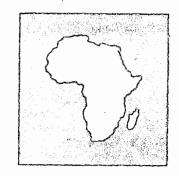


STATISTICAL

newsletter



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ANNOUNCEMENTS

DEPUTY EXECUTIVE SECRETARY, ECA

Mr. Francois N'Liba-N'Guimbous of Cameroun has joined the Secretariat of the Economic Commission for Africa as Deputy Executive Secretary. In addition to acting on behalf of the Executive Secretary when required, Mr. N'Liba will be responsible for the African Development Bank Project, trade and monetary problems, and will be the liaison officer with OAMCE and CCTA. He may also undertake special missions at the direction of the Executive Secretary.

Prior to joining ECA, Mr. N'Liba was the Director-General of the Cameroun Development Bank. Earlier he was responsible for accounting controls at the administration of direct taxes at Douala, 1952-53, and was Head of Missions and Director of the Central Branch of the "Crédit du Cameroun" at Yaoundé, 1957-60.

SPECIAL ASSISTANT TO EXECUTIVE SECRETARY, ECA

Mr. Almamy Sylla of Mali has also joined the Secretariat recently as Secretary to the Commission and Special Assistant to the Executive Secretary. He will be responsible for Commission affairs, conferences and meetings. He will also have special assignments in French speaking African countries, and will be the general point of contact with the Organization for African Unity.

NEW REGIONAL STATISTICAL ADVISER

Mr. J. Causse of France has joined the ECA statistical advisory service as a regional advisor specializing in sample surveys. He takes the place of Mr. G. Jacobsson who has now returned to Sweden.

Mr. Causse has a wide experience of survey work in the French speaking countries of West Africa and played an important part in the adaptation of survey methodology to African conditions. He has just completed a two year assignment as Director of Studies at the Rabat Statistical Institute which he helped to establish and which is now a permanent training institution providing courses at the Professional level. He has also taken part in a number of other training projects, including the training centre in agricultural statistics at Bingerville in 1957 and the one dealing with household budget surveys at Libreville in 1961.

Initially Mr. Causse will be stationed in Tangiers, Morocco and he has already embarked on a program of work in Tunisia, Algeria and Morocco. It is hoped that, before long, it will be possible to extend his work so that his services may be made available to other French speaking countries.

SECOND REGIONAL STATISTICAL ADVISER (AGRICULTURE)

The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations has announced the appointment of a second Regional Statistical Adviser for Africa, Prof. S. Krasovec of Yugoslavia. Prior to this appointment Prof. Krasovec served as Dean of the Faculty of Economics in Ljubljana (Yugoslavia). He has also served for many years as Director-General of the Federal Statistical Office in Yugoslavia.

Prof. Krasovec will be stationed in Addis Ababa, where he will join the FAO team of specialists in Agricultural statistics, namely the FAO Regional Statistician for Africa, Mr. S. Mazumdar and the other FAO Regional Statistical Adviser, Prof. J.B. Simaika.

In his new post Prof. Krasovec will visit different countries to provide assistance in drawing up long-term programmes for the development of agricultural statistics,

Issue Number 12 of "The Statistical Newsletter" should have appeared in October 1963. It was unduly delayed due to the preoccupation of the Secretariat with the Third Conference of African Statisticians and printing difficulties. Nos. 12 and 13 are now being issued as a combined issue and carry detailed reports on the proceedings of the Third Conference of African Statisticians.

in establishing a sound system of collecting current agricultural statistics through approprite censuses and surveys, in conducting pilot agricultural surveys for evolving techniques best suited to the local conditions, and in the training of national personnel for carrying out statistical surveys.

SIXTH SESSION OF ECA

The sixth annual session of the Economic Commission for Africa is scheduled to open in Addis Ababa on 19 February 1964 and will last till 3 March. The provisional agenda includes discussion of the following items: possibilities of an African common market; progress made in the establishment of an African Development Bank; the activities of the African Institute for Economic Development and Planning; industrialization; and training activities. Amongst various documents presented by the

Secretariat, delegates to the session will review the report of the Third Conference of African Statisticians and will consider its recommendations for the future work programme of the Commission in the field of statistics.

SUB-REGIONAL OFFICES

Two Sub-regional offices of ECA have been established, one in Tangiers for North Africa and the other in Niamey for West Africa. A field office has also been set up at Lusaka for Central and East Africa.

Until the end of 1964, the Sub-Regional offices will be primarily of a liaison character between Headquarters and the countries in the Sub-region. The Lusaka office has been given somewhat broader responsibilities, partly arising from the special circumstances of the Sub-region during the movement of certain countries to independence, and partly to carry out studies in levels of living.

ECA ACTIVITIES

THE THIRD CONFERENCE

"Our continent has in the past suffered from lack of information and knowledge about itself. Whatever information was available was often limited to areas of particular interest to outsiders, while the bulk of the information and research in the fields of African history social life (natural wealth and human potential) remains untapped awaiting the timely effort and diligence of African students and specialists from all over the continent. We have to engage ourselves in the task of African discovery, and our work in this conference is but a part of that great task".

The words are those of H.E. Lij Endalkachew Makonnen, Minister of Commerce and Industry in the Imperial Ethiopian Government. He was welcoming the delegates to the Third Conference of African Statisticians which was held in Addis Ababa from 2 to 11 October, 1963. Forty-two representatives from 23 Member and Associate Member countries of the Economic Commission for Africa attended the Conference, besides representatives of the United Nations Statistical Office and of FAO, ILO, UNESCO and WHO. The United States of America, the USSR, the European Economic Community, the OAMCE and the UDE were also present.

The Conference was particularly noted for the presence of a large body of African Statisticians, replacing in many cases nationals of former metropolitan powers who had led several delegations at the two earlier Conferences in 1959 and 1961.

The unanimous election of the Chief delegate from Ethiopia (which did not even have a Central Statistical Office till early in 1960) as chairman brought into focus the catalytic role of this Conference in the promotion and development of Statistical Services in African countries. Ato Habtu Eshete discharged the functions of this high office very creditably indeed. He was ably assisted by Messrs. G.E. Tandoh (Ghana) and Chadli Tarifa (Tunisia) who were elected vice-chairmen.

The stimulus provided by the Conference towards expansion and improvement of statistical activities in the region was even more clearly reflected in the opening statements of the various delegations in which they summarized the progress achieved in their statistical services. Long-term programmes of statistical development which many countries had established following recommendations by

the First and Second Conference are being successfully implemented. Several population, agricultural and manufacturing censuses have been conducted and others are planned in the near future. The development of sample surveys in various fields, particularly agricultural and family living surveys, was reported by almost all countries. Some countries described the work done in the field of national accounts and reported major strides in the treatment of public sector accounts. Considerable attention is also being paid to the improvement and diversification of current statistics, especially foreign trade statistics, balance of payments, current production, cost of living and price data and social statistics.

Another welcome development, since the last Conference, reported by some countries related to the opening of sub-offices to assist central statistical agencies in the compilation of current statistics and field inquiries. Central Statistics Offices in many countries have also succeeded in establishing closer links with the other departments of the government. This was particularly evident in their relations with the development planning agencies. Data from the statistical offices are being increasingly sought by the administration for the formulation and implementation of economic and social plans. In some countries statistical offices and planning agencies have been placed under one direction.

Agenda Items

The Conference had before it a heavy agenda which included a review of training facilities for statistical personnel, relationship between statistical development and economic planning, population statistics, agricultural statistics, labour and industrial statistics, trade statistics, household surveys, national accounts and data processing facilities and problems. A resume of discussions and recommendations adopted on some of the key items is included elsewhere in the issue. Interventions of delegations were generally well informed and lively, particularly during the consideration of the secretariat documents on "The Revised List of Basic Statistics for Programming Statistical Development" (E/CN.14/CAS.3/9) and the "Report of the Working Group on the Adaptation of the United Nations System of National Accounts for use in Africa". After an extended debate on the merits and shortcomings of the proposed "Intermediate System" recommended in the latter document the Conference agreed to the adoption of the Report for use in experimentation in African countries and as the basis for further study by the Secretariat.

A complete list of substantive documents circulated to the Conference is published in this issue.

Future Programme of Work

Pursuant to a recommendation adopted at the 12th session of the UN Statistical Commission, the Conference took a long-term view of the work programme of the ECA secretariat in the field of statistics. In formulating their proposals for the next five years, the delegates took into consideration the facilities and resources available to the Secretariat as well as the need to restrict demand on time of statisticians in the region for participation in seminars, working groups and other regional meetings.

The Conference, in the first place, endorsed the outstanding and continuing projects on the work programme of the ECA resulting from earlier recommendations and including in particular the periodic sub-regional meetings of heads of statistical offices and directors of training centres; the joint ECE/ECA study tour on relations of statistics to planning scheduled for 1964; the seminar on housing statistics proposed for 1965; the preparation of handbooks on African demographic statistics and national accounts; a list of technical coefficients for planning purposes, and a manual on household surveys. The Conference, in addition, recommended the expansion of existing training facilities as outlined elsewhere in this issue; appointment of three additional Regional Statistical Advisers; preparation of a report on experience of African countries in industrial censuses and enquiries; revision of a similar report on population censuses submitted to the Conference; preparation of a study on demographic inquiries and a methodological manual on analysis of food consumption surveys. The Conference also proposed a number of Seminars and expert working groups in the following sequence: (1) working group on national accounts; (2) working group of statisticians and planners with the object of exploring further the question of developing statistical organizations and programmes to meet planning requirements; (3) seminar on retrospective sample surveys of vital events and related demographic data; (4) seminar on labour statistics; (5) working group on data processing problems; (6) seminar on agricultural statistics in co-operation with FAO; (7) seminar on use of sampling techniques among small industrial establishments; (8) working group on the problems, methods and techniques of covering nomadic population in demographic inquiries in Africa; (9) seminar on distribution statistics, and (10) seminar on national accounts at current prices and price indices.

The secretariat is carefully reviewing each of these projects and has already started investigations on a number of projects which were assigned high priority in the report of the Conference.

By and large the discussions at the Conference were characterized by candour and cordiality and the participants enjoyed the opportunity of renewnig old friendships and establishing new contacts. The fourth session of the Conference of African Statisticians will be convened sometime in 1965. In the meantime the process of consultations amongst African Statisticians will continue through sub-regional meetings of heads of statistical offices, seminars and working groups.

Statistical development in relation to economic planning

The development of statistical organizations and programmes in the light of information requirements for planning and other purposes was one of the principal topics considered by the Third Conference of African Statisticians. The importance of the subject derives from the fact that the planning activities of governments have provided a strong incentive for the expansion of statistical services and there is now an urgent need for clanifying both data requirements and applications. Two papers were considered by the Conference, one dealing with the administrative aspects of statistical development and the other with technical matters. The following remarks indicate the principal conclusions of the meeting.

While it was clear that a close link should be established between a national statistical service and the planning organization, it was considered necessary to preserve a high degree of independence in statistical operations. This was necessary, partly to ensure objectivity of the work and partly because, in planning its programme, a statistical office would need to forecast the requirements of a number of different users of statistics. The link between planning and statistics could be achieved by placing the two organizations under the same ministry or by means of a planning committee on which the statistical service was represented and, to some extent, by arranging interchangeability of staff. Training was also considered important in that staff could be given some knowledge of both fields of activity.

In the paper dealing with the technical aspects of statistical development an attempt was made to introduce new concepts which could serve as a general guide to countries. The ideas presented were necessarily of a preliminary nature and the main objective was to obtain the guidance of the Conference for the future development of the work. In this connection a number of constructive suggestions were made.

There was a general feeling that the structure and content of statistical programmes should not be rigidly related to national accounts requirements. The latter were a useful method of consolidating much statistical material, but to achieve a satisfactory programme of work it was necessary to undertake a wide and detailed examination of requirements of all types.

It has been suggested that countries might be classified in three groups according to their stage of statistical development. Delegates appreciated the utility of this concept, but were unwilling to accept it in the simple form in which it was presented because of difficulty in reaching satisfactory definitions for the classification and because they felt that the arrangement implied some loss of freedom for individual countries in determining priorities for the various subjects within their statistical programmes. It was proposed that, as a first step, it would be better to examine the stages of development for each subject in some detail, leaving countries to determine priorities.

Another concept which attracted some criticism was the grouping of structural enquiries around 'benchmark years' to facilitate planning arrangements. The advantages of such a grouping were clear, but, from a practical point of view it was felt that it could not be carried to the point where it would produce an undue fluctuation in the level of statistical activity. There was also the consideration that the timing of structural enquiries would need to be to some extent dependent on the useful length of life of the data relating to the various subjects.

The working paper included a list of items which were intended as an indication of the possible content of statistical programmes. This list was examined in detail and many useful observations were made by both the representatives of countries and the specialized agencies.

In general the discussion was very useful because, although it covered a wide field in a short time, it did give a clear account of the attitude towards statistical development as well as firm guidance on how research on related administrative and technical problems should be tackled. This work will form one of the most important projects of the Statistics Division of the Secretariat in the future. During 1964 a detailed working paper on the subject will be prepared, consisting essentially of a revision and expansion of the papers considered by the Conference. For this work it will be necessary to seek the assistance of specialized agencies as well as to draw on the experience gained in the countries. As recommended by the Conference, a meeting of statisticians and economic planners will be organized early in 1965 and their principal task will be to revise the working paper which will then be presented to the Fourth Conference of African Statisticians. Another project in this field is the preparation of a manual on household surveys, which will concentrate on the application of survey results.

Data Processing Facilities and Problems

The Conference discussed problems of data processing in relation to expanding statistical activities in most African countries. In view of the fast and far reaching advance in electronic computers and their use for statistical data processing in other regions over the past decade the scope of the discussions was limited to studying the potential role of such equipment in the promotion of statistical development in Africa.

A document on "Prospects for Electronic Data Processing in Africa" (E/CN.14/CAS. 3/12) prepared by the Secretariat summarized the experience of the European Statistical Offices in the use of electronic data-processing equipment over the past five or six years and also described the results of a case-study which the Secretariat had undertaken in Ghana. The aim of this case-study was to collect information about data-processing requirements in the Central Bureau of Statistics as a typical representative of African Statistical Offices, and, based on this information, to investigate whether the workload and general conditions were or would be such in the coming years as

to justify serious consideration being given to the introduction of EDP equipment in lieu of the conventional punch card equipment. The Conference endorsed the view expressed by the Secretariat that the results of the casestudy in Ghana had established a strong case for further detailed and carefully planned studies by the African Statistical Offices to examine the feasibility of introducing EDP for the present as well as the anticipated workload in the future. In this connection the Conference noted with satisfaction that a number of Statistical Offices in the region those in Tunisia, Ghana, Madagascar, Ivory Coast, the UAR, and the Union Douanière Equatorial — had already acquired electronic computers or were in the process of doing so. The Central Statistical Offices in Morocco and the Federation of Rhodesia and Nvasalnd had access to the use of computers installed in other government departments.

In order to overcome difficulties in the recruitment and training of programmers and systems analysts, which were mentioned by some delegations, it was suggested that the ECA should explore the possibility of organizing short-term technical assistance facilities in this field as part of its regional advisory service. The Conference also expressed interest in a study of the problems connected with central and "transferred" data processing by which smaller countries could take advantage of EDP through one or more sub-regional computing centres.

The Conference expressed concern over the delays experienced by many countries in the transfer of data from original documents to punch cards and recommended that a study of this problem should form part of any future investigations by the Secretariat on the subject of data processing.

The Conference supported a recommendation put forward by Ethiopia that the ECA should convene a Working Group of Expents as soon as possible to review the problems of data-processing in African countries in greater detail and to draw up a programme of regional co-operation in this field. It was suggested by some delegations that representatives of manufacturers of data processing equipment be associated with this Working Group. It was also agreed that the countries which had been able to acquire electronic computers should provide the Secretariat with details of equipment, major applications and other relevant information from time to time for circulation to other countries either through the columns of the "Statistical Newsletter" or as documentation for the proposed Working Group.

TRAINING

Statistical Training Centres

The following tables show the enrolment at each of the Statistical Training Centres initiated or assisted by the United Nations in co-operation with various African countries, for the year 1961/62, 1962/63 and 1963/64.

ACHIMOTA CENTRE

		Number of trainees				
Country	1961/62		1962/63	1963/64		
Ghana		15	12	15		
Nigeria		4	8	. 9		
Libenia	,	4	6.	6		
Sierra Leone		2	2	1		
Gambia			1	1		
	Total	25	29	32		

ADDIS ABABA CENTRE

		Number of trainees			
Country	,	1961/62	1962/63	1963/64	
Ethiopia		7	7	7	
UAR		5	3	. 3	
Sudan		4	4	. 8	
Libya		2	3		
Basutoland		1			
Somalia			-	2	
-	Total	19	17	20	

YAOUNDE CENTRE

	Number of trainees			
Country	1961/62	1962/63	1963/64	
Cameroun	6	6	6	
Congo-Leopoldville	4	6	4	
Congo-Brazzaville	4	1	9	
Central African Republic	3	_	1	
Gabon	2	2	1	
Chad	1		1	
Dahomey	1			
Togo		2	-	
Mali	_	1	1	
Niger		1	_	
Total	21	19	22	

ABIDJAN CENTRE

	Number of trainees				
Country		1961/62	1962/63	1963/64	
Ivory Coast		4	10	10	
Mali		6	4		
Upper Volta		3		2	
Togo		2			
Mauritania		1			
Guinea			16	18	
Dahomey		-	2	3	
	Total	16	32	33	

RABAT CENTRE

Country	1961/62		1962/63		1963/64	
•	First year	Second year	First year	Second year	First ¹ year	
Morocco	22	20	10	10	10	
Tunisia	19	17	2	2	2	
Algeria		_	13	13	15	
Guinea			5	3	2	
Cameroun			3	3	4	
Mali		_	1	1		
Congo (Brazzaville)	_	_	_	_	1	
Total	41	37	34	32	34	

¹ Provisional figures.

Total enrollment at these five centres has therefore increased from 122 trainees in the first year to over 170 during the current year. To this should be added, to complete the picture, another 25-30 trainees following instruction at the national statistics training operations established by the Governments of Nigeria and Tanganyika at Lagos and Dar-es-Salaam respectively, with the assistance of training officers provided under the United Nations Technical Assistance Programme. The number of UN fellowships awarded for training at regional centres has been stepped up from about 60 in 1961-62 to over 100 this year.

Commenting on these figures the Executive Secretary, in his opening address to the Third Conference of African Statisticians, reminded the delegates that while considerable progress had been made towards training of statistical personnel, particularly in the last two years, a big gap

still remained to be filled. On the basis of information available to it through country reports the ECA secretariat had estimated that by 1970 African countries would require a minimum of 2,000 additional middle-level and 750 professional statisticians to staff their statistical offices adequately. "To make this increase possible, Mr. Gardiner concluded "substantial increase in training facilities and a general improvement in the status of statisticians would indeed be required".

The Conference endorsed these views and emphasized that in arranging these activities it was necessary to consider future rather than present requirements and it was particularly important to avoid any decline in standards which lead to difficulties at a later stage.

The Conference noted that a number of national and international agencies were active in developing African training facilities in statistics and it stressed the need for co-ordination between these agencies in order to avoid possible duplication and waste of resources.

It was agreed by the Conference that uniformity of curricula and examinations in the principal subjects should be the continued aim for centres operating on an international basis. This was important if the certificates issued were to be accepted by countries as the basis for appointment to government posts. Such standardization did not, however, preclude the possibility of catering for special subregional needs and it was also pointed out that purely national training centres were in a different position in that they could pay much closer attention to local requirements.

There was, accordingly, a general concensus that standards of the existing international centres should not be lowered in order to admit less qualified candidates. The solution was to raise the level of prospective candidates and a number of delegations emphasized that this must be done by means of in-service training. Several countries, including Ivory Coast, Liberia and Libya, already had schemes of this sort in operation or planned, and in some cases UN experts were assisting in the work.

In order to meet future requirements the Conference recommended the expansion of existing training facilities to include as a minimum establishment of the following:-

- (a) One higher level statistical training centre in English for the region;
- (b) One middle-level centre for French speaknig trainees in West Africa;
- (c) One middle-level centre for East Africa;
- (d) assistance to national efforts to prepare staff for admission to middle-level centres either through appointment of training officers or establishment of a mobile training centre.

Preliminary investigations on all the four training projects recommended by the Conference are well under way and these will be implemented as and when the resources permit. Support will be also given to the Statistical Institutes recently established in Cairo and Accra and other similar national institutes offering higher level courses in statistics within the region through award of fellowships to qualified candidates from African countries. A modest start has already been made in this connexion. Nine fellowships were made available to nominees from Libya, Morocco and Sudan in 1963 to enable them to pursue a 2 year diploma course at the Cairo Institute. Twenty such fellowships tenable at Cairo and Accra have been included in the 1964 Regional Technical Assitance Programme.

LIST OF BASIC DOCUMENTS CIRCULATED TO THE THIRD CONFERENCE OF AFRICAN STATISTICIANS

E/CN.14/CAS.3/3

Methods and Problems of African Population Censuses and Surveys, 1955-62

E/CN.14/CAS.3/4

Report of the Meeting of Directors of Middle-level Statistical Training Centres

E/CN.14/CAS.3/5

Basic Labour Statistics

E/CN.14/CAS.3/6

Matters arising from the Twelfth Session of the Statistical Commission

E/CN.14/CAS.3/7

Technical Assistance to Statistical Development in Africa

E/CN.14/CAS.3/8

E/CN.14/CAS.3/8/Corr.1

Methods and Problems of civil registration and vital statistics collection in Africa

E/CN.14/CAS.3/9

Use of the revised list of basic statistics for programming statistical development

E/CN.14/CAS.3/10

E/CN.14/CAS.3/10/Add.1

Matters arising from the fourth and fifth sessions of ECA

E/CN.14/CAS.3/11

Summary of Country Progress Reports

E/CN.14/CAS.3/12

Prospects for Electronic data processing in Africa E/CN.14/CAS.3/14

Relations between planning bodies and statistics

E/CN.14/CAS.3/15

Report on Statistical Training Centres

E/CN.14/CAS.3/16

Report on the Activities of the Statistics Division since the Second Conference of African Statisticians

E/CN.14/CAS.3/17

An Intermediate System of National Accounts for use in Africa — Proposals for future work

E/CN.14/CAS.3/20

Statistical Training facilities available in Africa at the University level

E/CN.14/CAS.3/BP/3

Report of the Technical Meeting on Balance of Payments Statistics

E/CN.14/CAS.3/TRAD/6

Report of the Working Group of Experts on Foreign Trade Statistics

FAO/ECA

Report of the Technical Meeting on Food Consumption surveys

E/CN.14/120

Report of the Seminar on External Trade Statistics

E/CN.14/130

Report of the Working Group on Household Surveys

E/CN.14/173

Report on the Industrial Statistics Seminar

E/CN.14/186

Report of the Seminar on Population problems in Africa

E/CN.14/221

Report of the Working Group on the Adaptation of the United Nations System of National Accounts for use in Africa

E/CN.14/255

Report of the Third Conference of African Statisticians

DEMOGRAPHIC CENTRES

The training course at the North African Demographic Research and Training Centre in Cairo started on 16 November 1963. The training curriculum includes technical demography, substantive demography, elementary mathematics and statistics, sociology and methods of social research, economics, human genetics, physiology of reproduction and family planning. The proposed research programmes for 1963-1965 cover studies on fertility, studies on mortality and morbidity, studies on internal migration and urbanization, assessment of the qualities of the basic data, studies of demographic problems of social and economic development and other studies such as projection of population. Brief outlines of the training and research programmes are given below.

Substantive demography: In this course, the students will be acquainted with the previously accumulated knowledge on demographic research and the fundamental aspects of the world's population problems with special emphasis upon the region, under the following headings: World population and resources; population composition;

population distribution; mortality; fertility; migration; economically active population; morbidity; dynamics of population change; population policies as factors of population change.

Elementary mathematics and statistics: Review of elementary mathematics including calculus; interpolation and graduation; collection and processing of data; frequency tables, measures of central tendency, dispersion, association, regression and correlation, elementary ideas of probability, common probability distribution, large sample theory and tests small sample and exact tests; time series analysis; sample survey techniques; curve fitting, method of least squares.

Sociology and methods of social research: Culture and social organization; attitudes and motivations and their measurements; collection of data sampling methods in social research; analysis and presentation of data; report writing.

Economics: Economic theory and analysis; problems of economic development in less developed countries with

special reference to countries of the region; interrelationships of population growth and economic and social development.

Human genetics: Physical basis of heredity; Mendel's Laws, genetic situation in man; estimation of genetic parameters and tests of genetic hypothesis; analysis of family data; studies of blood groups, genetics and epidemiology.

Physiology of reproduction and family planning: Anatomy and physiology of male and female human reproductive organs; control of reproduction; types and limitations of family planning methods.

Brief outline of research programmes

Both the members of the staff and the full-year trainees working under staff members will take part in research programmes of substantial demographic interest to countries of the region, referring to particular countries or with a regional scope. Priorities in the research projects will be given to programmes which would be of immediate interest and utility to the governments of all countries of the region, will supplement the programmes in the Economic Commission for Africa, and the African Institute for Economic Development, and will be drawn up in consultations with these agencies and in accordance with the recommendations of the United Nations Population Commission and the Economic and Social Council.

For 1963-65, the programme may consist of the following:

Studies on fertility: with special references to differential fertility in relation to education and other socio-economic variables, from case-studies or special tabulation of census data, and of analysis of relation of fertility to level of living.

Studies on mortality and morbidity. Studies on health investments implied in projections of population and of mortality.

Studies on internal migration and urbanization.

Assessment of the quality of the basic data: obtained from censuses, registration, and sample surveys; and estimation of basic demographic measures.

Studies of demographic problems of social and economic development: Inter-relationships between demographic variables and social and economic growth; implications of population trends for investment needs in agricultural and industrial developments and for housing and urban development, and health, medical, educational and welfare facilities.

Other special studies to be worked out in co-operation with the governments of the region and the Economic Commission for Africa and may include: projection of population and its segments (economically active, school enrolment, rural-urban), and housing.

The population Branch of the United Nations and the Secretariat of the Economic Commission for Africa are formulating plans for the Demographic Research and Training Centre at Dakar. Preliminary discussions will be initiated in January 1964 with the Government of Senegal and the African Institute for Economic Development and Planning. It is hoped that full support of the Commission will be given to the establishment and continuing function of this Centre and that the African governments will be encouraged to avail themselves of the facilities that will be available at the Centre, in view of the importance of the analysis of demographic data for purposes of economic and social development on the basis of the 1960 and the coming 1970 rounds of population census and surveys.

SUMMER COURSES

Negotiations have been started to re-establish the summer courses for African university students of economics and statistics which were set up in 1960, the first of which took place in Addis Ababa in the summer of 1961. The aim of the courses will be to draw to Dakar every summer for three months the best undergraduate students of African universities and university college who have just completed the third year of a four-year course or who have completed the second year of a three-year course. The purpose of these summer courses is to attempt to fill in some measure, the gap in higher education in Africa which is caused by the absence of textbooks and other academic materials derived from specifically African experience.

The courses have been announced to all universities and candidates called for. The ECA Secretariat has also announced to all universities its intention to arrange for an annual seminar lasting one week for teachers of economics at African universities. It is hoped that the first of these seminars will take place during the summer of 1964. Universities have been requested to submit applications from teachers, lecturers and tutors who would be available to attend such a seminar. In addition to the above courses, an inquiry is being made as to the possibilities of using the existing training facilities available on the continent and particularly in the institutions of higher learning for the training of African nationals. Among the possibilities in mind would be using the facilities of institutions during periods of the year when normal classes are not in session and also that of developing new and special courses in the regular university curriculum with help from the Economic Commission for Africa. To date, the Secretariat has received promising replies from Congo (Brazzaville), Congo (Leopoldville), Ethiopia, Morocco, Senegal, Sierra Leone, and Uganda. These will be examined together with the replies from other universities and negotiations carried on with interested universities in the hope of establishing additional courses in certain universities in 1964-1965.

NOMENCLATURE OF PERSONNEL IN STATISTICAL DEPARTMENTS

The differences in nomenclature used in classifying training courses and government posts between English

and French speaking countries in Africa led to some difficulty during the discussion on training problems at

the Third Conference of African Statisticians. The Conference therefore established a small committee to clarify this question. The Committee was composed of the delegates from Cameroun, Nigeria and the United Kingdom as well as the UNESCO representatives. The EEC observer also participated. Its report is reproduced below.

"The Group was asked to report on the possibility of finding equivalent descriptions in the English and French languages of statistical personnel at different levels of qualification for the purpose of

- (a) translation; and
- (b) classification in comparable groups for providing total figures of personnel at different levels in the African region.

Exact correspondence was not found to exist between the two systems obtaining in the English speaking and French speaking countries but the equivalents prepared in the attached Table were agreed upon as sufficiently accurate for the purposes set out in the preceding paragraph.

These equivalents, and the descriptions of the three main classes into which they are grouped are based upon the link of work for which the officers concerned are responsible, namely:

- I. Planning the work of the Department.
- II. Execution of the work.
- III. Routine work."

PERSONNEL IN STATISTICS DEPARTMENTS PERSONNEL DES SERVICES DE STATISTIQUE

Classification by level of qualification

I. Professional Statitsicians

- (a) Senior Statisticians
- (b) Statisticians

Notes

- (a) Entrance by promotion from (b)
- (b) Entrance requires a University Honours degree or University post-graduate diploma with adequate statistics, or an equivalent qualification in statistics (e.g. Associateship at Honours level of the Institute of Statisticians in the U.K.). Where the degree course covers only elementary statistics, entry would normally be of II (a) below. Post-graduate qualifications in statistics may qualify the candidate for experience credit or enhanced entry point in Statisticians' scale, including promotion to (a).

II. Executive class

- (a) Higher Statistical Officers and Statistical Officers (or equivalent grades in other countries).
- (b) Assistant Statistical Officers (or equivalent grade in other countries).

Notes

- (a) Entry is by promotion from (b), or requires a University Pass Degree with statistics or equivalent qualification (e.g. Associateship at Pass level of the Institute of Statisticians in the UK). Higher posts by promotion only.
- (b) Entry requires G.C.E. at a level or equivalent (e.g. Intermediate Examination of the Institute of Statisticians in the UK). In some countries these grades are linked to somewhat lower qualifications as required by the general grading structure of the local civil services.

III. Clerical class

Note

Entry requires the G.C.E. at 0 level.

Classification d'après le iniveau de qualifications1

I. Personnel de conception

- (a) Ingénieurs statisticiens-économistes
- (b) Ingénieurs des travaux statistiques

Notes

- (a) Niveau exigé pour se présenter au concours d'entrée: 2 à 4 ans d'études universitaires en mathématiques ou en sciences économiques. Entrée sur titres avec licence en sciences économiques ou licence en mathématiques. Trois années d'études avec examens à la fin de chaque année, la troisième année étant une année de spécialisation par exemple: économétrie, sondage, planification... Diplôme "d'Ingénieur statisticien économiste" correspondant aux diplômes universitaires d'études supérieures (doctorat).
- (b) Diplôme exigé: deuxième partie du baccalauréat en mathématiques élémentaires plus un concours d'entrée. Deux années d'études avec examen à la fin de chaque année. Diplôme d'ingénieur des travaux statistiques correspondant administrativement dans le cadre technique de la fonction publique au niveau d'une licence universitaire.

II. Personnel d'éxécution

- (a) Adjoints techniques.
- (b) Agents techniques.

Notes

- (a) Niveau du baccalauréat première partie avec concours. Une année d'études. Diplôme d'adjoint technique de la statistique.
- (b) Brevet élémentaire exigé plus un concours d'entrée. Une année d'études. Diplôme d'agent technique de la statistique.

III. Commis statistiques

Note

Niveau de recrutement: école primaire.

¹ La même formation est donnée dans le Rwanda, le Burundi, le Congo (Léopoldville) et la Somalie, à considérer l'équiva lence des diplômes d'études générales délivrés dans ces pays et dans les pays anciennement administrés par la France.

Meeting of ECA/FAO on Food Consumption Surveys

In response to a resolution adopted by the Tenth Session of the FAO Conference, the technical meeting on Food Consumption Surveys, jointly convened by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA), took place in Rabat, Morocco, from 17 to 25 July 1963, Experts from 17 countries attended the meeting.

Mr. Bargash, Adjoint du Directeur de la Banque du Maroc, chargé de Mission à la Présidence du Conseil, welcomed the meeting on behalf of the Moroccan Government. Mr. C.P.G.J. Smit (FAO) addressed the meeting on behalf of the Director-General of FAO and Mr. B. El-Tawil (ECA) on behalf of the Executive Secretary of ECA. Mr. Mouhammed Benjelloun (Morocco) was elected chairman and Dr. A. Dziri (Tunisia) and Mr. E.N. Omaboe (Ghana) were elected vice-chairmen.

Two papers were submitted for discussion: The FAO Draft Programme for Food Consumption Surveys, and a paper, on the relation between food consumption surveys and other inquiries, by the ECA Secretariat. The experts reviewed the experiences gained in conducting food consumption surveys in various countries and described their plans for future work in this Field. The general discussion indicated an accumulation of experience in the recording of food consumption in Africa, and a variety of methods of approach, particularly in respect of sizes of surveys carried out. The principal objectives of food consumption surveys were discussed in detail.

Because statistical resources in most African countries were limited and field organizations for the collection of statistical data have yet to be developed, the meeting noted the merits of associating closely consumption surveys, whenever appropriate, with household surveys of a more general economic nature. Three techniques were discussed as possible methods for the collection of food consumption data: interviewing, food accounts and the actual measurement of food. The sampling techniques, the meeting noted, was the subject of a detailed handbook on the methods of conducting food consumption surveys being prepared by FAO.

Other items discussed included the household characteristics relevant to food consumption surveys, the proposed items on Food Consumption, the time reference, the uses of Food Consumption Surveys and International Assistance in this field.

The report of the meeting was circulated to participants at the Third Conference of African Statisticians.

The Technical Meeting on Balance of Payments Statistics

The Technical Meeting on Balance of Payments Statistics, convened jointly by the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA), took place in Rabat, Morocco, from 31 July to 9 August 1963. Balance of payments technicians from 13 African countries and 3 other experts attended the meeting. The Report of the Group was submitted to the Third Conference of African Statisticians as document (E/CN. 14/CAS.3/BP/3).

Mr. M. Benjelloun (Morocco) was elected Chairman, and Messrs J. Amethei (Ivory Coast) and J.H. Frimpong-Ansah (Ghana) Vice-Chairmen. The discussions were based on a special paper prepared by the Balance of Pay-

ments Division of IMF, entitled "Compilation of the Balance of Payments".

Statements from participants described the status of balance of payments statistics in their respective countries. The concepts and contents of the balance of payments were reviewed. Particular attention was paid to the definitions and treatment of several items including residence, merchandise trade, freight and insurance on international shipments, travel, foreign aid, private and government transfer payments, and direct investment capital. The meeting stressed the usefulness of special questionnaires in collection of basic data on a variety of international transactions from business enterprises, government agencies and the general public. It noted that the use of exchange control records to compile balance of payments estimates was of particular interest to countries of the "Franc Zone".

Participants emphasized the need for special training in view of the Fund requirements, and recommended consequently that the Fund should expand its programme of Technical assistance and establish a short concentrated training course confined mainly to balance of payments methodology and practice.

Foreign Trade Statistics

In response to a recommendation by the Seminar on External Trade Statistics held in 1961, a working group of experts met in Addis Ababa from 25 to 27 September 1963 in order to arrive at recommendations for the improvement of the methods of estimating foreign trade indices and to find ways of increasing the comparability of quantum units used in foreign trade statistics.

The Executive Secretary of ECA, Mr. R.K.A. Gardiner, in his inaugural speech emphasized that the improvement of foreign trade statistics in Africa is a time-consuming process and cannot be considered the responsibility of the ECA secretariat alone. In order to make any progress, cooperation between customs authorities and national statistical offices is needed as well as cooperation with the ECA secretariat. Mr. M. Kanoun (Tunisia) was elected chairman and Mr. J.E. Tandoh (Ghana), vice-chairman. Three working papers were presented by the secretariat, namely "Recent activities of the ECA secretariat in external trade statistics" (E/CN.14/CAS.3/TRAD/2/Rev.1), "Note on external trade index construction in African countries" (E/CN.14/CAS.3/TRAD/4) and "Quantum units in external trade statistics of African countries" (E/CN.14/CAS.3/TRAD/3).

In its report, the group approved, on the whole, the foreign trade publications of ECA. A more exact specification of the coverage of intra-African trade flows was, however, requested. It was the general feeling of the group that the ECA secretariat in its trade publications should concern itself only with trade statistics as reported by the countries and should not include estimates of smuggling or of trade between countries which are members of a customs union.

After reviewing the advantages and disadvantages of various formulae for external trade indices, the group agreed to recommend, for the sake of simplicity, the Laspeyres formula for quantum indices and the Paasche formula for unit value indices. It was also agreed that it would be preferable first to compute the quantum index and then to derive the unit value index from the value and quantum indices.

It was noted that it was difficult to establish intra-

African trade matrices even in value terms and that it was practically impossible in quantity terms. However, quantity matrices would have to be considered in making projections of foreign trade. The group also unanimously recommended the adoption of the metric system by all African countries in their foreign trade statistics.

The report of the working group as well as the report of the 1961 Seminar were both discussed by the Third Conference of African Statisticians. The Conference dealt with the various problems under three main headings.

- (a) The adoption of the SITCrevised as a nomenclature for foreign trade statistics of African countries was discussed. Conversion from BTN to SITC will be made easier in the near future, since the Statistical Office of the United Nations is now preparing a detailed index to SITC revised, which will be published before the end of 1964.
- (b) The problems connected with the reporting of basic trade data by national statistical offices to international organizations were taken up. It was agreed that the best arrangement would be that the newly established "International Trade Centre" attached to the Statistical Office of the United Nations collect basic trade data from all countries, process them and supply the information to the various consumers, including the regional Commissions. African countries which are associated with the European Economic Community will continue to send their data to the EEC which will forward them to the Centre.
- (c) It was pointed out that it would be difficult for all African countries to adopt 1958 as the base period for their index numbers of external trade, as recommended by the United Nations. The Conference also considered that whenever the index coverage is low it is preferable to start with an independent calculation of the unit value index and derive the quantum index from the value and unit value indices.

Working Group on Problems of Estimating Capital Formation

A group of experts from a number of African countries met in Addis Ababa from 9 to 16 October 1963 in order to discuss problems of estimating capital formation, with special reference to African conditions. Mr. T.A. Boye (Ghana) was elected chairman of the meeting and M. Benjelloun (Morocco), vice Chairman. As a back-ground for its discussions, the working group had before it a secretariat document entitled "Some problems of estimating capital formation, with special reference to African countries" (E/CN.14/CAS.4/CF/3) and a number of country papers.

After having discussed in considerable detail both conceptual problems and problems of estimation, the working group agreed on a number of recommendations. The most important of these were:

- (a) Greater stress should be put on the improvement of the quality of the estimates than on the development of elaborate cross-classifications, at the present stage.
- (b) The commodity flow method is considered the most applicable method of estimating capital formation in Africa at the present stage of statistical development.
- (c) However, this method has serious limitations, particularly since it does not make possible a break-down of capital formation by industrial use. A supplementary, direct method of estimating capital formation from the expenditure side should therefore be introduced as soon as possible.
- (d) Except as specially needed for some industries for planning purposes, depreciation estimates should not be made at the present stage.
- (e) In publishing their estimates, countries should give as detailed a description of the methods of estimation as possible, and indicate the degree of reliability of the estimates.
- (f) In order to improve estimates made by the commodity flow method, the countries should undertake a number of special surveys: of the flow of goods through commercial channels, of trade margins, of the cost structure of various building and construction projects and of capital formation in the rural household sector.

Correction

The appointment of Dr. Martinus Pawel was announced in the Statistical Newsletter No. 10 under the heading "WHO Statistician for Africa".

The following correction has been received from Dr. Hugh B.L. Russell, WHO Representative for Ethiopia and WHO Liaison Officer with ECA:

"In order to avoid misunderstanding, may I explain that Dr. Pawel is Regional Adviser in Vital and Health Statistics for WHO's African Regional Office in Brazzaville. This Office covers Africa south of the Sahara and West Africa. Morocco and Algeria are covered by the WHO's European Regional Office; Tunisia, Libya, Egypt (UAR), Sudan, Ethiopia and Somalia by WHO's Eastern Mediterranean Regional Office

Thus, although the African Regional Office covers a large part of Africa, it does not cover it all".

LIST OF CENTRAL STATISTICAL OFFICES IN AFRICA

The following information was compiled from data supplied by delegates to the Third Conference of African Statisticians and from national statistical publications. It is being published for general circulation at the request of delegates to the Conference. Additions, deletions or amendments to this list may be communicated to the Chief, Statistics Division, Economic Commission for Africa. — P.O. Box 3001, Addis Ababa,

Country Organization	Title of CSO	Postal Address Cable Address Telephone Number	Name and title of head
1. Algeria	Présidence du Conseil, Direction Générale du Plan et des Etudes Economiques	12 rue Bab-Azoun, Alger.	Mr. A. Oubouzar, Sous-Directeur des Statistiques
2. Angola	Dirreccao provincial dos Servicos de Economia e Estatistica Geral Reparticao de Estatistica Geral	C.P. no 1215, Luanda, Angola "ESTATISTICA" Tel.: 3362	Dr. Jorge Eduardo de Costa, O Director dos Servicos de Eco- nomia e Estatistica Geral
3. Basutoland ¹	Statistics Section, Agricultural Department ¹	P.O. Box 24, Maseru, Basutoland	Mr. C.M.H, Morojele, Statistician
4. Burundi ²	Service de Statistiques et d'Etu- des Economiques, Banque d'E- mission du Rwanda et du Bu- rundi	B.P. 705, Usumbura, Burundi BANKEMIRUB Tel.: 2442-2443 Telex 13	Mr. E. Rosenheim, Conseiller
5. Cameroun	Ministère de l'Economie Na- tionale, (a) Division des Etudes Economiques de la Statistique et de la mécanographie. (b) Service de Statistique	B.P. 660, Yaounde MINECO Tel.: 2070, 2071, 2072	 (a) Mr. Antoine Essome Chef de la Division (b) Mr. B. Biyong Chef du Service de Statistique
6. Central African Rep.	Service National de la Statistique	B.P. 954, Bangui	Mr. M. Castelli Chef du Service
7. Chad	Service de la Statistique Générale le Commissariat Général du Plan	B.P. 453, Fort Lamy	Mr. B. Novelle Chef du Service
8. Congo (Brazzaville)	Service national de la statistique des études démographiques et économiques	B.P. 2031, Brazzaville, Tel.: 2121 — Ext. 302, 305	Mr. Van den Reysen, Directeur
9. Congo (Léopoldville)	Direction de la statistique	Ministère du Plan et de la Co- ordination Economique, B.P. 20 Leokalina, Léopoldville. Tel.: 2250 or 2821	Mr. Adolphe Nzeza, Directeur
10. Dahomey	Service des Statistiques Généra- les. Direction des Affaires Eco- nomiques.	Ministère du Commerce de l'Eco- nomie et du Tourisme, B.P. 673, Cotonou.	Mr. Darboux Chef du Service
11. East Africa ³	The East African Statistical Department ³	B.P. 30462, Nairobi, Kenya "Statistics" Tel.: 26411	Mr. A.G.T, Carter, Acting Director
12. Ethiopia	Central Statistical Office	Prime Minister's Office, P.O. Box 1143, Addis Ababa Tel.: 15214	
13. Gabon	Service National de la Statisti- que	Commissariat au Plan B.P. 179, Libreville	M. J. Arnaud Chef du Service
14. Gambia ⁴	-	The Principal Secretary, The Premier's Office, Bathurst, Gambia.	Ato Habtu Eshete Assistant Minister
15. Ghana	Central Bureau of Statistics	Office of the President, P.O. Box 1098, Accra "GHANASTATS, ACCRA" Tel.: 64318-9	Mr. E.N. Omaboe Government Statistician
16. Guinea	Service de la Statistique Générale et de la Mécanographie	B.P. 221, Conakry	Mr. T. Curtiss Chef du Service
17. Ivory Coast	Service de la Statistique	B.P. 222, Abidjan Tel.: 3518	Mr. Michaud Chef du Service
18. Kenya ³	Economics and Statistics Division	Ministry of Finance and Eco- nomic Planning, P.O. Box 30266, Nairobi "CENSUS" - Nairobi Tel.: 24261 - 72	Mr. P.M. Rees, Director
19. Liberia	Bureau of Statistics	National Planning Agency, Executive Mansion, P.O. Box 567, Monrovia. "STATISTICS" Tel.: 567	Mr. Henry W. Yaidoo, Director
20. Libya	Statistics and Census Department	Ministry of National Economy, Tripoli Tel.: 30383	Mr. Ahmed Felfal, Director-General

LIST OF CENTRAL STATISTICAL OFFICES IN AFRICA (Cont.)

Country Organization	Title of CSO	Postal Address Cable Address Telephone Number	Name and title of head
21. Madagascar	Service des Statistiques et des études socio-économiques	B.P. 485, Tananarive Tel.: 34-11	Mr. Arthur L.M. Mullier Chef du Service
22. Mali	Division de la Statistique Géné- rale et de la comptabilité Na- tionale	Ministère du Plan et de l'Eco- nomie Bamako - Koulouba Tel.: 22-44	M. Dao Zana, Directeur, Service de la Statistique
23. Mauritania	Service de la Statistique	Ministère du Plan des Domaines de l'Habitat et du Tourisme B.P. 102, Nouakchott, Mauritania	
24. Mauritius	Central Statistical Office	Port Louis, Mauritius	Director
25. Morocco	Service Central des Statistiques	Présidence du Conseil, B.P. 178, Rabat	Mr. Mohammed Benjelloun Chef du Service
26. Mozambique	Direccao dos Servicos de Economia e Estatistica Geral. Reparticao de Estatistica Geral	C.P. 493, Lourenco, Marques, Mozambique	
27. Niger	Service des Statistiques	Commissariat Général au Plan, Niamey, Niger	Mr. H. Viennet, Chef du Service
28. Nigeria	Federal Office of Statistics	Ministry of Economic Develop- ment, Lagos, Nigeria "STATS"	Mr. B. Ramamurti, Chief Statistician
29. Rhodesia and Nyasaland Fed. of	Central Statistical Office	Tel.: 21313 Federal Ministry of Economic Affairs P.O. Box 8063, Causeway, Salisbury "GOVSTAT"	Mr. C.A.L, Myburgh, Director of Census and Statistics
16	general and the second of the second	Tel.: 26681	
30. Rwanda ⁵ 31. Senegal	Service de la Statistique et de la Mécanographie	Ministère des Finances et des Affaires Economiques, B.P. 116, Dakar Tel.: 21301, Ext. 156	Mr. L. Verriere Chef du Service
32. Sierra Leone	Central Statistical Office	Ministry of Finance, Tower Hill, Freetown.	S.B. Daramy, Asst. Director (Financial Secretary)
33. Somalia	Servizio di Statistica	Mogadiscio	Mr. Alberto Angelucci
34. Sudan	Department of Statistics	P.O. Box 700, Khartoum "STATISTICS"	Mr. A.M. Mursi, Director
35. Tanganyika ³	Statistics Division	The Treasury, P.O. Box 796, Dar-es-Salaam "TREASURY"	Mr. D. Upton, Government Statistician
36. Togo Republic	Service de la Statistique	Ministère des Finances et des Affaires Economiques, B.P. 118, Lomé	Mr. A. Ameyou, Chef du Service de la Statistiqu Générale du Togo.
37. Tunisia	Service des Statistiques	Directeur de la Coordination Secrétariat d'Etat au Plan et aux Finances, B.P. 65, Tunis	Mr. S. Bahroun, Sous-Directeur des Etudes et la Programmation
38. Uganda ³	Economic Planning and Statistics Division	Ministry of Economic Affairs, P.O. Box 13, Entebbe "ECSTATIC" Tel.: 833/837 (5 lines)	Mr. I.K. Kabanda, Deputy Government Statisticio
39. United Arab Rep.	Department of Statistics	15 Mansour Street, Cairo	General Gamal Askar Director General
40. Upper Volta	Direction de la Statistique et des Etudes Economique	Ministère de l'Economie Natio- nale, B.P. 374, Ouagadougou	Mr. Georges Sanogoh, Directeur
41. U.D.E.	Section Statistique du Secrétariat permanent de la Conférence des Chefs d'Etat de l'Afrique Equa- toriale	B.P. 245, Brazzaville "SEGECOPREMI", Brazz. Tel.: 2087 (7 hr a 13 hr)	Mr. Jean Hossenlopp Chef de Service
42. O.A.M.C.E.	Centre Statistique	B.P. 437, Yaounde, Cameroun	Mile C. Vernotte
43. Zanzibar & Pemba ³	1.5		

¹ There is no central statistical agency.

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² Statistical Services are in the process of reorganization.

³ The East African Statistical Department is responsible for the trade statistics of Kenya, Tanganyika, Uganda, and Zanzibar and for all statistical matters relating to Zanzibar.

⁴ There is no central statistical office. It is proposed to establish a statistical unit in 1966 in the Prime Minister's Office.

⁵ Rwanda is served by the statistical services of Burundi. (See footnote 2).