at the Conference, that aspect of it relating to the use of qualified African refugees in needy African countries had not. That was probably because ECA was not dealing with refugee problems. However, ECA was much interested in the issue and indeed had a project on the return of African skills to Africa. Work in the area would certainly have to be intensified.

168. The Committee took note of the document and adopted draft resolutions 10 (IX), 11 (IX) and 12 (IX).



Seventh meeting of the Intergovernmental Committee of Experts of African Least Developed Countries - Recommendations and resolutions [agenda item 7(c)]

169. A representative of Niger in the capacity as the Chairman of the seventh meeting of the Intergovernmental Committee of Experts of African Least Developed Countries introduced document E/ECA/CM.14/21 - report of the meeting which had been held from 1 to 4 April 1988 in Niamey, Niger.

170. She said that the meeting had reviewed economic and social conditions in African least developed countries in the 1986-1987 period, and the progress made in implementing the Substantial New Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries in the 1980s. It had also assessed the development and utilization of human resources in African least developed countries and had examined ECA activities in the 1986-1987 biennium and those programmed for 1988-1989 biennium in favour of the African least developed countries.

171. She pointed out that the meeting had urged member countries to forward to the secretariat up-to-date information on their economies so that the secretariat's annual review of the economic and social conditions in African LDCs could be as accurate as possible. It had also considered the difficulties encountered by African LDCs in implementing structural adjustment programmes. The meeting had felt that the major obstacle to the successful realization of the Substantial New Programme of Action had remained the incommensurate level of external funding, especially official development assistance flows.

172. As regards human resources development and utilization, the meeting had underscored the urgent need to develop guidance programmes to integrate primary and secondary school drop-outs into the development circuits.

173. The Committee took note of the report and adopted draft resolution 22 (IX).

Ninth meeting of the Africa Regional Co-ordinating Committee for the Integration of Women in Development (ARCC) - Recommendations and resolutions [agenda item 7(d)]

174. The President of the ninth meeting of the Africa Regional Co-ordinating Committee for the Integration of Women in Development introduced document E/ECA/CM.14/22/Summary.

175. She informed the Committee that the ninth meeting of ARCC was held in Niamey, Niger, from 3 to 5 April 1988. Eleven of the fifteen ARCC member States participated in the meeting and six ECA member States participated in an observer capacity. She informed the Committee that ARCC was established by the ECA Conference of Ministers in 1979 and then outlined the objectives and composition of ARCC. She said that ARCC had been quite successful in creating awareness of women's issues. She briefed the Committee on the recommendations of the meeting and highlighted those which called upon governments and agencies to ensure that the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women were respected and implemented at the national level. She referred to the results of the regional workshop on integration of women in trade and commerce which was held earlier in Niamey and emphasized the need to improve traditional markets, both rural and urban, by providing shelter, storage, sanitation and other facilities. She also referred to

the issue of the women's programme in the MULPOCs and the recommendation that ECA and UNDP should ensure that the posts of women co-ordinators were reinstated. She appealed to member States to include in their delegations to the MULPOC statutory meetings, women delegates so that they could participate in the meetings of their subregional committees and those of the Committees of officials and Councils of Ministers of the MULPOCs. That would ensure the functioning of the structures including ARCC for the advancement of women.

176. Two resolutions had been adopted by the meeting. One was on women in development and the other on integration of African women in trade and commerce.

177. She finally paid tribute to the women of Niger for their hospitality and their contribution to the meeting.

178. In the ensuing discussion, delegates emphasized the importance of the findings of the ECA/UNDP/ARCC evaluation mission of August 1987, particularly the finding that there were no other structures that could replace the arrangement of having women co-ordinators in the MULPOC in dealing with women's issues and concerns. Some delegates observed that the title of the first resolution on women and development was too general, and queried the need to include "Nursery centres for infants and children" in an operative paragraph of the second resolution. After some discussion, it was agreed that the title of the first resolution should be made more specific, and that the concern for "nursery centres for infants and children" was a real one and should be retained in the resolution.

179. The Committee took note of the report (E/ECA/CM.14/22/Summary) and adopted draft resolutions 5 (IX) and 6 (IX).

Fifth meeting of the Intergovernmental Committee for Science and Technology Development - Recommendations and resolutions [agenda item 7(e)]

180. The representative of Zimbabwe, whose country had presided over the fifth meeting of the Intergovernmental Committee for Science and Technology Development, described the main recommendations and resolutions coming out of that meeting which had been held from 2 to 6 November 1987 in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. The Committee's recommendations had focused on the financial support that member States should provide for activities and projects already identified by the working groups. The Committee had also recommended that the ECA/MULPOC should co-ordinate the activities of the working groups in their respective subregions. ECA, in co-operation with OAU, ARCT, FAO, ILO, UNESCO and other competent international organizations, was to undertake in-depth studies on the indicators of science and technology development for Africa. The secretariat was to look for funds for the launching of the project ATAS-Africa. Member States were to provide appropriate financial resources for the African Science and Technology Information System (ASTIS).

181. Finally, ECA, OAU and UNESCO secretariats were to devise appropriate modalities of co-operation which would ensure that the activities of the intergovernmental Committee for Science and Technology Development and those of the standing conference of Heads of National Science and Technology Policy-making Bodies of African member States were complementary. The Committee had adopted two resolutions, one on the activities of its working groups

which should be co-ordinated by the ECA/MULPOC and the other on co-operation among ECA, OAU and UNESCO in following up CASTAFRICA II.

182. During the discussions which followed, one participant requested that ARCEDEM should be included among the organizations responsible for developing indicators of science and technology development for Africa.

183. After a representative of the secretariat had assured the meeting that the request would be considered, the Committee took note of the report and adopted draft resolutions 8 (IX) and 9 (IX).

Sixth meeting of the Conference of African Ministers of Transport, Communications and Planning - Recommendations and resolutions [agenda item 7(f)]

184. The representative of Zaire, whose country was the Chairman of the sixth meeting of the Conference of African Ministers of Transport, Communications and Planning, held at Kinshasa on 23 and 24 March 1988, introduced document E/ECA/CM.14/24/Summary. A number of resolutions were adopted on a broad spectrum of major subsectors of transport and communications; specifically there were resolutions on the need to (i) convene a special Conference of Ministers responsible for civil aviation to consider and adopt an African aeronautical policy; (ii) establish a working group on inland water transport to discuss and work out measures for facilitating inland water transport; (iii) establish within the North African MULPOC a committee of countries of North Africa which in collaboration with international institutions would be responsible for the development of transport in the subregion; (iv) strengthen the capacity of African intergovernmental organizations responsible for implementing transport and communications programmes in Africa; (v) develop trans-African highways in Africa; (vi) utilize the Pan-African Telecommunications Network (PANAFTEL); (vii) proclaim a second United Nations Transport and Communications Decade in Africa; and (viii) to establish a Ministerial Conference on Maritime Transport for Eastern and Southern Africa.

185. The representative of Zaire highlighted the background and justification for the resolution on a special conference of African Civil Aviation Ministers and pointed out the adverse consequences of new civil aviation policies in some industrialized countries on the development of air transport in Africa. He strongly called for the adoption of that resolution and its immediate implementation.

186. Participants sought information on the selection of the members of the ad hoc committee established for the purpose of preparing the special conference and suggested that the conference should be held earlier than planned. The reason for such urgency was that various regulations would become effective in many developed countries by the end of the year.

187. The secretariat informed the Committee that discussions were being held to organize the special conference in 1988. The proposed dates were as follows: Meeting of Ad Hoc Committee: 16-17 May 1988; Meeting of Experts in Civil Aviation: 3-5 October 1988; and Meeting of the Special Conference of African Ministers Responsible for Civil Aviation: 6-7 October 1988. The venue would be announced later. He invited all members of the technical Committee on Air Transport and interested international and intergovernmental organizations to join the preparatory committee of the special conference.

He assured participants that the ECA secretariat, in collaboration with OAU, would co-ordinate the activities aimed at preparing the special conference.

188. The Committee took note of the document and adopted draft resolution 18 (IX).

First meeting of the Conference of African Ministers of Tourism - Recommendations and resolutions [agenda item 7(g)]

189. The representative of Benin which served as the Rapporteur of the first meeting of the Conference of African Ministers of Tourism held at Kinshasa, Zaire, from 18 to 22 November 1987 introduced document E/ECA/CM.14/25. The Conference had focused its attention on three main issues: (i) joint promotion of African tourism and creation of inter-State tourist circuits; (ii) training and co-operation between African countries in developing human resources for tourism; and (iii) hotel management and the activities of transnational hotel management corporations in Africa. The conclusions and decisions of the Conference on those issues had been summarized in three resolutions and the Kinshasa Declaration on Tourism which the meeting had adopted.

190. With respect to the promotion of tourism, the Conference had decided to establish an African Tourism Fair to be held every two years, proclaim 1989 as African Tourism Year, establish an African Association of Tourism for tourism professionals and strengthen co-operation between ECA and relevant African intergovernmental organizations. In the area of training, the Conference had adopted a project prepared by the ECA and the International Labour Office (ILO). It had also called on ECA to co-ordinate and disseminate information on training and human resources development in tourism. With respect to hotel management and the activities of transnational hotel management corporations, the Conference had expressed concern that African countries did not benefit sufficiently from hotel management contracts. It had therefore requested the United Nations Centre on Transnational Corporations and ECA, in co-operation with ILO and the World Tourism Organization (WTO), to provide technical assistance to member States in the revision of unsatisfactory contracts and to prepare model contracts for their use.

191. In the ensuing lively debate, participants confirmed the importance of tourism in the social, cultural and economic development of Africa and noted in particular its contribution to foreign exchange earnings. Some participants described their countries' positive experiences in developing tourism. However, other participants stressed the need to safeguard African cultural traditions, avoid the transfer of bad social habits from other countries to the region, and develop the necessary domestic infrastructure to support tourism. A major emphasis was placed on the promotion of intra-African tourism to encourage Africans to know one another's countries better. Many Africans travelled to other African countries only for conferences and meetings and undertook tourist visits mainly to Europe and other foreign countries.

192. On the question of the biennial African Tourism Fair, participants had divergent views. Some supported it as an important means of promoting tourism in the region. Others expressed doubts as to its objectives and its priority in a period of economic crisis and structural adjustment. Several participants also suggested that the tourism fair could be incorporated quite profitably within existing subregional and regional trade fairs. The Committee concluded that the matter should be left to the Conference of Ministers to decide.

193. The Committee took note of the report and adopted draft resolution 19 (ix).

Report of the meeting of the Council of Plenipotentiaries of the North African MULPOC - Progress report on the establishment of the Preferential Trade Area for North African Countries [agenda item 8(a)]

194. Under this agenda item, document ECA/MULPOC/Tangier/P.VIII/3 on the report of the eighth meeting of the Council of Plenipotentiaries of the North African MULPOC, held in Tangier on 17 and 18 March 1988 was introduced by the representative of Algeria whose country had served as Vice-Chairman of that meeting of the Council of the Plenipotentiaries. He reviewed the five resolutions that the Council had adopted on (i) desertification and the campaign against migrant locusts; (ii) measures for the establishment of a Preferential Trade Area in North Africa; (iii) proposal for the creation of a Transport Commission for the North African MULPOC subregion; (iv) emigration from member States of the North African countries; and (v) development of industry in North Africa.

195. The representative of Morocco whose country had acted as Chairman of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Team of Experts to establish a Preferential Trade Area (PTA) in North Africa introduced document E/ECA/CM.14/26 which contained a progress report on the establishment of the PTA for North African countries. He reviewed the major decisions which had been taken at the inaugural meeting of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Team of Experts, held in Tangier from 9 to 11 December 1987 and noted in particular that that meeting had decided that an overall study should be undertaken for a scheme to integrate the subregion. That overall study would be supported by sectoral studies with a view to determining the contents of the various protocols related to the establishment of the PTA. The ECA secretariat would submit a project document to the UNDP Regional Bureau for Arab Countries to finance the studies in question following the insertion of that item in the priority aspects considered during the meeting of Arab Ministers and UNDP/Bureau for Arab States, held at Casablanca in March 1988.

196. In the ensuing discussion, the Committee sought clarification on the resolution on emigration adopted by the Council of Plenipotentiaries, particularly with respect to its scope. The Committee was informed that the resolution was based on the need for North African countries to establish mechanisms for solving the problems of North African emigrants both when they were in the receiving country as well as when some of them returned to their countries.

197. The Committee took note of the reports and adopted draft resolutions 14 (IX), 15 (IX), 16 (IX) and 17 (IX).

Report of the second extraordinary meeting of the Council of Ministers and Commissioner of State for Planning of the Gisenyi-based MULPOC - Resolutions

198. The Committee decided to consider the report of the second extraordinary meeting of the Council of Ministers and Commissioner of State for Planning of the Gisenyi-based MULPOC under this item of the agenda at the request of the member States of that MULPOC.



199. The representative of Rwanda, speaking on behalf of the member States of the Gisenyi-based MULPOC, informed the Committee that although in resolution 611 (XXVI) of 24 April 1987, the Conference of Ministers had decided that henceforth the meetings of the MULPOC policy organs should be held every two years, the Council of Ministers and Commissioner of State of the Gisenyi-based MULPOC had had to meet in an extraordinary session in Gisenyi on 7 and 8 March 1988. The purposes of that session were: (i) to take a decision on steps for speeding up the process of recruiting a co-ordinator for the women's activities in the Gisenyi-based MULPOC, probably from Burundi; (ii) to take a decision on measures for accelerating the signing of the project document for the UNDP Fourth Regional Programming Cycle so that the required activities could be put under way as soon as possible; and (iii) to set up a committee to be charged with the responsibility of speeding up the implementation of the multisectoral assistance project to the CEPGL member States. Accordingly, the Conference had adopted three resolutions one on each of these three issues. He further informed the Committee that the objectives of the resolutions adopted on the first two issues had already been reflected in a general way in the draft resolutions adopted by the Committee on Integrating Women in Development, [5 (IX)] and on the IGOs [28 (IX)]. As far as the resolution on the third issue was concerned, the representative of the Gisenyi-based MULPOC said that he had found it difficult to convince the secretariat to process it.

200. The representative of Zaire, also speaking on behalf of the member States of the Gisenyi-based MULPOC, also recalled resolution 611 (XXII) and informed the Committee that the member States of the Gisenyi-based MULPOC had not meant to, and would not infringe any decision of the Commission. The extraordinary session had been necessitated by the urgency of the issues discussed. The Gisenyi-based MULPOC would henceforth meet in accordance with the decision of the Commission as stipulated in its resolution 611 (XXII).

201. In his intervention, the Executive Secretary said that the secretariat as an organ of the Commission had the responsibility to advise member States whenever proposals emanating from any subsidiary organ of the Commission were contrary to the regulations and rules of the United Nations and/or infringed on the prerogative of the Secretary-General. Since the third resolution presented by the Gisenyi MULPOC appeared to fall under that category, it would be necessary for him to study it more closely and to take it up with the countries of the Gisenyi MULPOC with a view to finding a mutually agreeable solution within the rules and practices of the United Nations.

202. The Committee took note of the report of the second extraordinary meeting of the Council of Ministers and Commissioner of State for Planning and of the undertaking made by the Executive Secretary.

Biennial consolidated report on the activities, work programmes and budget of ECA-sponsored regional and subregional institutions [agenda item 8 (b)]

Eighth meeting of the Conference of Chief Executives of the ECA-sponsored Regional and Subregional Institutions - Recommendations and resolutions [agenda item 8 (c)]

203. Under this agenda item, a representative of the secretariat presented documents E/ECA/CM.14/28 and E/ECA/CM.14/27. In introducing document E/ECA/CM.14/28, he recalled resolutions 409 (XVI) and 451 (XVII) requiring



the preparation and submission of a biennial report on the activities, work programmes and budgets of ECA-sponsored regional and subregional institutions to the Conference of Ministers. During the biennium 1986-1987, the institutions had helped to strengthen the efforts of the African countries in their economic recovery process in the areas of their competence, namely finance; earth resources development; industrial development; social and economic development planning and management; trade; transport. The institutions had had difficulties in implementing their work programmes due mainly to the late or non-payment of contributions by member States.

204. In supplementing the presentation of the representative of the secretariat the Director of ARCT said that in pursuance to Commission resolution 550 (XX) on the report and recommendations of the Ad Hoc Committee set up in 1983 to look into the problems of ECA and OAU-sponsored institutions. The institutions had deployed considerable efforts to mobilize about \$US 24 million from extrabudgetary sources and to undertake joint programmes. It has, however, been difficult to leave up to the expectations of member States and to effectively implement work programmes since contributions had been forthcoming. He noted also that member States were not making maximum use of the services available at the institutions and urged them to use such services. He then appealed to member States which have not done so to join the institutions and for all of them to pay their contributions. As a possible source of augmenting resources, he appealed to funding and executing agencies to subcontract consultancy and project execution activities to the institutions.

205. The Director of IDEP in supplementing the statements of the two preceding speakers emphasized the fact that institution-building was a long process. Africa currently had broad subregional and regional institutional base and every effort should be made to consolidate that base for increased measure of self-reliance.

206. The Director of IFORD made an appeal to member States to comply with Commission resolution 550 (XX) especially its operative paragraph 1 (b) which stated that 25 per cent of the contribution owed to the institutions should be paid immediately and the balance over a period of five years.

207. A representative of the secretariat then briefly introduced document E/ECA/CM.14/27. He drew the attention of the meeting to the recommendations and decisions of the eighth meeting of the Conference of the Chief Executives of ECA-sponsored Regional and Subregional Institutions on the following issues: a group insurance scheme; ECA-sponsored institutions and the implementation of UN-PAAERD; relations between ECA and ECA-sponsored institutions as regards the execution of bilateral and multilateral projects; harmonization and standardization of documentation and information systems; bulletin of the ECA-sponsored institutions; seminar on programme budgeting; and the date and venue of the ninth meeting of the Conference.

208. In the ensuing discussion, the meeting acknowledged the important role that all the sponsored institutions had been playing in their areas of competence in supplementing the efforts of member States. It also recognized the need to find lasting solutions especially to the financial constraints facing the institutions. It was generally stressed that unless each institution had a large number of members in good financial standing, the institutions

would not become viable and credible and would not be capable of producing quality products and services at competitive prices. It was further recognized that unless African countries showed their political will to translate into concrete actions their commitments vis-à-vis their sponsored institutions by way of budgetary allocation and the use of their services and products, the support expected from the international community would not be forthcoming.

209. While the meeting acknowledged the importance of the institutions and the need to find lasting solutions to their financial problems, it was nevertheless of the opinion that some of their problems derived from the proliferation of the institutions some of which were doing similar things; the lack of awareness of the decision-makers of the existence and the potential use of the institutions and their facilities; the difficulty in paying contributions in foreign currencies; and the fact that the mere adoption of a resolution establishing an institution did not carry any legally binding obligation to member States. A possible solution to the last problem would be for each institute to have legally binding instruments of agreement which must be signed and ratified by every member. That should oblige member States to include their financial obligations to the institute in national budgets. It was pointed out that some member States did not even know to which institute they belonged. In that regard, the Executive Secretary was requested to provide information on the membership of the various institutes.

210. Some representatives suggested that an evaluation of the institutions should be carried out with a view to making proposals for the merger of some institutions, the integration or harmonization of their work programmes and for the abolition of some institutions where necessary. It was suggested that ECA could be requested to carry out a study on these issues. In that connection, the observer for ICAO requested that such a study should include those regional and subregional institutions which were not sponsored by the ECA in particular those in the areas of civil aviation. He informed the meeting that several institutions in the civil aviation group were faced with considerable financial problems and that some might be closed. It was also felt that the Executive Secretary and the Chief Executives should continue to sensitize decision-makers on the role and activities of the institutions especially through exhibitions. The Executive Secretary was in particular urged to take up the question of non-payment of contributions directly with the governments concerned and if necessary with respective Heads of State.

211. In reacting to the discussion, the Executive Secretary expressed appreciation to the delegates for their contribution to the debate. That discussion had indicated that the sponsored institutions were of great interest to member States. On the question of mandating ECA to undertake the above mentioned study, he reminded the Committee that a similar discussion in 1983 led to the adoption of resolution 477 (XVIII) on the Ad Hoc Committee of ten member States to assess the multinational institutions sponsored by ECA and OAU, formulate recommendations concerning their usefulness and effectiveness, and to give their views on how to better rationalize, co-ordinate, harmonize or integrate their activities. But before the work of the Ad Hoc Committee, a study had been undertaken on the same issue by ECA and OAU with the financial support of UNDP.

212. He indicated that the recommendations of the Ad Hoc Committee as well as those of ECA and OAU notably on rationalization were not given due consideration by member States even though the members of the Ad Hoc Committee

had visited, at their own cost, about 80 per cent of the institutions and had made pertinent proposals. Therefore, the need for a new study on that issue did not arise. What was required was the political will to make those institutions viable and operational. In particular, there was a need for member countries hosting institutions identified to be abolished or merged to be co-operative as Algeria and Mali had been in the merger of the African Remote Sensing Council and the African Association of Cartography.

213. The Executive Secretary estimated the annual budget of all sponsored institutions to be less than \$US 10 million. Therefore if their respective memberships were larger enough, the contributions of individual member States would not be that much and some of the host countries would not be burdened as they were. He took that opportunity to express his appreciation to those host countries (in particular Algeria - AAC; Cameroon - IFORD; Ghana - RIPS; Libyan Arab Jamahiriya - ACARTSOD; and Nigeria - ARCEDEM) which had supported institutions in their countries both financially and materially.

214. On the issue of payment in foreign currency, he informed the meeting that arrangements had been made with UNDP to get contributions in local currency converted into foreign currency. That issue was therefore no longer a problem.

215. He concluded by appealing to member States to effectively join and become members in good financial standing of the institutions and to those which were already members to comply with resolution 550 (XX) by paying immediately 25 per cent of their arrears and the balance over a period of five years.

216. The meeting concluded by urging member States to join the institutions in large numbers, to pay their contributions and their arrears as spelled out in resolution 550 (XX), and to use the services of the institutions. The call for a study was unnecessary, in view of the studies already carried out and the decisions of the Conference of Ministers. Instead member States should seek ways and means of implementing the recommendations of the Ad Hoc Committee as approved by the Commission at its twentieth session.

217. It was pointed out that the word Bire should be deleted from table 2 line C.6 in document E/ECA/CM.14/28.

218. The meeting took note of the two documents and adopted draft resolution 23 (IX).

Progress report on the submissions for the UNDP Fourth Programming Cycle for Africa (1987-1991) - [agenda item 8(d)]

219. Under this agenda item, documents E/ECA/CM.14/29 and Add.1 and E/ECA/CM.14/30 were presented. In presenting document E/ECA/CM.14/29 and Add.1 entitled "Progress Report on UNDP/ECA Co-operation under the UNDP Fourth Cycle Regional Programme for Africa 1987-1991" a representative of the secretariat recalled the circumstances in which the Fourth Cycle Regional Programme for Africa had been prepared. He informed the meeting that the programme reflected fully the order of priorities set by the African States both in terms of sectors and in terms of the allocation of financial resources. Among the 25 multisectoral regional and subregional projects that ECA had submitted to UNDP, 9 had already been approved while the rest had reached an advanced

stage of approval. He informed the meeting that an ECA/UNDP/IGO intersecretariat committee had been set up to consider the multisectoral economic integration projects submitted to UNDP by the African IGOs with a view to harmonizing them and avoiding duplication.

220. The representative of the secretariat referred to co-operation between ECA and UNDP's Regional Bureau for Arab States. Such co-operation he said needed to be strengthened because 8 of the 20 countries covered by the Bureau were member States of ECA. They accounted for as much as 80 per cent of the total Arab population. For that reason, ECA had prepared about 10 projects which it had submitted for financing under the Arab regional indicative planning figure (IPF) for 1982-1986. Unfortunately, only two of the 10 projects had been considered favourably. ECA had had occasion to deplore that situation at the Ministerial Conference convened by UNDP in March 1988 at Casablanca to consider the forthcoming regional programme for the Arab States. The Ministerial Conference had exhorted the competent authorities of UNDP to intensify their co-operation with ECA during the next programming cycle (1987-1991). That was all the more important because the Regional Bureau for Africa had decided to discontinue financing out of its IPF the ECA regional project activities carried out in the eight African countries that belonged to the Regional Bureau for Arab States.

221. In conclusion, the representative of the secretariat conveyed the appreciation of ECA's Executive Secretary to the Regional Bureau for Africa for the diligence with which the projects submitted by ECA had been considered and the close co-operation which existed between the two institutions.

222. Another representative of the secretariat introduced document E/ECA/CM.14/30 which was the report of the meeting of the intersecretariat committee set up by ECA, UNDP and the African IGOs to consider the multisectoral economic integration projects that the African IGOs had submitted to UNDP.

223. Ten African IGOs and six United Nations specialized agencies along with ECA and UNDP participated in the meeting which was held in Addis Ababa from 29 to 31 March 1988.

224. The multisectoral projects submitted had focused on the following areas: transport and communications; energy; agriculture; animal husbandry; fishing; and industry. The projects were aimed at integrating the markets through the establishment of joint production facilities, the removal of tariff and non-tariff barriers, the establishment of common external tariff and enhanced monetary, fiscal and financial co-operation. The projects had taken into account the need to harmonize within each subregion the sectoral and multisectoral activities of the IGOs.

225. With regard to the modalities for implementing such multisectoral economic integration projects, ECA had with the agreement of the IGOs, been designated by UNDP as the main executing agency for the projects submitted by ECOWAS, CEAO, ECCAS, UDEAC, CEPGL, KBO, CBLT and IOC. Subsequently, arrangements would have to be made to implement and follow up the projects concerned and determine the respective roles that the IGOs, UNDP and the specialized agencies would play in project implementation.

226. The recommendations put forward by the meeting had included: the recruitment of a co-ordinator for each project; the close association of NGOs in project execution, and the recruitment, as a matter of priority, of subregional and regional experts and consultants to implement the projects. A management committee made up of ECA, UNDP, the specialized agencies and the NGOs concerned had been established to ensure the efficient implementation of each project. The PTA of Eastern and Southern Africa and SADCC has requested that their multisectoral projects be withdrawn and had not taken part in the Addis Ababa meeting.

227. During the discussion which followed the presentations, the observer for UNDP pointed out that the UNDP Regional Bureau for Arab States had been set up at the request of those countries and that three sub-Saharan African countries were members of the Bureau, namely Djibouti, the Sudan and Somalia. He referred the meeting to paragraph 1 of document (E/ECA/CM.14/29/Add.1) and indicated that the words "Mediterranean programmes" should be replaced by "European programmes".

228. Delegates expressed satisfaction with the good relations that existed between ECA and the UNDP Regional Bureau for Africa. Some participants wanted to know if the project on women in development which the UNDP had approved was a new project. Others expressed concern about the insufficiency of projects for Arab member States of ECA, financed by the UNDP Regional Bureau for Arab States; and the absence of projects covering some subregional groupings. It was therefore suggested that a resolution be adopted requesting the UNDP Regional Bureau for Arab States not only to continue its financial support for those projects no longer covered by the Bureau but also to intensify its support to the Programme of Economic Recovery, giving the highest priority to ECA member States in North Africa.

229. The observers for UNIDO and UNESCO stressed the close co-operation which existed between them, ECA, UNDP and relevant African regional and subregional organizations during the various stages of the formulation of some of the projects presented in the ECA document and reiterated the readiness of their organizations to co-operate in the execution of the projects that fell within the spheres of their competence.

230. In his reply to the various points raised, one of the representatives of the secretariat pointed out that the women's programme was not new and that it was one of the priority projects approved by the ECA Conference of Ministers at its extraordinary session of October 1986 in Addis Ababa. On the subject of projects in Arab member States of ECA, he stressed that ECA could only make use of opportunities such as the Conference that was held in Casablanca to urge the UNDP Regional Bureau for Arab States to co-operate more fully with ECA. He also stated that UNDP had asked ECA to comment on the multisectoral projects submitted by the PTA for Eastern and Southern Africa, but that there were still some problems to resolve concerning that project. In reply to the UNIDO and UNESCO representatives, the representative of the secretariat said that ECA had taken more of the willingness of these organizations to co-operate with ECA in project implementation. He also stressed the necessity for establishing a project management board made up of ECA and interested specialized agencies.

231. The Committee took note of the two reports and adopted draft resolutions 13 (IX) and 28 (IX).



Locust control in North Africa [agenda item 8(e)]

232. Under this agenda item, the representative of Algeria introduced the resolution on desertification and the campaign against migrant locusts that had been adopted by the Council of Plenipotentiaries of the North African MULPOC at its eighth meeting held in Tangier, Morocco from 17 to 18 March 1988. He highlighted the problems of desertification and locusts that the North African countries faced. Besides drought and desertification, locusts posed a great threat to agriculture which had been accorded the highest priority within APPER and UN-PAAERD. He stressed that it was imperative to control locusts so as to minimize their devastating effects on agriculture and food security. He also pointed out that because of the migrant nature of locusts, a greater co-ordination of the efforts of member States particularly in establishing early warning systems was needed to control the pest. He referred to the problems of insufficient funds and the need to involve institutions and organizations such as FAO in finding appropriate solutions. He finally invited participants to strengthen the resolution and urged ECA to convene a regional conference on locust control.

233. The representative of Morocco reiterated his delegation's support for the draft resolution on locust and grasshopper control. He recalled the considerable efforts that his country was making to stop the advance of the harmful and highly mobile pests which instilled fear not only in the North African States but in the whole of Africa and expressed the hope that African countries affected by that scourge would co-operate with each other.

234. The observer for the FAO pointed out that the current outbreak of locusts had started from the breeding grounds in the Horn of Africa where they could not be brought under control through aerial spraying due to the difficult terrain and civil strife. They had therefore spread to the Sudan, Chad, and much of north-west Africa from where they had spread to other North African countries. FAO had responded to the problem by organizing donor conferences and had provided aircraft and insecticides for locust control in North Africa. A temporary emergency centre to co-ordinate the campaign against the upsurge of locusts in Africa and grasshoppers in the Sudano-Sahelian area had been set up in August 1986. He underscored the co-ordinating role of his organization which had been recognized in resolutions adopted by the ECOSOC and the General Assembly, and underlined the need for a continental approach in the fight against the pest.

235. The observer for WMO pointed out that since the breeding and movement of the locusts depended upon and were governed by climatic conditions, such as rainfall, windflow and humidity, those meteorological parameters could be monitored and exchanged regionally and internationally by well-trained observers stationed in each country. The basic WMO network could form the basis of a regional monitoring system of locust movement. In that regard, he referred to the need to involve national meteorological services in the development of strategies aimed at monitoring locust breeding and displacement. He informed the meeting that his organization had already designated a rapporteur from Algeria on locust control and was in contact with the national meteorological services for their contribution and with FAO in co-ordination mechanisms. He said that his organization would be happy to participate in the regional conference that had been requested by the Tangier-based MULPOC.



236. The observer from ICAO said that his organization had made contacts with FAO and some specialized African agencies such as OCLALAV to consider what contribution it could make to the locust control programme in Africa. His organization was prepared to participate in any locust control activities decided by the Commission in the area of aircraft particularly the training of specialized pilots.

237. In the discussion that followed, most delegates commended the North African MULPOC for bringing up a problem that was of interest to all member States. Locusts were a serious problem in many parts of the African continent particularly the Sudano-Sahelian countries. Most participants referred to the problem of financial resources that had hampered the work of the sub-regional organizations established to control the pest such as the Desert Locust Control Organization for Eastern Africa (DLCO) and CILSS which had included locust control in its activities. The Centre at Dakar had been closed down altogether for lack of resources. It was pointed out however that the main difficulty that faced the DLCO in particular was the fact that the breeding areas of locusts were beyond the jurisdiction of that Organization. While the meeting recognized the importance of national efforts, it emphasized that because of the nature of the pest which respected no national boundaries, this effective control could only be achieved through collaborative efforts. Accordingly, the meeting agreed that the scope of work to be done should be extended to the other parts of the continent and requested ECA to co-ordinate such collaborative efforts.

238. The Committee adopted the draft resolution 20 (IX).

Proposed UNDP-sponsored management facility as a means of mobilizing additional resources for African development (agenda item 9)

239. In presenting document E/ECA/CM.14/36, the observer for UNDP stated that the UNDP-sponsored facility was a new initiative to mobilize additional resources in favour of African priority needs to meet the objectives of both Africa's Priority Programme for Economic Recovery (APPER) and the United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development (UN-PAAERD). According to the observer for UNDP, the main considerations that had led UNDP to propose the creation of the new facility were the need for additional financing in favour of African countries, for policy related technical assistance extended on grant basis, and for the provision of neutral advice related to economic management. In particular, it was pointed out that short-term preoccupation with budget and balance-of-payments deficits had taken precedence over long-term concern for investment and growth. The proposed management facility would be a unique mechanism for the mobilization of additional resources for sub-Saharan countries.

240. Three principles would govern the utilization of the funds of the management facility namely: (a) its financing would be on a grant basis; (b) all countries preparing or implementing a programme of economic reform or adjustment would be eligible for its use, with a priority for low-income countries; and (c) the financing of the facility would not be tied to any conditionality.

241. According to the observer for UNDP, the main areas of intervention of the proposed facility would cover the identification of reform options and

the preparation of the corresponding policies, the implementation of the adjustment and economic reform programmes, and the assistance to vulnerable groups adversely affected by structural adjustment.

242. He pointed out that the proposed facility would amount to \$US 150 million initially with the possibility of additional replenishment, and the Economic Commission for Africa would play a significant role in the utilization of the fund. He concluded by stating that if the African Governments supported the concept of a management facility in principle, the Governing Council of UNDP would be encouraged to consider seriously its establishment during its next session in June 1988.

243. In the ensuing discussion, a large number of participants paid tribute to the UNDP for the initiative it had taken and the timeliness of the proposed facility as a means of mobilizing additional resources for African development. However, many participants sought explanation on the modalities of the assistance and the series of assertions made, particularly in paragraphs 9 and 10 of the document. Many delegates felt that the document should be revised, taking into account the interests of member States, since its first presentation had aroused certain apprehensions. In any case, there should be no hurry in accepting the proposal. Some representatives felt that the facility should be provided to member States without any condition attached to internal economic reforms.

244. Some other representatives however felt that member States should accept the facility, in principle, but that there was need to examine it in greater detail. The observer for the Organization of African Unity pointed out that African Governments have recognized the need for internal policy reforms in their submission to the UN-PAAERD, and should take advantage of the facility being proposed by UNDP as another alternative to the IMF and World Bank adjustment packages.

245. The meeting expressed its appreciation to UNDP for its efforts at mobilizing additional resources for development programmes in Africa. UNDP was urged to intensify its assistance programme to member States within the framework of expanded indicative planning figures (IPFs). The meeting took note of the proposed new facility but indicated that there was a need for more information to be provided on it.

ECA and African development: Beyond recovery: ECA-revised perspectives of Africa's development, 1988-2008 (agenda item 10)

246. A representative of the secretariat introduced document E/ECA/CM.14/31 "Beyond recovery: ECA-revised perspectives of Africa's development, 1988-2008". The study which was still in draft form was undertaken in response to resolution 470 (XVIII) of the Conference of Ministers which had requested an update every five years of the innovative Silver Jubilee publication, "ECA and Africa's development, 1983-2008". However, the representative of the secretariat noted that even if the Conference of Ministers had not requested the periodic update, the secretariat would have been obliged to revise its perspectives for the continent's future development because of the dramatic changes and unprecedented crisis of the intervening years.

247. Although the present study followed the same analytical approach and qualitative and quantitative methodology as the previous one, its coverage

was broader and included issues such as drought, desertification and external indebtedness. The historical overview of the period 1980-1987 showed that Africa underwent a deep recession as a result of escalating oil prices and had lost any opportunity of recovery with the disastrous drought of 1983-1985. The resulting unsustainable socio-economic situation had led to the urgent adoption of Africa's Priority Programme for Economic Recovery, 1986-1990 (APPER) which had been supported by the international community in the United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development, 1986-1990 (UN-PAAERD). Despite the commendable efforts made by member States and, to a much lesser extent, the international community in implementing APPER and UN-PAAERD and despite stabilization programmes and the resumption of normal rains in 1985-1986, the African economy remained extremely vulnerable to the fluctuations of weather conditions and an unfavourable external environment.

248. The representative of the secretariat drew attention to the implications of two development scenarios portrayed in the study for Africa from 1988 to 2008. The first was the historical trends scenario which assumed no changes in the prevailing patterns of and constraints on development. Under such conditions, chronic and unsustainable economic difficulties would not only plague Africa, but they and the continued adverse exogenous factors would also nullify any positive results so far attained by African Governments through domestic reforms.

249. By contrast, the second "normative" scenario postulated a better development future based on radical changes and improvements particularly in the structures of production and demand, in rural transformation and human resources mobilization. The normative scenario was based primarily on the objective of doubling per capita income by the year 2008. That implied, among other things, the formulation of a new agricultural policy which would ensure the doubling of food production between 1990 and 2008, establish a balance between food and export crops and provide the impetus for the acceleration of the industrialization process. It also implied a reordering of inter-sectoral priorities to achieve an improved energy balance, an integrated system of infrastructure and accelerated economic and social integration in the continent.

250. During the ensuing discussion, delegates commended the secretariat for the initiative taken in preparing the study as well as for the quality of the document. It was however observed that the document could have been of a greater quality had it contained or elaborated a bit more on a number of issues that were of importance to Africa's development. These included the impact of refugees and displaced persons on the economies of Africa; the place of the human dimension in development; the need for enhancing labour productivity within the development process; the promotion of intra-African trade; the creation of an industrial base in support of agricultural development; the use of broadcasting as an effective communication device; and other impacts of scientific and technological observations concerned the underlying assumptions and anticipated targets of the suggested scenarios. Those were not explicitly stated and that could make the evaluation and analysis of the scenarios a rather difficult task. Furthermore, the document did not contain guidelines on how the suggested scenarios could be achieved. The secretariat was therefore requested to take the necessary steps to ensure that the issues raised were adequately reflected in the revised document as well as in future studies of that nature.

251. The observer for ITU said that some of the data in paragraphs 308 and 309 of document E/ECA/CM.14/31 needed correction in line with the information he had provided in his previous intervention. No information on broadcasting had also been given in the document although broadcasting was one of the important components of Communications. He also stated that the low utilization of PANAFTTEL was not only due to technical but also to operational and management factors.

252. In response, the Executive Secretary said that in order to obtain the widest possible review, the document had been submitted to the Committee as part of the ongoing process towards its finalization. It had already been presented to the Joint Conference of Planners, Statisticians and Demographers for comments during its last meeting held in Addis Ababa from 21 to 28 March 1988. He therefore thanked the Committee for its useful contribution towards improving the scope of the study and urged members to ensure that their respective national experts who were dealing with perspective studies would critically review the document and send their comments to the secretariat. Plans were underway to bring together a few specialists in their personal capacity to review and synthesize the various comments at a workshop before the finalization of the document. The Executive Secretary noted the comments made on the coverage and indicated that perhaps there was a need for undertaking special studies on some of the issues mentioned, particularly the problem of refugees and displaced persons, the question of regional integration and intra-African trade and the impact of science and technology. He informed the meeting of the on-going study commissioned by the secretariat on the long-term economic impact of destabilization on Southern African States, and assured delegates that the results of the study would be reflected in the final document. The assumptions underlying the projections would be clearly stated.

253. The Chairman congratulated the secretariat and urged member States to respond in time to the request of the secretariat to enable it prepare a more comprehensive and useful document.

254. The Committee took note of the report.

Statutory issues: Follow-up on resolutions of the Commission and resolutions and decisions adopted by the General Assembly and ECOSOC that are of interest to Africa [agenda item 11 (a)]

- (i) Follow-up action on relevant resolutions adopted by the twenty-second session of the Commission and the thirteenth meeting of the Conference of Ministers;
- (ii) Resolutions adopted by ECOSOC at its second session of 1987 and by the General Assembly at its forty-second session in the economic and social sectors that are of interest to Africa.

255. A representative of the secretariat stated that the twenty-second session of the Commission/thirteenth meeting of the ECA Conference of Ministers held from 23 to 27 April 1987 at the headquarters of the Commission in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia had adopted 34 resolutions concerning most of Africa's economic and social development sectors. Six of those resolutions had been addressed to the General Assembly of the United Nations through the Economic and Social



Council. The action on those resolutions was described in document E/ECA/CM.14/33 entitled "Resolutions and decisions adopted by the Economic and Social Council at its second regular session of 1987 and by the United Nations General Assembly at its forty-second session in the economic and social sectors that are of interest to Africa".

256. The bulk of the remaining resolutions were addressed to member States, the Executive Secretary of ECA, United Nations bodies and other organizations. The ECA secretariat had accordingly initiated action to implement the resolutions contained in document E/ECA/CM.14/32. In respect of resolution 596 (XXII) on the role of the building construction sector in the development process, \$US 349,000 had been secured from UNDP for the preparatory phase of the project that ECA had submitted covering the period May 1987 to May 1988. Pursuant to resolution 597 (XXII) on the Integration of Women in Development in Africa, the secretariat had made it a point to circulate the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women to all member States and interested parties. Operative paragraph 8 of that resolution had duly been considered by the United Nations Secretary-General who had consequently made exceptions to the freeze on United Nations recruitment making it possible for the Executive Secretary to recruit some women staff members who were previously on extrabudgetary posts to regular budget posts. The implementation of Commission resolution 613 (XXII) had taken the form of the "International Conference on Africa: The Challenge of Economic Recovery and Accelerated Development" which had been organized jointly by ECA and the Federal Government of Nigeria in collaboration with OAU and ADB from 15 to 19 June 1987 in Abuja, Nigeria. The Conference had been a major sequel to the Special Session of the United Nations General Assembly devoted to the Critical Economic Situation in Africa held in May and June 1986. The outcome had been the Abuja Declaration on Africa's economic recovery and long-term development. In line with operative paragraph 9 of the same resolution, an International Conference on the Human Dimension of Africa's Economic Recovery and Development had been organized from 5 to 8 March 1988 in Khartoum, the Sudan. The report of that Conference would be submitted to the fourteenth meeting of the ECA Conference of Ministers.

257. Also in connection with the implementation of resolution 613 (XXII), the representative of the Niger presented the conclusions and recommendations of the African Symposium on Grass-roots Development organized jointly by ECA and the Government of Niger from 8 to 13 June 1987 in Niamey. That Symposium had evaluated grass-roots development experiments in Africa, identified their prospects, promoted the sharing of views among people involved in development issues and research, and drawn up the outlines of an African approach to grass-roots development. The Technical Preparatory Committee of the Whole was being requested in a resolution to recommend the establishment of an African committee for monitoring grass-roots development experiments and a fund for supporting grass-roots development in Africa.

258. Concerning resolution 609 (XXII) on the establishment of an African Institute for Crime Prevention and the Treatment of Offenders, a representative of the secretariat indicated that ECA, serving as the interim secretariat of the proposed Institute, was carrying out a number of activities for the initial phase of the project with UNDP financing. Among those activities were those related to the drafting of the Statute of the Institute, the preliminary consultations to identify one host country among the four countries

of Djibouti, Morocco, Uganda and Zambia which had applied to host the Institute, and the preparation of a headquarters agreement. The representative of the secretariat asked the Committee to make a ruling on these latter points so that the project could become operational in the near future.

259. Concerning the action taken by the Economic and Social Council at its second regular session of 1987 on the resolutions adopted by the Conference of Ministers at its thirteenth meeting and addressed to the Council (E/ECA/CM.14/33), the representative of the secretariat stated that the Economic and Social Council had finally adopted ECA resolutions 586, 597 and 598 (XXII). Other resolutions of interest to Africa and adopted by the Council concerned a Europe-Africa permanent link through the Straits of Gibraltar; assistance to drought-stricken areas of Somalia; the report of the Secretary-General on the Transport and Communications Decade in Africa; the venue of the twenty-third session of the Commission/fourteenth meeting of the Conference of Ministers; special economic assistance to certain African countries facing particular problems, namely Benin, the Central African Republic, Djibouti, the Gambia, Madagascar, Chad and the front-line States; the implementation in the Sudano-Sahelian region of the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification and also in the countries stricken by drought and desertification in Africa. All these resolutions of interest to Africa and adopted by the Council had been transmitted to the forty-second session of the General Assembly for adoption.

260. During the debate which followed, one participant wished to know the criteria used in the choice of countries visited with a view to hosting the African Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders. Another asked for clarification on the follow-up by ECA, other agencies and United Nations institutions on resolution 620 (XXII) on support to the island countries in the Indian Ocean in their efforts to forecast cyclones and to reduce the adverse effects of such disasters.

261. In reply to the first question, the Chairman of TEPCOW proposed that, as was customary, a committee limited to the members of the Bureau of TEPCOW should be set up to initiate consultations with candidate countries on the criteria for selecting the country which would host the African Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders. The same bureau would also contact the resolutions committee to ascertain whether the statutes, as they had been proposed, conformed with those of other ECA-sponsored institutions. The Committee supported this proposal. Regarding resolution 620 (XXII), the observer for the World Meteorological Organization stated that WMO, at its tenth Congress held in Geneva in May 1987, had noted with satisfaction ECA's resolution 620 (XXII) to assist the efforts of the islands in the Indian Ocean and had appealed to the appropriate United Nations agencies and donor countries to increase their assistance to countries adversely affected by cyclones. The Congress had approved the necessary funds to enable WMO Cyclone Committee for the subregion to pursue its co-ordinating and advisory role. The Committee had further developed a regional co-operation programme for the implementation of which the WMO representative called for greater co-ordination.

262. The Executive Secretary of ECA recalled that, at the meeting of African IGOs and United Nations specialized agencies, held in Addis Ababa in March 1988, ECA had submitted resolution 620 (XXII) for discussion through the



intermediary of the Indian Ocean Commission represented by the Seychelles. He stated that an ECA mission would be visiting the member States of the Indian Ocean Commission in order to identify projects for UNDP financing.

263. The Committee took note of the reports and adopted draft resolutions 21 (IX), 24 (IX) and 29 (IX).

Programme of work and priorities of the Commission [agenda item 11 (b)]

- (i) Proposals for updating the 1988-1989 programme budget;
- (ii) Proposals for the extension of the 1984-1989 Medium-term Plan 1990-1991

264. A representative of the secretariat introduced documents E/ECA/CM.14/34 and E/ECA/CM.14/35, proposals for updating the 1988-1989 programme budget and proposals for the extension of the 1984-1989 Medium-term Plan to 1990-1991, respectively.

265. He indicated that document E/ECA/CM.14/34 which contained an annex with two parts was in fact a report on the implementation of Commission resolution 616 (XXII) of 24 April 1987 on the proposed programme of work and priorities for the biennium 1988-1989. In that connection, the introductory part contained information on the responses of the different United Nations organs, the representatives of member States in those bodies and of the Secretary-General of the United Nations to the appeal made by the Conference of Ministers for support for the programme and the provision of adequate resources for its implementation. Part I of the annex contained additional activities prepared by the secretariat on the basis of the decisions of the Conference at its meeting in 1987 and already approved by the General Assembly on the recommendation of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination (CPC) and Part II a new set of activities made possible by new resources from extrabudgetary sources and some minor corrections. Part I was for information while Part II was for endorsement to the Secretary-General so that he could present it for consideration by the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination (CPC).

266. With respect to the responses to the call of the Conference of Ministers, he recalled the favourable reception given by all the organs concerned and the serious negotiations undertaken by the representatives of member States and paid homage to their unallayed support and commitment. He also referred to the fact that the Chairman of the Bureau of the twenty-second session of the Commission/thirteenth meeting of the Conference of Ministers and representatives of the other members of the Bureau did see the Secretary-General of the United Nations in October 1987 and the fact that the Secretary-General had given some exception to ECA with respect to the implementation of economy measures.

267. With respect to the proposals for extending the Medium-term Plan for the period 1984-1989 to 1990-1991, he explained that that approach had become necessary because the Secretary-General had felt that in view of the ongoing reforms arising from the decision of the General Assembly to implement the recommendations of the Group of 18, it would be better to submit a new Medium-term Plan after the reforms had been completed. Accordingly, the Secretary-General had proposed through the CPC and the General Assembly had approved

that on an exceptional basis the requirement that a Medium-term Plan should be revised twice only should be waived. The new proposals in respect of the programmes - International Trade and Development Finance in Africa and Social Development in Africa would form the basis of the proposed programme budget for the 1990-1991 biennium for the two programmes respectively. They were for endorsement to the Secretary-General for consideration by the CPC.

268. The Chairman reported to the Committee on the implementation of resolution 616 (XXII). He stated that the Chairman of the twenty-second session of the Commission and representatives of the other members of the Bureau - Egypt, Lesotho and Zaire - met the Secretary-General of the United Nations and African delegations at the United Nations to plead ECA's case for special consideration in the implementation of the economy measures being applied by the Secretary-General with the approval of the General Assembly. The Secretary-General had promised that he would do all he could to ensure that ECA was not seriously affected by the economy measures. The Chairman finally appealed to member States to continue to work with their delegations in New York so as to co-ordinate the African position on issues before the General Assembly.

269. In the ensuing discussion, member States noted with satisfaction the exceptions that had been made by the Secretary-General to enable ECA to recruit externally to fill some posts and expressed their appreciation to the Secretary-General, CPC, ECOSOC and the Member States, in particular the African Group for their support. One delegation proposed and the Committee agreed that a resolution expressing the gratitude of members to those organs, representatives of member States and the Secretary-General should be adopted.

270. The Committee then endorsed the proposals on the 1988-1989 programme budget and the extension of the 1984-1989 Medium-term Plan respectively and adopted draft resolutions 26 (IX) and 27 (IX).

Any other business (agenda item 12)

271. Under this item, the ECA Executive Secretary informed the meeting that Mr. J.O. Aiyegbusi, Chief, Policy and Programme Co-ordination Office, was one of the eight ECA senior staff members who would be retiring in 1989. Mr. J.O. Aiyegbusi, who had served the Commission for about twenty years would be retiring at the end of March 1989 and so would not be participating in the 1989 meeting.

272. With that information and on behalf of TEPCOW, the Chairman expressed appreciation to Mr. Aiyegbusi for his contribution to the work of TEPCOW and wished the expression of appreciation to be recorded in the TEPCOW report. Responding, Mr. Aiyegbusi recalled his almost twenty years' involvement in the work of TEPCOW and indicated that his interest in the work of the Commission would continue. He thanked and wished everyone good luck.

273. One delegate requested that copies of the statements made by the Minister of Planning of Niger and the Executive Secretary at the opening ceremony be made available to delegates.

Date and venue of the tenth meeting of the Technical Preparatory Committee of the Whole (agenda item 13)

274. Under this agenda item, the Committee agreed to refer the matter to the Conference of Ministers for its decision.

Adoption of the report (agenda item 14)

275. The Committee adopted its draft report and resolutions.

276. In addition, the Committee approved three documents for consideration and adoption by the Conference of Ministers. These were: Preliminary Reaction of the Economic Commission for Africa to the Report and Recommendations of the Advisory Group on Financial Flows for Africa: Financing Africa's Recovery (annex I); Memorandum on the Contribution of the Economic Commission for Africa to the Implementation and Mid-term Review of the United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development, 1986-1990: Prospects and Recommendations (annex II); and Niamey Declaration on the occasion of the Thirtieth Anniversary Celebration of the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (annex III).

Closure of the meeting (agenda item 15)

277. The Executive Secretary, on behalf of himself and his colleagues in the secretariat, thanked the Chairman and members of the Bureau of the Committee for the high quality of their leadership and sense of dedication. He thanked all members of the Committee for the excellent work done, noting that no agenda item was passed without discussion. He further expressed his appreciation to the supporting staff, particularly those from the host country, Niger, who had worked tirelessly behind the scenes to facilitate the work of the Committee.

278. The Chairman of the Committee expressed his personal satisfaction and that of the members of the Bureau for the successful conclusion of the work of the Committee. He thanked the Executive Secretary and members of the secretariat for their collaboration and expressed his particular appreciation to the interpreters and the technical team who had diligently assisted the Committee in its work.

279. The Chairman declared the meeting closed.

ANNEX V

MEETINGS OF SUBSIDIARY BODIES HELD  
DURING THE PERIOD UNDER REVIEW  
(22 APRIL 1987 - 17 APRIL 1988)

Body and officers	Meeting or session	Document symbol
<u>Meeting of the Intergovernmental Committee of Experts for Science and Technology Development</u>  Chairman : Zimbabwe Rapporteur: Lesotho	Fifth meeting Addis Ababa (Ethiopia) 2-6 November 1987	E/ECA/CM.14/23
<u>Meeting of the Conference of African Ministers Responsible for Human Resources Planning, Development and Utilization</u>  Chairman : The Sudan Rapporteur: The Gambia	Third meeting Khartoum (the Sudan) 9-13 March 1988	E/ECA/CM.14/20
<u>Joint Conference of African Planners, Statisticians and Demographers</u>  Chairman : The Congo Rapporteur: Lesotho	Fifth session Addis Ababa (Ethiopia) 21-28 March 1988	E/ECA/CM.14/19
<u>Meeting of the Conference of African Ministers of Transport, Communications and Planning</u>  Chairman : Zaire Rapporteur: Mali	Sixth meeting Kinshasa (Zaire) 23-24 March 1988	E/ECA/CM.14/24
<u>Meeting of the Intergovernmental Committee of Experts of the Least Developed African Countries</u>  Chairman : Niger Rapporteur: Ethiopia	Seventh meeting Niamey (Niger) 1-3 April 1988	E/ECA/CM.14/21
<u>Meeting of the Technical Preparatory Committee of the Whole</u>  Chairman : Niger Rapporteur: United Republic of Tanzania	Ninth meeting Niamey (Niger) 6-12 April 1988	E/ECA/CM.14/39

---

Body and officers	Meeting or session	Document symbol
<u>Meeting of the Conference of Ministers of African Least Developed Countries</u>	Eighth meeting Niamey (Niger) 13-14 April 1988	E/ECA/CM.14/40
Chairman : Niger		
Rapporteur: The Gambia		



ANNEX VI

LIST OF DOCUMENTS

- |     |   |  |
|-----|---|--|
| 1.  | E/ECA/TPCW.9/1/Rev.2<br>E/ECA/CM.14/1/Rev.1 | Provisional agenda<br>Provisional agenda   |
| 2.  | E/ECA/TPCW.9/2<br>E/ECA/CM.14/2             | Annotated provisional agenda<br>Annotated provisional agenda   |
| 3.  | E/ECA/CM.14/3                               | Biennial report of the Executive Secretary<br>on ECA activities, 1986-1987   |
| 4.  | E/ECA/CM.14/4<br>E/ECA/CM.14/4/Summary      | Survey of Economic and Social Conditions<br>in Africa, 1986-1987   |
| 5.  | E/ECA/CM.14/5                               | ECA/ADB Economic Report on Africa, 1988  |
| 6.  | E/ECA/CM.14/6                               | Preliminary mid-term review and appraisal<br>of the implementation of the United Nations<br>Programme of Action for African Economic<br>Recovery and Development, 1936-1990 (UN-PAAERD)<br>and Africa's Priority Programme for Economic<br>Recovery, 1986-1990 (APPER) |
| 7.  | E/ECA/CM.14/7                               | Report of the High-Level United Nations<br>Advisory Group on Resource Flows to Africa  |
| 8.  | E/ECA/CM.14/3<br>E/ECA/CM.14/8/Summary      | Subregional co-operation in the production<br>of cereals and tubers with special emphasis<br>on the role of women  |
| 9.  | E/ECA/CM.14/9<br>E/ECA/CM.14/9/Summary      | Improvement in the status of sedentary, rural<br>populations and of nomadic societies through<br>the reduction of food waste and losses at<br>the production level   |
| 10. | E/ECA/CM.14/10                              | Key issues concerning the implementation<br>of the Mar del Plata Action Plan in Africa   |
| 11. | E/ECA/CM.14/11                              | Report on the establishment of the African<br>Organization for Cartography and Remote Sensing  |
| 12. | E/ECA/CM.14/12                              | Progress report on the implementation of<br>the programme for the Industrial Development<br>Decade for Africa (IDDA)   |
| 13. | E/ECA/CM.14/13                              | Report on UNIDO II   |
| 14. | E/ECA/CM.14/14                              | Report on the implementation of the resolutions<br>of the fifth meeting of the Conference of<br>African Ministers of Transport, Communications<br>and Planning   |
| 15. | E/ECA/CM.14/15                              | United Nations Transport and Communications<br>Decade in Africa: Report on progress in<br>the implementation of the second phase of<br>the Decade programme  |
| 16. | E/ECA/CM.14/16                              | The African social situation, 1982-1987  |

17. E/ECA/CM.14/17  
E/ECA/CM.14/17/Summary Changing socio-economic conditions of women in Africa in the context of the Nairobi Forward-Looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women
18. E/ECA/CM.14/18 Report on UNCTAD VII
19. E/ECA/CM.14/19/Summary Fifth session of the Joint Conference of African Planners, Statisticians and Demographers: Recommendations and resolutions
20. E/ECA/CM.14/20/Summary Third meeting of the Conference of African Ministers Responsible for Human Resources Planning, Development and Utilization: Recommendations and resolutions
21. E/ECA/CM.14/21 Report of the seventh meeting of the Intergovernmental Committee of Experts of African Least Developed Countries (LDCs)
22. E/ECA/CM.14/22 Ninth meeting of the Africa Regional Co-ordinating Committee for the Integration of Women in Development: Recommendations and resolutions
23. E/ECA/CM.14/23  
E/ECA/CM.14/23/Summary Fifth meeting of the Intergovernmental Committee of Experts for Science and Technology Development
24. E/ECA/CM.14/24/Summary Sixth meeting of the Conference of African Ministers of Transport, Communications and Planning: Recommendations and resolutions
25. E/ECA/CM.14/25 First meeting of the Conference of African Ministers of Tourism
26. E/ECA/CM.14/26 Report of the meeting of the Council of Plenipotentiaries of the North African ~~MULPOC~~ - Progress report on the establishment of the Preferential Trade Area for North African countries
27. E/ECA/CM.14/27  
E/ECA/CM.14/27/Summary Eighth meeting of the Conference of Chief Executives of ECA-sponsored regional and subregional institutions
28. E/ECA/CM.14/28 Biennial consolidated report on the activities, work programme and budget of ECA-sponsored regional and subregional institutions
29. E/ECA/CM.14/29 Progress report on the submissions for the UNDP Fourth Programming Cycle for Africa (1987-1991)
30. E/ECA/CM.14/30 Report of the ECA/UNDP/intergovernmental organizations and United Nations specialized agencies meeting on the implementation of the multisectoral projects of African economic integration entities and river and lake basin development organizations

ANNEX VI

LIST OF DOCUMENTS

1. E/ECA/TPCW.9/1/Rev.2      Provisional agenda  
E/ECA/CM.14/1/Rev.1      Provisional agenda
2. E/ECA/TPCW.9/2      Annotated provisional agenda  
E/ECA/CM.14/2      Annotated provisional agenda
3. E/ECA/CM.14/3      Biennial report of the Executive Secretary  
on ECA activities, 1986-1987
4. E/ECA/CM.14/4      Survey of Economic and Social Conditions  
E/ECA/CM.14/4/Summary      in Africa, 1986-1987
5. E/ECA/CM.14/5      ECA/ADB Economic Report on Africa, 1988
6. E/ECA/CM.14/6      Preliminary mid-term review and appraisal  
of the implementation of the United Nations  
Programme of Action for African Economic  
Recovery and Development, 1986-1990 (UN-PAAERD)  
and Africa's Priority Programme for Economic  
Recovery, 1986-1990 (APPER)
7. E/ECA/CM.14/7      Report of the High-Level United Nations  
Advisory Group on Resource Flows to Africa
8. E/ECA/CM.14/3      Subregional co-operation in the production  
E/ECA/CM.14/8/Summary      of cereals and tubers with special emphasis  
on the role of women
9. E/ECA/CM.14/9      Improvement in the status of sedentary, rural  
E/ECA/CM.14/9/Summary      populations and of nomadic societies through  
the reduction of food waste and losses at  
the production level
10. E/ECA/CM.14/10      Key issues concerning the implementation  
of the Mar del Plata Action Plan in Africa
11. E/ECA/CM.14/11      Report on the establishment of the African  
Organization for Cartography and Remote Sensing
12. E/ECA/CM.14/12      Progress report on the implementation of  
the programme for the Industrial Development  
Decade for Africa (IDDA)
13. E/ECA/CM.14/13      Report on UNIDO II
14. E/ECA/CM.14/14      Report on the implementation of the resolutions  
of the fifth meeting of the Conference of  
African Ministers of Transport, Communications  
and Planning
15. E/ECA/CM.14/15      United Nations Transport and Communications  
Decade in Africa: Report on progress in  
the implementation of the second phase of  
the Decade programme
16. E/ECA/CM.14/16      The African social situation, 1982-1987

17. E/ECA/CM.14/17  
E/ECA/CM.14/17/Summary Changing socio-economic conditions of women in Africa in the context of the Nairobi Forward-Looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women
18. E/ECA/CM.14/18 Report on UNCTAD VII
19. E/ECA/CM.14/19/Summary Fifth session of the Joint Conference of African Planners, Statisticians and Demographers: Recommendations and resolutions
20. E/ECA/CM.14/20/Summary Third meeting of the Conference of African Ministers Responsible for Human Resources Planning, Development and Utilization: Recommendations and resolutions
21. E/ECA/CM.14/21 Report of the seventh meeting of the Intergovernmental Committee of Experts of African Least Developed Countries (LDCs)
22. E/ECA/CM.14/22 Ninth meeting of the Africa Regional Co-ordinating Committee for the Integration of Women in Development: Recommendations and resolutions
23. E/ECA/CM.14/23  
E/ECA/CM.14/23/Summary Fifth meeting of the Intergovernmental Committee of Experts for Science and Technology Development
24. E/ECA/CM.14/24/Summary Sixth meeting of the Conference of African Ministers of Transport, Communications and Planning: Recommendations and resolutions
25. E/ECA/CM.14/25 First meeting of the Conference of African Ministers of Tourism
26. E/ECA/CM.14/26 Report of the meeting of the Council of Plenipotentiaries of the North African ~~MULPOC~~ - Progress report on the establishment of the Preferential Trade Area for North African countries
27. E/ECA/CM.14/27  
E/ECA/CM.14/27/Summary Eighth meeting of the Conference of Chief Executives of ECA-sponsored regional and subregional institutions
28. E/ECA/CM.14/28 Biennial consolidated report on the activities, work programme and budget of ECA-sponsored regional and subregional institutions
29. E/ECA/CM.14/29 Progress report on the submissions for the UNDP Fourth Programming Cycle for Africa (1987-1991)
30. E/ECA/CM.14/30 Report of the ECA/UNDP/intergovernmental organizations and United Nations specialized agencies meeting on the implementation of the multisectoral projects of African economic integration entities and river and lake basin development organizations

31. E/ECA/CM.14/31 Beyond recovery: ECA-revised development perspectives, 1988-2008
32. E/ECA/CM.14/32 Follow-up action on relevant resolutions adopted by the twenty-second session of the Commission and thirteenth meeting of the Conference of Ministers
33. E/ECA/CM.14/33 Resolutions adopted by the Economic and Social Council at its second session of 1987 and by the General Assembly at its forty-second session in the economic and social sectors that are of interest to Africa
34. E/ECA/CM.14/34 Proposals for updating the 1988-1989 programme budget in the light of General Assembly-approved appropriations and other decisions of the relevant legislative bodies
35. E/ECA/CM.14/35 Proposals for the extension of the 1984-1989 Medium-term Plan to 1990-1991
36. E/ECA/CM.14/36 Proposal for the establishment of a UNDP management facility
37. E/ECA/CM.14/37 WMO activities in support of the island countries of the south-western Indian Ocean in their efforts to forecast cyclones and to reduce the adverse effects of such disasters
38. E/ECA/CM.14/38 Memorandum on the contribution of the Economic Commission for Africa to the implementation and mid-term review of the United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development, 1986-1990, Prospects and recommendations
39. E/ECA/CM.14/39 Report of the ninth meeting of the Technical Preparatory Committee of the Whole
40. E/ECA/CM.14/40/Rev.1 Report of the eighth meeting of the Conference of Ministers of African Least Developed Countries
41. E/ECA/CM.14/41 Report of the inaugural meeting of the Board of Governors of the African Centre of Meteorological Applications for Development

31. E/ECA/CM.14/31 Beyond recovery: ECA-revised development perspectives, 1988-2008
32. E/ECA/CM.14/32 Follow-up action on relevant resolutions adopted by the twenty-second session of the Commission and thirteenth meeting of the Conference of Ministers
33. E/ECA/CM.14/33 Resolutions adopted by the Economic and Social Council at its second session of 1987 and by the General Assembly at its forty-second session in the economic and social sectors that are of interest to Africa
34. E/ECA/CM.14/34 Proposals for updating the 1988-1989 programme budget in the light of General Assembly-approved appropriations and other decisions of the relevant legislative bodies
35. E/ECA/CM.14/35 Proposals for the extension of the 1984-1989 Medium-term Plan to 1990-1991
36. E/ECA/CM.14/36 Proposal for the establishment of a UNDP management facility
37. E/ECA/CM.14/37 WMO activities in support of the island countries of the south-western Indian Ocean in their efforts to forecast cyclones and to reduce the adverse effects of such disasters
38. E/ECA/CM.14/38 Memorandum on the contribution of the Economic Commission for Africa to the implementation and mid-term review of the United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development, 1986-1990, Prospects and recommendations
39. E/ECA/CM.14/39 Report of the ninth meeting of the Technical Preparatory Committee of the Whole
40. E/ECA/CM.14/40/Rev.1 Report of the eighth meeting of the Conference of Ministers of African Least Developed Countries
41. E/ECA/CM.14/41 Report of the inaugural meeting of the Board of Governors of the African Centre of Meteorological Applications for Development



### Corrigendum\*

*Page 236*

Replace the existing paragraph 432 with the following:

432. The representative of Panama said that the legitimate head of the Government of Panama was not Mr. Eric Arturo Delvalle, who had been removed from that post through the same legal and constitutional procedures which had permitted him to assume that office in the first place. The Panamanian delegation did not agree that the proposal in question should be considered political in nature, since it referred to matters related to the economic development of the country.

\*Issued at the request of the Government of Panama.