



UNITED NATIONS
GENERAL
ASSEMBLY



Distr.
GENERAL

A/31/217
1 October 1976
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: ENGLISH/FRENCH

Thirty-first session
Agenda item 28

CO-OPERATION BETWEEN THE UNITED NATIONS AND THE
ORGANIZATION OF AFRICAN UNITY

Report of the Secretary-General

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I. INTRODUCTION

1. On 28 November 1975, the General Assembly adopted resolution 3412 (XXX) concerning co-operation between the United Nations and the Organization of African Unity (OAU), in paragraph 4 of which it requested the Secretary-General to continue to take the necessary measures to strengthen co-operation between the United Nations and OAU in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the Assembly, particularly with regard to the provision of assistance to the victims of colonialism and apartheid in southern Africa. In paragraph 5, the Assembly drew the attention of all United Nations bodies, in particular the Security Council, to the continued need to take effective measures to associate closely OAU regularly with all their work concerning Africa, including especially the activities of the committee on sanctions of the Council. 1/ In paragraph 6, the Assembly invited the specialized agencies and other organizations concerned within the United Nations system to continue and intensify their co-operation with OAU.
2. By paragraph 8 of the resolution, the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General to submit to it at its thirty-first session a report on the implementation of the above resolution 3412 (XXX) and on the development of co-operation between OAU and the organizations concerned within the United Nations system.
3. The present report is submitted in accordance with this request of the General Assembly. It is based on contributions received from United Nations offices, the specialized agencies and other organizations concerned within the United Nations system. It deals with actions taken since the last report of the Secretary-General on the subject (A/10254).
4. Other reports submitted to the General Assembly under related items of the agenda contain detailed information on action taken by the Secretary-General and by the bodies concerned in response to the relevant resolutions. Particular reference is made in this connexion to the report of the Secretary-General (A/31/65 and Add.1-5), submitted in accordance with resolution 3421 (XXX) of 8 December 1975 concerning the implementation, by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations, of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples (resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960).

1/ Security Council Committee established in pursuance of resolution 253 (1968) concerning the question of Southern Rhodesia.

II. CONSULTATIONS AND EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION

5. The Chairman of OAU for the year 1975-1976, Field Marshal Idi Amin Dada, President of Uganda, visited United Nations Headquarters on 1 October 1975. He addressed the General Assembly and had discussions with the Secretary-General on matters of common interest to the two organizations.

6. The Administrative Secretary-General of OAU, Mr. William Eteki Mboumoua, visited United Nations Headquarters on 10 October 1975. He discussed with the Secretary-General matters of mutual concern to the two organizations.

7. The Secretary-General was invited to address the thirteenth Assembly of Heads of State and Government of OAU, which convened on 2 July 1976 at Port Louis, Mauritius. During his stay in Port Louis, the Secretary-General had talks both with the outgoing Chairman, President Amin, and with the new Chairman, the Right Honourable Sir Seewoosagur Ramgoolam, Prime Minister of Mauritius. He also met with many Heads of African State and Government and had separate meetings with leaders of liberation movements.

8. In his address to the summit conference, the Secretary-General expressed satisfaction at the close and constructive relationship which existed between the United Nations and OAU. He reviewed some of the major problems that faced Africa and the world community. He called for urgent solutions to the political problems in southern Africa. He also observed that there was a new willingness to co-operate on a global basis and emphasized the need to concentrate on the creation of a new world order based on principles and guidelines contained in resolutions and declarations of the United Nations.

9. At the invitation of OAU, the Secretary-General designated a representative to attend, as an observer, the twenty-seventh ordinary session of the OAU Council of Ministers, which met at Port Louis from 24 to 30 June 1976.

10. The work of the executive offices of OAU in New York and Geneva has greatly enhanced communication and co-operation between the two organizations on day-to-day matters. The two Executive Secretaries have ready access to the various departments of the United Nations system and this arrangement has facilitated consultations on matters of common concern.

11. The Secretary-General has maintained close contact with OAU with regard to the organization of an effective programme of international assistance to Mozambique. A United Nations mission, which was appointed to ascertain the financial, material and technical assistance required by Mozambique, visited Kampala and Addis Ababa in April 1976 to brief the Chairman and the Administrative Secretary-General of OAU on its findings and to discuss areas of co-operation. These consultations have been of positive help to the programme.

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

A. Office for Inter-Agency Affairs and Co-ordination

12. In April 1976, the Office for Inter-Agency Affairs and Co-ordination convened a meeting, at the headquarters of the International Labour Organisation (ILO), between representatives of the organizations of the United Nations system and the representative of OAU at Geneva, in accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 1892 (LVII) of 1 August 1974. As requested by the Council, the meeting reviewed the activities of the organizations relating to the implementation of General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) and other relevant United Nations resolutions with a view to achieving the effective co-ordination of those activities.

B. Division of Human Rights

13. In response to an invitation made in accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 1159 (XLI) of 5 August 1966, OAU arranged for a representative to participate as an observer at the thirty-second session of the Commission on Human Rights, held at Geneva from 2 February to 5 March 1976. The following national liberation movements ^{2/} were also represented at the Commission's session: African National Council of Zimbabwe; Pan Africanist Congress of Azania; South West Africa People's Organization.

14. A representative of OAU also participated in the twenty-ninth session of the Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities which met at Geneva from 12 August to 1 September 1976 and in the seminar on the human rights of migrant workers which was held at Tunis from 12 to 24 November 1975.

15. The Division of Human Rights consulted with officials of OAU, by direct contact in Geneva as well as by correspondence, in the preparation of studies and reports relating to human rights and, in particular, the right of colonial peoples to self-determination and independence.

16. OAU was also consulted concerning arrangements for the field mission of the Ad Hoc Working Group of Experts on Southern Africa which was in operation from 14 June to 2 July 1976, during which time the Group visited Dar es Salaam, Maputo, Lusaka and London. In particular, OAU and its Co-ordinating Committee for the Liberation of Africa were invited to assist the Group in gathering first-hand information on the subjects it was investigating.

^{2/} Unless otherwise indicated, the liberation movements mentioned in this report are those recognized by OAU.

C. Department of Political and Security Council Affairs

17. The Special Committee against Apartheid has continued to maintain close co-operation with OAU, which is represented in the Committee as an observer.

18. In pursuance of General Assembly resolution 3411 F (XXX) of 28 November 1975, the Special Committee organized, in consultation with OAU, a seminar entitled "International Seminar on the Eradication of Apartheid and in Support of the Struggle for Liberation in South Africa", which was held at Havana from 24 to 28 May 1976. The Vice-Chairman of the OAU Co-ordinating Committee for the Liberation of Africa and the Executive Secretary of OAU to the United Nations participated in the seminar.

19. At the invitation of OAU, the Chairman of the Special Committee attended the twenty-seventh ordinary session of the OAU Council of Ministers at Port Louis, Mauritius, from 24 to 30 June 1976 and delivered an address. The session endorsed the Declaration and Programme of Action (see A/31/104-S/12092, annexes I and II) adopted by the International Seminar on the Eradication of Apartheid and in Support of the Struggle for Liberation in South Africa at Havana and decided, inter alia, to ensure closer co-operation between the Special Committee and OAU.

20. The South African liberation movements - the African National Congress of South Africa and the Pan Africanist Congress of Azania - have been represented on the Special Committee as observers since 21 March 1974. In March 1976, representatives of the two movements were invited by the Special Committee for consultations, and financial provision was made for their travel and subsistence. These two movements, as well as the South-West Africa People's Organization and the African National Council of Zimbabwe, were also invited by the Special Committee to the seminar at Havana. Financial provision was made by the United Nations for their participation in the seminar.

21. The Centre against Apartheid in the United Nations Secretariat has continued to maintain close liaison with OAU, particularly with regard to publicity against apartheid and assistance to the oppressed people of South Africa and their liberation movements.

22. The Secretary-General has continued, in co-operation with the Committees concerned, to encourage greater contributions to the three United Nations programmes of assistance to southern Africans, namely the United Nations Trust Fund for South Africa, the United Nations Educational and Training Programme for Southern Africa and the United Nations Fund for Namibia. Contributions to these programmes in 1975 amounted to \$2,680,000 and are expected to be substantially higher in 1976.

23. The United Nations Educational and Training Programme for Southern Africa has also continued to maintain close co-operation with OAU, especially with its Bureau for the Placement and Education of African Refugees. A representative of OAU attends meetings of the Advisory Committee on the Programme in an observer capacity.

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24. During the period under review, representatives of OAU and of the African Group at the United Nations have participated in discussions of African questions by the Security Council.

25. In pursuance of a decision of 30 April 1975, a representative of OAU is invited to attend meetings of the Security Council Committee established in pursuance of resolution 253 (1968) concerning the question of Southern Rhodesia when they relate to discussions of alleged violations of sanctions involving any member country or countries of OAU. The Committee's documents are made available to the representative of OAU under the same confidentiality to which members of the Committee are subject.

D. Department of Political Affairs, Trusteeship and Decolonization

26. The question of the formulation and provision of concrete programmes of assistance to the peoples of the colonial Territories continues to engage the close attention of the Special Committee on the situation with regard to the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples and the United Nations Council for Namibia, in connexion with the implementation by the specialized agencies and institutions associated with the United Nations of General Assembly resolution 3412 (XXX) of 28 November 1975 and other relevant resolutions of the United Nations.

27. In pursuance of a number of General Assembly resolutions, including in particular resolutions 3481 (XXX) of 11 December 1975, 3399 (XXX) of 26 November 1975 and 3412 (XXX) of 28 November 1975, the Special Committee and the United Nations Council for Namibia continued to maintain a close working relationship with OAU during the period under review.

28. Both the Special Committee and the United Nations Council for Namibia received the full co-operation of the Executive Secretary of OAU to the United Nations who actively participated, in accordance with established practice, in the related work of the two bodies and their respective subsidiary organs.

29. A delegation composed of six members of the Special Committee visited the capitals of Botswana, Ethiopia, Mozambique, the United Republic of Tanzania and Zambia in connexion with the discharge of the mandate entrusted to the Special Committee by the General Assembly. During the visit, the Ad Hoc Group held consultations with the Administrative Secretary-General of OAU and with the Executive Secretary of its Co-ordinating Committee for the Liberation of Africa.

30. The Special Committee and the United Nations Council for Namibia were both represented at the meetings of the twenty-seventh ordinary session of the OAU Council of Ministers and the thirteenth Assembly of Heads of State and Government of OAU, held at Port Louis, Mauritius, in June/July 1976.

E. Economic Commission for Africa

31. Under the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) co-ordinated bilateral scholarship and fellowship programme for the training of Africans abroad or within the region, the ECA secretariat continued to maintain a close working relationship with the OAU Bureau for the Placement and Education of African Refugees which is concerned with helping refugees who are the victims of colonialism and apartheid.

F. United Nations Children's Fund

32. The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) maintained contact with the Liberation Committee of OAU in regard to UNICEF assistance to the vulnerable groups (children, adolescents and mothers) under the care of the liberation movements in various African countries. Direct relations have been established with those liberation movements.

33. UNICEF assistance to the liberation movements has continued through 1975. Major contributions were channelled through field offices in the United Republic of Tanzania in co-operation with the Liberation Committee of OAU and with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the World Health Organization (WHO).

34. UNICEF's relationship with OAU is of a de facto nature in that contact is maintained in fields of mutual interest. Through its representative in Addis Ababa, UNICEF keeps the OAU secretariat informed of its policies and programmes in Africa and enlists its support in encouraging African Governments to pursue policies and activities designed to meet the needs of children and mothers.

G. United Nations Development Programme

35. Consistent with established policy, UNDP continued its co-operation with the liberation movements and collaborated with the OAU Liberation Committee based in Dar es Salaam in the implementation of projects designed to assist those movements. The form and modalities of UNDP collaboration with OAU and the movements were discussed at the twenty-second session of the Governing Council of UNDP (June 1976) in the context of assistance to colonial countries and peoples (see E/5846, chap. VI). At the conclusion of the discussion, the Governing Council adopted a decision which, inter alia:

(a) Considered that UNDP should continue to support actively the humanitarian programmes of the African liberation movements recognized by OAU;

(b) Requested the Administrator henceforward to invite the representatives of African liberation movements recognized by OAU to take part in the work of the Governing Council as observers throughout the Council's sessions;

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(c) Decided that, in order to ensure implementation of programmes of assistance to African liberation movements recognized by OAU, the Administrator should use, in addition to the resources of the liberation movement trust funds, funds available in respect of undistributed indicative planning figures provided for future participants during the period 1977-1981, and not exceeding \$6 million (E/5846, para. 228).

H. United Nations Institute for Training and Research

36. The United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) has issued a study on the relations between OAU and the United Nations. 3/ This provided the basis for an informal seminar for diplomats and international officials.

I. United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

37. OAU was represented, at the twenty-sixth session (October 1975) of the Executive Committee of the Programme of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), by the Director of its Bureau for Placement and Education of African Refugees (BPEAR). UNHCR was represented at meetings of OAU, including those of the Conference of Heads of State and Government and all sessions of the Council of Ministers and meetings of BPEAR. In addition, UNHCR has benefited from OAU co-operation in its efforts to assist the voluntary repatriation and resettlement of refugees from countries formerly under Portuguese administration and in the rehabilitation of displaced persons within such countries, especially in Guinea-Bissau and Mozambique.

38. UNHCR has continued to work closely with and to facilitate financial support for BPEAR, which seeks to provide opportunities for individual refugees, many of whom live in difficult circumstances in urban centres in Africa.

39. As regards the protection of refugees, UNHCR has been in close liaison with OAU with a view to promoting further accessions to the relevant international legal instruments, principally the Convention relating to the Status of Refugees of 1951 4/ and its Protocol of 1967, 5/ and the OAU Convention Governing the Specific Aspects of the Problem of Refugees in Africa of 1969. 6/

40. In close collaboration with the OAU Liberation Committee, UNHCR has continued to assist the liberation movements, five of which were represented at the twenty-sixth session of the Executive Committee of the High Commissioner's Programme.

3/ The OAU and the UN, Relations between the Organization of African Unity and the United Nations (New York, Africana Publishing Co., 1976).

4/ United Nations, Treaty Series, vol. 189, No. 2545, p. 137.

5/ Ibid., vol. 606, No. 8791, p. 267.

6/ Organization of African Unity, Council of Ministers, eleventh session, Algiers, September 1968, document CM/228, annex II, p. 1.

J. Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

41. Pursuant to decisions of the governing organs of FAO concerning decolonization, the Director-General appointed a special liaison officer to deal specifically with questions related to requests made by the liberation movements and newly independent African countries.

K. World Food Programme

42. At the first session of the Committee on Food Aid Policies and Programmes, held at Rome from 26 April to 6 May 1976, particular attention was given to World Food Programme (WFP) assistance to newly independent countries and to liberation movements. The continuing action of the Programme to meet their urgent needs was emphasized. In particular, it was prepared to consider a request from the United Nations Council for Namibia to provide food assistance to the trainees of the Namibia Training Institute.

43. During the past year, WFP has approved several projects in newly independent African countries for a total cost of \$US 10,820,600. In addition, at WFP's invitation, OAU has participated in many meetings and activities that are of direct concern to the African liberation movements.

L. International Labour Organisation

44. Co-operation between ILO and OAU has been steadily progressing, especially as regards assistance to the African liberation movements of the former Portuguese territories. Workers' educational programmes for refugees have been organized by the International Centre for Advanced Technical and Vocational Training of Turin in close collaboration with OAU.

45. Furthermore, the OAU Bureau for the Placement and Education of African Refugees organized various meetings in which ILO took an active part. The Committee of Ten and the Co-ordinating Committee of the Bureau appreciated ILO's participation.

46. ILO has maintained systematic and continuous contact with OAU through missions of officials and experts in Africa. This co-operation has taken the form of technical assistance which ILO will provide to the African National Council as part of a project expected to last one year, thanks to the active co-operation of OAU.

47. Seven trainees from Zimbabwe will be given training to acquaint them with project evaluation methods, economic planning and technical feasibility studies.

M. United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization

48. The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) continues to provide educational assistance to the liberation movements.

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Withdrawal of OAU recognition of certain movements in recent months has resulted in a phasing-out of part of this assistance in accordance with contractual obligations. Assistance projects receiving aid from UNDP and from UNESCO and which are being executed in close co-operation with the liberation movements, now total some two million dollars.

49. Information on UNESCO's co-operation with the liberation movements is submitted regularly to the organization's Executive Board. At its ninety-ninth session (April/May 1976), the Board adopted a decision (99 EX/decisions, dec. 7.7) in which it invited the Director-General to increase UNESCO's assistance to the movements and to do so in close collaboration with OAU. The Board, in the decision, also invited the Director-General to present a report on this question at a future session of the Executive Board.

50. The co-operation of OAU is invited each time that a project involving youth activities is initiated in Africa. The last such undertaking was a meeting between representatives of liberation movements in southern Africa and leaders of youth organizations, which was held at Algiers in December 1975. OAU was associated in the preparation of this meeting.

51. The modalities for co-operation with OAU in all UNESCO regional centres planned for central, eastern and southern Africa are at present being discussed with the secretariat. The agreement signed between UNESCO and the country hosting the preparatory meeting for the organization of the regional centre for southern Africa envisages invitations to the liberation movements located in the region to attend meetings as observers.

N. World Health Organization

52. Following the mandate given to the Director-General of the World Health Organization by the twenty-eighth World Health Assembly (May 1975) to continue to collaborate with OAU and other concerned organizations in rendering the necessary assistance to programmes to combat the health problems facing the liberation movements, WHO has made subcontractual arrangements with OAU in respect of the appointment of project staff under the UNDP-financed operation entitled "Health assistance to liberation movements". The initial stage of that UNDP project has been implemented and has involved the assignment of a project manager appointed by OAU to review the state of the health services provided by the Tunduru Health and Training Centre and the Mt. Wara Hospital in the United Republic of Tanzania and various rural health centres in Zambia.

53. Funds have also been made available from the WHO regular budget to carry out projects designed to strengthen the health services of the liberation movements, the allocation being: for 1975, \$US 30,050; for 1976, \$US 31,550; and for 1977, \$US 33,590.

54. At the twenty-ninth World Health Assembly (May 1976), the Director-General was urged, in collaboration with OAU and other concerned organizations, to continue exploring possibilities of financial resources from budgetary and extrabudgetary

funds for accelerating and intensifying the provision of health assistance to the liberation movements. WHO is currently executing a UNDP-financed project of health assistance to the South West Africa People's Organization to the amount of \$US 285,000.

55. On 22 June 1976, a joint OAU/UNDP/UNICEF/WHO meeting was held at Geneva and was attended by representatives of the African National Congress of South Africa, the African National Council of Zimbabwe, the Pan Africanist Congress of Azania and the South West Africa People's Organization. Among the conclusions reached was an agreement with UNDP to provide \$US 600,000 to recommence a three-year multinational project in the United Republic of Tanzania for the benefit of the four liberation movements. At the meeting, the representatives of these movements confirmed their interest in a collective project for training, the provision of medical supplies of an emergency nature, equipment for health centres and the provision of medium-term and long-term fellowships.

56. In consultation with the Executive Secretary of OAU in Geneva, preparations were made to begin the multinational liberation movements health project on 1 September 1976. The location of the project was given careful consideration by all concerned and it has been decided to establish it at Morogoro, United Republic of Tanzania. WHO representatives in Dar es Salaam, Lusaka, Maputo and Luanda have been requested to collaborate closely with the intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations which are contributing to the health activities of the liberation movements in question. In August 1976, UNDP transferred to WHO the sum of \$US 285,000 for the execution of the first phase of the project. This will be for one year during which a careful evaluation to decide on the future scope of the project will be carried out by all concerned.

57. Representatives of liberation movements were invited to the fifty-seventh session of the WHO Executive Board (January 1976) and the twenty-ninth World Health Assembly (May 1976). Under the arrangements provided for by World Health Assembly resolution WHA27.37, the costs of attendance at WHO meetings (which included the twenty-fifth session of the Regional Committee for Africa, 17-24 September 1975, and the Conference on Health Co-ordination and Co-operation in Africa, 25-26 September 1975) were defrayed for representatives of the liberation movements.

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

A. Economic Commission for Africa

58. Co-operation between ECA and OAU continued to grow during the period under review. ECA provided assistance, through its administrative and conference services, at OAU meetings held at Addis Ababa, including meetings of the Council of Ministers and of Heads of State. At the working level, the two secretariats participated on a reciprocal basis in meetings of their respective institutions and also organized joint meetings in areas of common concern.

59. The most important areas of co-operation were industry and trade. The ECA and OAU secretariats jointly organized the second meeting of the follow-up Committee on Industrialization in Africa at which concepts relating to the restructuring of the world economy, including that of the new international economic order, were examined. The recommendations of the Committee included, inter alia, the promotion of programmes and projects to foster intra-African co-operation and the establishment and development, jointly by ECA, OAU and the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) of instruments for action in the African region within the framework of the decisions of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of OAU.

60. ECA, OAU and UNIDO also joined together in sponsoring the Third Conference of African Ministers of Industry, held at Nairobi in December 1975. The Conference, inter alia, laid down guidelines for the implementation in Africa of the Lima Declaration and Plan of Action on Industrial Development and Co-operation (see A/10112, chap. IV). ECA and OAU also jointly serviced a meeting of the African Group in Vienna to prepare the African position concerning the constitution of UNIDO as a specialized agency.

61. In the field of trade, the two secretariats organized the ECA/OAU Joint Meeting of Experts on Trade and Development held at Algiers in November 1975. The meeting adopted a declaration and programme of action on intra-African trade and economic co-operation which were subsequently endorsed by the Fourth OAU Conference of Ministers of Commerce. Furthermore ECA and OAU co-operated in establishing the Association of African Trade Promotion Organizations with headquarters in Tangier, Morocco.

62. There has also been co-operation in agriculture and food production. The two secretariats jointly assisted the West African Rice Development Association in its effort to promote rice production in Africa and have co-operated in setting up the African Inter-Ministerial Committee on Food.

63. Another area of co-operation relates to the identification of experts for possible employment in technical co-operation activities in Africa. ECA periodically brings up to date the Roster of African Specialists and makes the publication available to the OAU secretariat for use in operating its technical co-operation programme. As and when necessary, ECA also helps with information on

employment opportunities and, on request, endeavours to establish contacts for qualified African refugees with the aim of facilitating their employment.

64. In the field of science, technology and natural resources, ECA contributed to the definition of OAU's programmes and projects and also held regular consultations with OAU and UNESCO to discuss follow-up projects of the Conference on the Application of Science and Technology to the Development of Africa (CASTAFRICA).

B. United Nations Conference on Trade and Development

65. Co-operation between the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) and OAU has been close in such fields as trade policy, commodities, shipping, trade expansion and economic integration.

66. OAU representatives frequently attend UNCTAD meetings and vice-versa. The arrangements provide those representatives with the opportunity to be acquainted with the issues under consideration in the other organization, and to be briefed on matters of common concern.

67. Joint OAU/ECA meetings are frequently attended by UNCTAD representatives. Thus, for instance, two members of the UNCTAD secretariat attended the OAU/ECA Joint Meeting of Experts on Trade and Development which was held in accordance with resolution CM/437 (XXV) of the OAU Council of Ministers. Two of the basic documents considered by that meeting were prepared with the help of UNCTAD. They dealt with issues of the fourth session of UNCTAD and with the experience of regional economic integration efforts of developing countries. The meeting of experts submitted its report to the OAU Conference of Ministers which met in November 1975 in preparation for the Manila meeting of the Group of 77 and the fourth session of UNCTAD. The Secretary-General of UNCTAD and several staff members of UNCTAD attended the Conference of Ministers.

68. There have also been close ties between OAU and UNCTAD in the field of shipping. Representatives of OAU have participated actively in the meetings of the Intergovernmental Group on International Multimodal Transport; members of the UNCTAD secretariat have attended several of the subregional meetings on combined transport arrangements organized jointly by ECA and OAU. It is intended to strengthen this co-operation and to extend it to other possible areas of common interest in the field of shipping.

69. UNCTAD was represented at the thirteenth session of the Conference of the Heads of State and Government of OAU held from 2 to 5 July 1976.

C. United Nations Environment Programme

70. OAU has been regularly invited to United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) meetings. The OAU Administrative Secretary-General attended the fourth session of the Governing Council of UNEP (March/April 1976) and made a statement. UNEP has

been invited to various OAU meetings and has been represented by senior officials. The two organizations continue to exchange technical and scientific documentation and materials of mutual interest.

71. UNEP has involved OAU in its activities in Africa, including environmental seminars, workshops, expert meetings and conferences, and is of the view that many such activities should be jointly sponsored with OAU. In addition, UNEP is fully committed to participate within its financial and professional capabilities in OAU-initiated activities of environmental interest in the region. An area of possible UNEP co-operation is in the OAU efforts to bring up to date the African Convention on the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources.

72. As a result of OAU participation at the fourth session of the UNEP Governing Council, the secretariat of UNEP has made various efforts to ensure that OAU may in future play a key role in harmonizing and co-ordinating African views on the various agenda items of interest to Africa.

73. UNEP has also invited the liberation movements to each session of its Governing Council.

D. United Nations Industrial Development Organization

74. In accordance with article 75 of the rules of procedure of the Industrial Development Board, OAU has formally participated in United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) activities since 1970. OAU has appointed a Permanent Representative to the UNIDO secretariat. As recommended by the Council of Ministers of OAU (twenty-third session), member States as well as the OAU secretariat participated in the preparatory arrangements and in the Second General Conference of UNIDO at Lima (March 1975).

75. UNIDO was represented at the Third Conference of African Ministers of Industry, which was held at Nairobi in December and sponsored by ECA, OAU and UNIDO, and contributed a paper entitled "Africa two per cent: implications of the industrial development target for the year 2000". The Conference endorsed several projects relating to the implementation of the Lima Declaration and Plan of Action (see A/10112, chap. IV). UNIDO also participated at the twenty-fifth ordinary session of the OAU Council of Ministers and the following twelfth OAU Assembly of Heads of State and Government (July/August 1975).

76. OAU was represented at the ninth session of the Industrial Development Board (April 1975), at the sixth session of the Permanent Committee and at the last session of the Inter-governmental Committee of the Whole to Draw Up a Constitution for UNIDO as a Specialized Agency.

77. In compliance with General Assembly resolution 3280 (XXIX) of 10 December 1974, representatives of the liberation movements participated in the Second General Conference of UNIDO, in the ninth and tenth sessions of the Industrial Development Board as well as in the first and second session of the Inter-governmental Committee of the Whole to Draw Up a Constitution for UNIDO as a Specialized Agency.

E. United Nations Development Programme

78. The method of giving practical effect to the agreement between OAU and UNDP, signed in 1975, has been central to negotiations between UNDP's Assistant Administrator/Regional Representative in Addis Ababa and OAU's Administrative Secretary-General. Efforts have focused on the possibility of expanding OAU's capacity to undertake certain projects by providing assistance for the purpose of training OAU staff; the matter is still under review by both organizations. In addition, the Administrative Secretary-General of OAU participated in the regional meeting of UNDP resident representatives based in Africa, which was held at Yaoundé, United Republic of Cameroon, in February/March 1976 and had consultations of a general nature with the Administrator of UNDP.

F. International Labour Organisation

79. The agreement between the International Labour Organisation and the Organization of African Unity, which entered into force on 25 November 1965, established a framework for collaboration between the two organizations by providing for mutual consultation, reciprocal representation, exchange of information and technical co-operation.

80. There are close and regular consultations between the two organizations - at Addis Ababa between the ILO Regional Office for Africa and the OAU secretariat, and at Geneva between the OAU permanent delegation and ILO headquarters.

81. During the period covered by this report, OAU has been represented at meetings of the Governing Body of the International Labour Office and at the sixty-first session of the International Labour Conference which was held at Geneva from 2 to 23 June 1976.

82. OAU was invited to participate in the Tripartite World Conference on Employment, Income Distribution, Social Progress and the International Division of Labour, which was held at Geneva from 4 to 17 June 1976. It was also invited to attend the Technical Conference on the Public Service (Geneva, 7 to 18 April 1975), the third Tripartite Technical Meeting for Mines Other Than Coal Mines (Geneva, 6 to 16 May 1975), the 6th Session of the African Advisory Committee (Lomé, 1 to 12 December 1975), the 9th Session of the Iron and Steel Committee (Geneva, 4 to 12 February 1976) and the 10th Session of the Coal Mines Committee (Geneva, 28 April to 6 May 1976).

83. ILO was invited to the following meetings, held under the auspices of OAU, which its representatives attended:

- (a) Assembly of Heads of State and Government (Port Louis, 2 to 5 July 1976);
- (b) Twenty-seventh regular session of the Council of Ministers (Port Louis, 24 to 29 June 1976);

- (c) Fourth regular session of the Conference of African Ministers of Labour, (Freetown, 29 March to 2 April 1976). The Director-General of the International Labour Office attended this Conference as head of the ILO delegation;
- (d) Conference of Ministers of Transport of East Africa (Kampala, 7 to 22 November 1975).

84. In accordance with the agreement between ILO and OAU, the steady and continuous flow of information which followed the signing of the agreement, has developed at an increasing pace during the period under review.

G. Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

85. The manifold co-operation of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) with OAU continued during the period under review in areas of mutual interest. FAO participated in the sessions of the OAU Council of Ministers and the assemblies of the OAU Heads of State, held respectively at Kampala, Uganda, in July/August 1975 and at Port Louis, Mauritius, in June/July 1976.

86. FAO, through its regional office at Accra, Ghana, worked closely with the OAU secretariat on the establishment of the Working Party and the launching of the Inter-Ministerial Committee for Food as a regional arm of the World Food Council. In April 1976, OAU appointed a Permanent Secretary to the Joint Food and Nutrition Commission for Africa and it is anticipated that he will soon take up his post, which is located in the FAO Regional Office at Accra. FAO stressed its willingness to co-operate and collaborate with OAU and other agencies concerned in the global and country-oriented efforts to combat poverty, malnutrition and hunger in Africa.

87. FAO, through its regional office, assisted OAU in a number of specialized areas, especially in relation to the Anti-rinderpest Campaign, the Joint Campaign Against Contagious Bovine Pleuropneumonia, Trypanosomiasis Research Control, the Establishment of Plant Quarantine Centres, Training of Phytosanitary Inspectors, Cereal Crops Research and Production of Food Grains. FAO presented a technical paper to the OAU Experts Panel on Raising the Productivity of Peasant Farmers in Africa, held between 3 and 7 May 1976, at Addis Ababa.

H. United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization

88. UNESCO has continued its co-operation with OAU in programme activities, conferences and meetings organized in Africa or dealing with subjects of interest to that region in the fields of social sciences, culture and communication.

89. The Intergovernmental Conference on Cultural Policies in Africa (Accra, 27 October to 6 November 1975), was organized by UNESCO with the co-operation of OAU. The latter organization was closely involved in its preparations and in its proceedings. The working paper was submitted to it for comment.

90. A meeting of governmental experts was held by OAU at Accra immediately after the opening of the Conference (23 to 26 October 1975), to prepare a paper on regional cultural co-operation in Africa and to consider a draft cultural charter. The secretariat of UNESCO provided OAU with expert and technical assistance for that work and for the organization of the meeting. The two texts prepared at the meeting were made available to the Conference.

91. OAU was represented at the Conference by a delegation composed of five high-ranking officials, headed by its Secretary-General. All the African liberation movements recognized by OAU were invited to send observers to represent them. The South West Africa People's Organization and the União Nacional para a Independência Total de Angola were represented.

92. Within the programme for communication development and application, continued direct or indirect support has been given to the Union des radiodiffusions et télévisions nationales d'Afrique (URTNA) which is officially associated with OAU. The UNESCO Regional Communication Adviser for Africa maintains close liaison with URTNA, participating in its annual General Assembly and assisting in its project for programme exchanges. URTNA's 1975 meeting dealing with educational radio and television was also given financial assistance by UNESCO.

I. World Health Organization

93. WHO has continued its co-operation with OAU in a number of fields, both bilaterally and through multilateral interagency arrangements. Collaborative activities have been ensured at the level of headquarters and through the WHO Regional Office for Africa in Brazzaville. WHO maintains a Liaison Office with the Economic Commission for Africa, which is also responsible for WHO's liaison with OAU. These arrangements have led to good communication between the two organizations at all levels.

94. WHO has continued to explore, with its regional offices in Africa, the Eastern Mediterranean and Europe, ways and means in which the organization can effectively participate in the establishment of a programme of inter-African technical co-operation as decided by the OAU Council of Ministers at its twenty-fourth ordinary session.

95. The Joint FAO/WHO/OAU Regional Food and Nutrition Commission for Africa has continued its activities for assembling data on nutritional problems, analysing studies carried out in this important field, and preparing and distributing bulletins and nutrition briefing to institutions, universities and Governments, as appropriate.

96. WHO has continued its participation in the activities of the OAU Bureau for the Placement and Education of African Refugees as well as collaborative efforts with its co-ordinating committee and working group.

J. International Bank for Reconstruction and Development

97. The World Bank has continued to maintain and benefit from its formal and informal contacts with OAU. This has included exchange of views at policy and operational levels between the two organizations.

98. The Bank maintains contact with OAU through its resident representative stationed at Addis Ababa in Ethiopia. At the interagency level, a senior Bank representative participated in the meeting between the secretariats of the United Nations system and OAU at Geneva in April 1976. A delegation of OAU also attends the Joint Annual Meetings of the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund (IMF).

K. International Monetary Fund

99. Relations with OAU continued on the same friendly basis as before. The organization was invited, as every year, to participate with official observers status in the Annual Meeting of the Board of Governors of IMF.

L. International Civil Aviation Organization

100. The International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) and the African Civil Aviation Commission (AFCAC) are presently in the process of formalizing their extensive co-operative arrangements. ICAO was closely associated with the establishment of AFCAC and actively assists its operation by the provision of staff, administrative services and, until recently, by providing accommodation at the ICAO African Office at Dakar. AFCAC has also maintained very close relations with OAU since its foundation and steps are now being taken by both organizations to implement the decision of the OAU Council of Ministers at its twenty-fifth ordinary session to grant AFCAC the status of a specialized agency of OAU, as determined in an agreement to be concluded between the two organizations.

101. During the latter half of 1975, ICAO exchanged correspondence with OAU on a draft inter-African Convention on the establishment of a programme of technical co-operation. ICAO welcomed, inter alia, the possibility of obtaining from OAU information on suitably qualified African experts to serve in ICAO technical co-operation projects.

M. Universal Postal Union

102. In accordance with resolution C92 of the 1974 Lausanne Congress, OAU was invited to participate in several meetings of the Universal Postal Union, including the meetings of its Executive Council, held at Berne from 13 to 21 May 1976.

N. World Meteorological Organization

103. A Co-operation Agreement between the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) and OAU was signed by the Secretaries-General of the two organizations on 28 January 1976 at the OAU headquarters in Addis Ababa. The text of the Agreement had been approved earlier by the OAU Council of Ministers and by the WMO Seventh Congress. The Co-operation Agreement between the two organizations came into force immediately upon signature and a copy of the Agreement was communicated to the Secretary-General of the United Nations. The Agreement provides for close co-operation in questions of common interest within the fields of competence of WMO and OAU, reciprocal representation at meetings and the exchange of information and documents.

O. International Telecommunication Union

104. Contact between the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) and OAU has continued through the ITU Regional Advisor based in Ethiopia and through the Geneva Office of OAU. In addition, the Union participated in the meeting between the secretariats of the United Nations system and OAU which was held at Geneva in April 1976.

105. Co-operation with OAU in the implementation of the Panafrican Telecommunication Network (PANAFTEL) has continued in the co-ordination committee set up for this purpose. This committee comprises the executive heads of ITU, OAU, ECA and the African Development Bank. On behalf of this committee, ITU organized the second Conference of African Telecommunication Administrations at Kinshasa (December 1975). An important step forward in the field of co-operation in telecommunications on the African continent was taken by this Conference in adopting a resolution to create a Panafrican Telecommunication Union as a specialized agency of OAU and to set up a steering committee to draft the convention of the Union. ITU co-operated in the preparations for the first meeting of this steering committee in August 1976, and an ITU representative attended the meeting as an observer.

106. A meeting of the Co-ordination Committee for PANAFTEL in May 1976 examined the report of the Conference at Kinshasa and prepared a progress report on PANAFTEL for the consideration of the meeting of Heads of State of OAU in Mauritius in July 1976.

107. ITU continues to inform OAU of progress in UNDP/ITU projects contributing to the development of telecommunications in OAU member countries, particularly in relation to the implementation of the PANAFTEL network.

P. International Atomic Energy Agency

108. During the past year, oral and written consultations continued in line with the co-operation agreement concluded between the International Atomic Energy Agency and OAU in September 1968.

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Q. General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade

109. The multilateral trade negotiations, which entered their substantive phase last year, are a main area of co-operation between the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) and OAU. In addition, the GATT secretariat has recently been in correspondence with the Secretary-General of OAU regarding the possibility that officials of OAU itself might participate in future GATT trade policy courses.

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

A. United Nations Office of Public Information

110. In response to resolution 3412 (XXX) and other relevant resolutions of the General Assembly, the Office of Public Information continued to strengthen its co-operation, in its particular field of competence, with OAU. This co-operation extended to all the information media available to the Office, including press, publications, films, television, radio, and the United Nations information centres.

111. The Press and Publications Division of the Office of Public Information continued to disseminate information on co-operation between the United Nations and the OAU through press releases and in periodicals, including the monthly UN Chronicle, the bi-monthly bulletin United Nations and Southern Africa, and the quarterly Objective : Justice. Coverage was given to statements made by representatives of OAU to the General Assembly, the Security Council, the Special Committee on Decolonization, the Special Committee against Apartheid and other United Nations bodies, as well as to statements by United Nations spokesmen, particularly the Secretary-General, at meetings of OAU.

112. A Press Officer was assigned to cover the International Seminar on the Eradication of Apartheid and in Support of the Struggle for Liberation in South Africa which was held at Havana in May 1976 under the sponsorship of the Special Committee against Apartheid in consultation with OAU. The results of the seminar, including the Declaration and Programme of Action adopted by it (see A/31/104-S/10292, annexes I and II), were covered in full in Objective : Justice and summarized in other United Nations periodicals. A Press Officer was also assigned to accompany the Ad Hoc Group of the Special Committee on Decolonization on its visits to Africa, where it held consultations, inter alia, with OAU on the situation in southern Africa. The Group's mission was covered both in press releases and in United Nations periodicals.

113. The Television and Film Section gave wide coverage to certain activities undertaken within the framework of co-operation between the United Nations and OAU. In 1976, for example, visual coverage of the press briefing by the Executive Secretary of OAU was distributed to newsreel syndicators. Similar treatment was given to the meeting held at United Nations Headquarters on 19 May 1976 in connexion with the Week of Solidarity with the Colonial Peoples of Southern Africa. The concert sponsored by OAU at United Nations Headquarters on 20 May 1976 to mark the thirteenth anniversary of OAU was covered by United Nations Television. A showing of a series of relevant films in the Dag Hammarskjöld Library Auditorium was organized by the Television and Film Section throughout the Week of Solidarity.

114. The African Section of the Radio Service previewed the anniversary concert in the programme "UN-Africa". A special publicity circular about the concert was prepared in English and French and sent to 67 radio networks and stations in Africa and other regions. Special 45-minute radio programmes were produced, containing excerpts from the concert and the statement of the Executive Secretary of OAU to the United Nations, and sent to African radio stations at their request. A recording of

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the entire concert was made available to OAU through the Information Service of the Economic Commission for Africa in Addis Ababa.

115. The African Section of the Radio Service also assisted the Office of the Executive Secretary of OAU to the United Nations by meeting a number of separate requests.

116. The Photographs and Exhibits Section continued to cover various meetings and events taking place under the sponsorship or with the participation of OAU. These meetings and events included: the assemblies of Heads of State and Government of OAU at Kampala, Uganda, and Port Louis, Marutitius; the press briefing given by the Executive Secretary of OAU at United Nations Headquarters; statements by the representatives of OAU to various United Nations bodies; and the OAU anniversary concert at Headquarters on 20 May 1976.

117. The field network of the Office of Public Information continued to give appropriate publicity to the activities of OAU and distributed relevant information material to representatives of the mass media, educational institutions, and governmental and non-governmental organizations.

118. The Information Support Section of the Office of Public Information, in co-operation with the Centre against Apartheid of the Department of Political and Security Council Affairs, provided information materials for distribution at the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of OAU at Port Louis, Maritius, in July 1976. In preparation for the Secretary-General's attendance at this summit conference, background information was cabled to United Nations information centres and services. In addition, a staff member of the United Nations Information Centre in Tananarive, Madagascar, was assigned to cover the Assembly and his report was made available to all United Nations information centres and services for further use and dissemination.
