

**REPORT OF THE**

Held at Algiers, Algeria  
17 September - 3 October 1970

**SIXTH FAO REGIONAL CONFERENCE  
FOR AFRICA**



**FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS**

**REPORT**  
  
**of the**  
  
**SIXTH FAO REGIONAL CONFERENCE**  
  
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**FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS**

**Rome, 1970**

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## I. INTRODUCTION

### Organization of the Conference

1. At the kind invitation of the Democratic People's Republic of Algeria, the Sixth FAO Regional Conference for Africa was held at the Palais des Nations, Club des Pins, Staoueli, Algiers, from 17 September to 3 October 1970. The plenary sessions of the Conference were preceded by meetings of Technical Committees which met from 17 to 24 September 1970.

The following Member Countries were represented:

Algeria	Ghana	Nigeria
Botswana	Guinea	Senegal
Burundi	Ivory Coast	Sierra Leone
Cameroun	Kenya	Sudan
Central African Republic	Lesotho	Tanzania
Chad	Liberia	Togo
Congo (Brazzaville)	Madagascar	Tunisia
Congo (Kinshasa)	Mali	Uganda
Dahomey	Mauritania	Upper Volta
Ethiopia	Mauritius	Zambia
France	Morocco	

2. Representatives of the United Nations family participating were:

i. United Nations Operating Agencies:

United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)

United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

World Food Programme (WFP)

ii. United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (ECA)

iii. Specialized Agencies:

International Labour Organization (ILO)

iv. Intergovernmental Organizations:

Common Afro-Malagasy Organization (OCAM)

African Development Bank (ADB)

and the following were represented by Observers:

Canada

United Kingdom

Netherlands

United States of America

3. The list of Delegates and Observers is contained in Appendix III of this report.

### Inaugural Ceremony

4. His Excellency Mr. Tayebi Mohamed Bel Hadj, Member of the Revolutionary Council and Minister of Agriculture and Agrarian Reform of Algeria, was introduced by the Director-General and invited to give the inaugural address.

5. His Excellency the Minister, in his inaugural speech, welcomed all delegates and observers to the Sixth Regional Conference on behalf of the President, the Government and the People of Algeria. He exhorted the Conference to profit from the experiences of the past Development Decade and, in spite of the numerous problems confronting developing countries, that they endeavour relentlessly to suggest practical solutions to accelerate the pace of development and narrow the economic and technological gap separating developed and developing countries. He alluded to various problems of world trade which required long term solutions, the great need in Africa for the diversification of agriculture from the traditional practices of monoculture, and the need to stabilize markets through improved storage systems.

6. Many benefits are to be derived from coordinated programmes and exchange of experiences between countries of the Region by joint planning and based upon a comprehensive inventory of existing potential, he suggested. Most countries of the Region share problems characterized by infant mal-nutrition, under-employment in the face of rapid population increase, limited but under-utilized arable land often being further reduced through soil-erosion, coupled with great shortage of trained personnel to cope with the variety of development problems. With such a formidable task, developing countries must mobilize all available resources and could only but profit from mutual co-operation in efforts for their solution. In this regard, he felt, FAO was to be particularly commended, for its efforts in stimulating agricultural development, and, with its re-organization, results are already becoming evident.

7. The Minister further indicated the progress made in Algeria within FAO's five areas of concentration and the importance to their national planning of the objectives indicated through the Indicative World Plan. Nevertheless, he felt there were questions of the reconciling of national interests with exigencies of international markets and of the economies not only of the developing but of developed countries in regard to the IWP.

8. The Minister indicated several specially intensive action areas being undertaken in Algeria which had contributed to a veritable agricultural revolution for the betterment of rural life, and through which they were involved in a battle for development to ensure that food production must continue to outpace population increase while intensive production and rapid modernization of agricultural practices are established. He indicated that results had so far given much cause for hopefulness. However, despite the great efforts made by International Organizations such as FAO, the Minister urged that progress essentially depended on the will and capacity of the countries themselves.

9. The Minister concluded by emphasizing that 80% of Africa's population lived through agriculture and this figure will remain valid for several years. This alone he attested has reaffirmed the importance of the work of the Conference and of FAO in Africa. He wished the Conference every success in its deliberations.

10. On behalf of FAO and all delegates and observers the Director-General expressed his sincere thanks to H.E. the Minister for this stimulating and inspiring address.

#### Election of Chairman and Vice-Chairmen

11. The Conference unanimously elected, at its first working session,

the Honourable Minister of Agriculture and Agrarian Reform of Algeria, Mr. Tayebi Mohamed Bel Hadj as its Chairman. The Chairman, in accepting the nomination, expressed his thanks for the honour conferred on him and through him to his country and sought the co-operation of all delegations to enable him to accomplish the important duty of effectively conducting the Conference's deliberations.

12. The Conference then proceeded to elect as Vice-Chairmen His Excellency Mr N.S. Maseribane, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Agriculture, Lesotho ; His Excellency Mr Habib Thiam, Minister of Rural Development, Senegal; and His Excellency Dr. Kwame Safo-Adu, Minister of Agriculture, Ghana.

#### Adoption of the Agenda

13. The Conference next proceeded to consider its agenda and timetable which were adopted. The agenda is indicated in Appendix VI.

#### The late President of the United Arab Republic Djamal Abdel Nasser

14. The Chairman officially announced the death on 28 September 1970 of President Nasser of the United Arab Republic. The Conference observed a minute of silence in tribute to his memory, moved a formal resolution of sympathy and adjourned for half a day. A telegram of condolence was sent on behalf of the Conference by the Chairman, to the Government and People of the United Arab Republic.

## II. SUMMARY OF PROCEEDINGS

### Situation and Prospects of Food and Agriculture in Africa in relation to FAO's work

#### Opening Statement by the Director-General

15. The Director-General Mr. Boerma, expressing his pleasure at meeting in a country which has made tremendous agricultural efforts in recent years, warmly thanked the Algerian Government for the splendid Conference facilities available.

16. By having this Regional Conference in advance of the autumn session of the Council he explained, African Member States were making their voices heard earlier in shaping of FAO policy. The Conference afforded the opportunity to focus on Regional problems as the basis for a coherent policy, yet permitting the Region to keep the world picture in perspective. Mr. Boerma explained with FAO's own technical competence, its intergovernmental status and the support from its member countries placed it in a unique position to assist Member States effectively in their endeavour to develop the agricultural sector.

17. The Director-General then explained Medium-Term Programmes which contained proposals to the end of 1975 and were among the documents of the Conference. He indicated that FAO's new strategy based on the five areas of concentration proved effective for Medium-Term Programming and showed that the strategy had a real validity as a means of tackling agricultural development problems. The Medium-Term Programme he explained dealt, among other things, with such problems as under-employment and unemployment, conservation of the environment and research. He remarked that the first of these, if not tackled effectively could lead to the breakdown of whole societies since rural employment was essential in the mobilization of human resources. He stressed the importance of the UN Conference to be held in Stockholm in 1972 on the Human Environment and invited delegations to consider the preparation of national reports which could provide countries with the opportunity to identify their own environmental problems. Mr. Boerma indicated the importance of research in this programme with the introduction of new technology such as remote sensing from spacecraft in the processes of agricultural development. Similar ecological conditions led naturally to the possibility of regional research activities. He therefore asked Regional Conferences to identify clearly the major problems for further research.

18. The Director-General explained FAO's system of programme budgeting resulting in greater attention to its programme rather than Divisional expenditures and enabling evaluation of FAO's work and the validity of its objectives in terms of programmes. Mr. Boerma also stressed other important aspects of Medium-Term programme such as man-power needs, intra-regional co-operation and livestock development.

19. The Director-General next commented on the Indicative World Plan or Perspective Study of World Agricultural Development which aimed to provide a world-wide framework for international agricultural development planning. All countries generally supported it and desired its improvement, up-dating of the base period, broadening the geographical coverage to the whole world, and the examination of the impact of changes in income distribution, social needs, trade policies and alternative economic

opportunities for production. This new work involved general goals of the Second Development Decade in close contact with national authorities responsible for the planning of agricultural policies.

20. The Director-General next commented on the Pearson and Jackson Reports indicating FAO's support for the former's philosophy and analysis of the present crisis in development. He expressed the hope that the rich countries of the world would endeavour to meet the targets indicated in that report particularly in the matters of aid and trade. Regarding the capacity study of the UN development system by Sir Robert Jackson, Mr. Boerma agreed that there were very many valuable suggestions which FAO felt should improve upon the system but he laid emphasis on the constructive elements of the proposals. FAO recognized the validity of UNDP leadership but thought in terms of partnership under one flag when considering the relation between UNDP and UN specialized agencies. FAO, he explained, fully endorsed country programming, had already made efforts to increase the efficiency of field work, and also accepted the process of joint identification of projects by Governments and the UNDP. In this regard, he explained FAO's readiness to be involved through its Country Representatives in participating in national development plans and programming matters. FAO Regional staff can also assist by injecting their own experience in specific technical and economic problems at the country level, related to the regional and sub-regional context.

21. Referring to the Second World Food Congress, the Director-General indicated that more than 1,800 persons participating in their individual capacities, permitted a freer and franker exchange of views than customarily prevailed at international meetings. This, he indicated, had made FAO more directly aware of the currents of opinion circulating among some of the more enlightened sectors of public opinion, the emphasis placed on humanization of the development process, and the setting of problems of food and agriculture squarely in terms of overall development though directly related to the simple needs and feelings of human beings who demanded the opportunity to participate in framing their own future. The Congress, he stated, stressed that aid for development process be directed towards real specific needs of local populations fashioned within their own cultural patterns; that aid properly applied without condescension would benefit, in the long run, donors and recipients alike; not ignoring the principle of self-help and the spirit of mutual regard. Mr. Boerma remarked that the Congress provided a new and extremely stimulating form of dialogue, an important contribution by youth which though basically constructive was often very critical in tone yet reflecting the genuine concern for the world's underprivileged which clearly motivated and inspired them.

22. The Director-General then reviewed overall agricultural production in the Region which, while showing no increase in 1969, over the 1968 situation, had showed widely varying changes in the different sub-regions. While there was reduced cereal production in many countries with consequent increased imports to the Region, there were high earnings from larger exports of coffee and cocoa. Mr. Boerma noted the vital importance for this Region in agricultural development plans of sound nutrition policies essential as they are for health, adequate working capacity, a meaningful pattern of life and family well-being.

23. He further referred to the activities of investments for modernizing agriculture and the need for considerable pioneering work in pre-investment studies with the careful identification and sound formulation of investment projects and programmes. He assured member countries of FAO's complete



assistance through the FAO/IBRD Co-operative Programme, as well as activities of the African Development Bank and the European Development Fund.

24. Mr. Boerma next intimated his proposal that the Regional Representative should be graded as Assistant Director-General. The Regional Office, he explained, had been strengthened in resources and authority by integrating technical specialists under the direct guidance and responsibility of the Regional Representative, while consultant funds further increased the effectiveness of the office in its services to member countries. He further intimated that 12 Country Representatives and Senior Agricultural Advisers had been appointed in African countries. He however invited developing countries to improve contact with Headquarters by having Permanent Representatives to FAO in Rome who could follow work of FAO closely and consistently.

25. Mr. Boerma then discussed the constitutional status of Regional Conferences in light of the recognition accorded them by the 15th Session of the Conference. The closer co-operation with all bodies participating in Africa's agricultural development including OAU, ECA and African Development Bank were also underlined. The four sub-regional studies jointly undertaken by FAO and ECA were specifically mentioned. Another indication of close collaboration Mr. Boerma cited was the West African Rice Development Association (WARDA) which offered an unprecedented example of the kind of action designed to meet the needs of a number of countries with regard to a specific commodity. FAO prepared the convention and organized the technical discussions. He emphasized his conviction that WARDA held great promise for the future, in itself and by way of example, for similar regional co-operative programmes especially in livestock development.

26. The Director-General referred to the need for further stimulating intra-regional trade between countries of the Region in view of the difficulties frequently experienced on international commodity markets.

27. The Director-General concluded that the general state of agricultural development in Africa provided grounds for encouragement yet indicated tremendous dangers ahead. The challenges facing the world in the 1970's would be greater than ever before and only concerted and unremitting efforts by governments and individual people could overcome these challenges through unity of action in this Region, and ultimately the world as a whole.

#### Statement by the Executive Secretary of ECA

28. The Executive Secretary of ECA expressed his pleasure at ECA being associated as partners in the work of the Regional Conference to make an impact on challenging and intractable problems of agricultural development in the Region. He urged a new look at the "systems" comprising the development process, whether political, social, economic or human, together with the existing structures of the development apparatus, so as to make them more effective.

29. He remarked that international agencies are now working more closely at the conceptual and administrative levels on a single UN programme for agriculture in Africa, as can be seen from the joint attack by FAO, ILO and UNESCO on the problem of agricultural education and training at the World Conference in Denmark. He urged the co-operation of international agencies and foundations to undertake various types of

research projects, citing as evidence of constructive action the Rockefeller Foundation regional research centre in Nigeria; the Association for the Advancement of African Agricultural Science, and the livestock and meat programmes for the OCAM and "Entente" States.

30. Expressing his full endorsement of FAO's five areas of concentration, he stressed that the race between food and population can only be won through the experience that could be brought to bear by all concerned as partners and beneficiaries. He mentioned ECA's particular interest in related fields such as fertilizer plants, small-scale industries, farm-to-market road network and other services which complement the overall agricultural strategy.

31. The vigorous establishment of the International Institute of Tropical Agriculture, he stated, gave much promise for the break-through comparable to the "green revolution" of Asia, despite the difficulties which bedeviled development in Africa. The decision to resuscitate INEAC in the Congo was far reaching, while the work of the EAFRO on wheat and maize had already begun to show results in Kenya, with equal promise of success in the fields of livestock, he indicated. Particular satisfaction was expressed by the Executive Secretary in the effectual collaboration of ECA, FAO, UNDP, and the constructive influence of donor and participating countries in the creation of the West African Rice Development Association (WARDA) whose aim was adequate rice production for that area.

32. He reviewed the livestock situation with regard to intra-regional trade in the West African sub-region where the bulk of livestock was produced in the savannah zone between Mauritania and Nigeria and resulted in considerable trade between the land-locked savannah countries and the coastal zone. He indicated that the most critical constraint to increased trade was inadequate and costly transport resulting in the high prices of African animal products when compared with overseas imported products available to the coastal countries. The livestock industry he considered as pivotal to economic development, though hampered in many areas of Africa by the problem of the tse-tse fly scourge, which when controlled, would permit the development of large unexploited areas. In North Africa, he indicated, the situation also called for an effective action programme for livestock development.

33. He drew the attention of the Conference to the promotion of trade and said that intra-African trade was 4.5 % of the total overseas trade, while in general, the percentage of intra-African trade was greatest in respect to the relatively less developed countries.

34. Concerning human resources development, he indicated that lack of trained personnel in Africa at the professional level, the middle grades and supporting trades was a very serious problem and perhaps African students were not taking the fullest advantage of all available facilities. The Executive Secretary emphasized that more rapid growth of small and medium-size labour intensive enterprises could play the role of achieving reasonable rates of growth in non-farm employment so as to combat the intractable structural problem of rural unemployment and underemployment.

35. He exhorted the countries of the Region to consider most carefully the resolutions that were passed, the reciprocal responsibility for subsequent action which rested with individual countries and the need to assess the effectiveness of past resolutions. He proposed that a standard reporting system be established so as to enable countries to advise each other and the Regional Conference on action they had taken. He submitted these ideas for the consideration of the Conference and wished it every success.

Statement by the Regional Representative

36. The Regional Representative reviewed the situation of agriculture in the Region during the past two years, indicating how vulnerable Africa's agriculture has remained exposed to pests, diseases and unreliable export markets. He indicated that in general, agricultural output had been rather stationary since 1967 with advances in some countries offset by unfavourable results elsewhere. The most severe setbacks were experienced with food crops while poultry production had shown striking developments. Collective awareness of Governments was leading to the implementation of agreements for co-operation in regional and sub-regional projects.

37. He referred to the need to provide the national fisheries industries with required equipment and technologies and the significant advances in forestry consequent upon strong demand for tropical woods in export markets. Expansion of internal trade, he noted, was still handicapped by inadequate infrastructure while export markets had developed owing to favourable prices for certain commodities. Thus intra-regional trade in agricultural commodities accounted for less than 7% of the total agricultural trade.

38. FAO has endeavoured to stimulate multi-national action in rural development within the five areas of concentration and while progress was satisfactory on the whole, there were problems concerning the recruitment of experts, delays in supplies, difficulties in Government's counterpart obligations and the training of personnel. He indicated that several important sectors such as nutrition education had not been developed as much as desirable. He commended the close co-operation which resulted in establishing the West African Rice Development Association (WARDA) with Monrovia designated as its Headquarters, and membership including all 14 members of the sub-region. WARDA had resulted from the team work of FAO, UNDP, ECA and a number of donor countries, he affirmed.

39. Similar successful teamwork was evident, he stated in the series of studies covering North, West, Central and East Africa, as well as the strengthened working relations between financing institutions, political or economic inter-governmental agencies within the Region, the African Development Bank, FAO/IBRD Co-operative Programme, etc., all of which were proceeding most satisfactorily. He intimated that the Organization of African Unity and FAO now worked together; their Joint Commission on Food and Nutrition and the Project on Cereal Research for Central and East Africa being cited. Fruitful co-operation was maintained by links established with OCAM, the Permanent Consultative Committee of the Magreb and the Guarantee Fund of the Conseil de l'Entente.

40. The guidelines formulated by the FAO Conference, Medium-Term Programming, the findings of the IWP and the new philosophy that emerged from the Second World Food Congress, were all being taken into account in the development of agriculture in Africa. In this regard, the role of the Sixth FAO Regional Conference in formulating the priority areas of action for consideration in preparing the Programme of Work and Budget and the longer-term programme objectives, were indeed significant. He cited three significant problems outlined by the Perspective Study of World Agricultural Development; the problems of food, foreign exchange earnings, and of unemployment. As regards the food problem, the required annual growth rate of 3.5 to 4 percent seemed feasible. Foreign exchange prospects were gloomy, except for a limited range of commodities like meat, forestry and fishery products, thus emphasizing the vital role of the

development of internal and intra-regional trade. The rural unemployment problem, he declared, may yet lead to an explosive situation.

41. The striking conclusions of the Second World Food Congress stressed the need to strengthen international development co-operation since assistance was defined as the duty for the human community in this era of the 20th Century, while hunger was seen as a serious consequence whose causes had to be eradicated. Though the vigorous opinions were expressed mainly by the youth, their views have to be taken into account if programming was to be designed specifically for them.

42. He exhorted the Member Countries to focus their collective efforts for the next 5 years on the following areas; meeting the needs for trained personnel in rural employment; development of national and intra-regional trade with reorientation of export policies; agricultural planning and programming; accelerated livestock development; formulation and implementation of nutrition policies; promotion of national and regional fishery industries; accelerated industrialization of forestry; strengthening of research for development.

43. He assured the Conference that FAO will endeavour to meet the priority needs in the Region defined by this Sixth Regional Conference whose Technical Committees have achieved outstanding results. Thanks to the competence, knowledge and constructive deliberations of the members of these Committees, they prepared effective reports for the consideration of the Plenary Session. Mr. Mensah concluded by expressing his gratitude to the Government of the Algerian Popular and Democratic Republic for the invaluable facilities provided to the Conference.

#### Statement by the Executive Director of the World Food Programme

44. Mr. Peissel on behalf of the Executive Director of WFP presented a statement covering the programme's activities with an appended document ARC/70/CONF/(a) outlining WFP activities in Africa. The importance of the Programme to the Region, he suggested, was illustrated by the fact that WFP had undertaken a total of 154 projects in 36 countries, involving nearly \$300 million in Africa somewhat less than one-third of their world-wide operations.

45. By undertaking labour intensive projects, WFP demonstrated that it was not charity, he stressed, since developing countries had provided almost \$3.5 billion of their own resources for the implementation of their projects. WFP disbursed at the rate of \$150 million per year, while it was foreseen that during the Second Development Decade the figure could be doubled. The growing demand for food aid placed a considerable burden on the running of the Programme.

46. He stated that the food basket consists largely of cereals, protein-rich food and edible oils, while important commodities such as rice had been scarce, and donors are sought for protein-rich food other than dried skim milk. He intimated that WFP commitments for 1970 required shipment of 700,000 tons or the monthly use of some 140 ships to make 300 separate shipments. He emphasized that African countries had pledged \$621,000 to WFP for all contribution periods including the biennium 1971-72. The statement further outlined details of the four categories of WFP projects involving agriculture development; human resources development; infrastructure development; industrial and mineral resources development.

47. The statement drew particular attention to WFP activities in Algeria involving agricultural work, infrastructure, building development, forestry work and assistance to primary schools, providing a total commitment of \$25 million. Other recipient African countries included Morocco - \$16 million; Tunisia - \$27 million; Nigeria - \$48 million, particularly for rehabilitation. In Ghana and Ivory Coast, projects involved resettlement activities associated with the man-made lake projects, while in Ethiopia, Chad, Dahomey, Mauritius, Botswana and Lesotho, on-going and new projects covered mainly agricultural activities. In Botswana and Lesotho, emergency food aid had been necessary because of the severe drought, while school children also benefitted in the drought-afflicted areas.

48. The statement concluded that though further progress was expected in food production in developing countries, it was not expanding quickly enough to eliminate malnutrition by the end of the Second Development Decade. Thus the role to be played by multilateral food aid during the Decade would be of paramount importance, since in spite of its flaws, it had proven to be a very useful resource for transfer to developing countries in combination with inputs of capital and other forms of technical assistance. WFP was undoubtedly the "food aid arm" of the United Nations system.

#### Country Statements

49. Country statements generally reviewed the main agricultural activities in their countries though, following upon the suggestion of one delegation, subsequent statements commented more on Director-General's policy statement with fewer detailed statistics of agricultural achievements, which they agreed were preferably presented as written statements. Delegations provided many comments relating to the FAO five areas of concentration, as well as general policy implications of agenda subjects. Delegations expressed appreciative acknowledgement of FAO's work in Africa and also the valuable contribution of many bilateral assistance programmes.

50. With regard to agenda items, many delegations made specific suggestions on the Indicative World Plan's coverage of developing and developed countries, some citing as an example, the need for assessing the impact of synthetics on agricultural export products. Underlining the importance of food crops development, many delegations indicated the need for diversification as well as national self-sufficiency, since the great variety of climatic and ecological conditions could permit the production of almost all the food products that Africa needed with the avoidance of recurrent shortages. Some delegations urged that since self-sufficiency in food crops was a universally accepted objective emphasis should be given to improved storage and research on the processing biochemistry of tropical foods and perishable commodities for effective practical storage and distribution in rural areas.

51. Comments from many delegations mentioned the need for establishing disease-free zones for livestock and meat production; high cost of feeds as a constraint to poultry and pig production; the importance of improved fodder and reliable water supply and the added significance of African livestock development in view of its defined importance as one of the three essential African export items of the Indicative World Plan's perspectives.

52. Most delegations strongly urged for prompt action in the establishment of an Inland Fishery Commission, voiced the conspicuous role that fisheries had played in the past and reiterated its important future prospects. Country statements re-emphasized the problem of fishing along the African coast and the need for regulatory measures in collaboration with those non-African countries fishing the resource, while urging that investments and national efforts should be mobilized for the maximum efficiency in harvesting fishery resources for artisanal and industrial development. Delegations referred to the proposed Law of the Sea Conference and urged a preparatory meeting of African States. Some delegations offered their national training facilities for other fishery students. Delegations welcomed the opportunity that the Conference had provided for ample discussions on specific technical matters and urged that this procedure be continued to ensure that this important sector for the Indicative World Plan should receive adequate attention and priority in FAO's and national programmes.

53. The Conference emphasized the validity of the need for developing intra-regional trade, market surveys, the concomitant problems of which had been well defined by the Technical Committee discussions. Most countries dwelt on the importance of the investment promotion services sponsored by FAO. The Conference further urged FAO to use its good offices for the speeding up of procedures to facilitate agro-industrial investment, to stimulate agricultural credit and to modernize rural structures.

54. Several delegations warmly welcomed and urged the further regionalization of research studies on problems common to certain ecological areas in various fields.

55. Member Nations indicated their keen interest in the establishment of efficient mass communication media as an effective means for motivating rural communities and indicated their support for permanent training institutions with very practical programmes.

56. Many delegations disclosed that they had based their own agricultural development programmes around FAO's five areas of concentration. Some illustrated in their statistical summaries the importance of waste avoidance, action programmes for making available high-yielding and improved varieties such as Mexican wheat, fertilizer use and seed multiplication units. Development projects for livestock and fish production to narrow the protein gap were underway in most countries while the role of national nutrition programmes was emphasized, one delegation particularly urging the establishment of an African Nutrition Institute. Some delegations specifically urged the inclusion in the next Regional Conference agenda of Nutrition. The clear importance of foreign exchange savings and earnings in all national programmes was evident and difficulties encountered were indicated.

57. Most countries were now entering their second decade of Independence while the world was proceeding into the Second Development Decade. Delegations remarked on the significance of this new era for action-oriented agriculture development programmes based on the initial period of identifying and consolidating action areas in their own countries. The over-riding importance of human resources mobilization and the training of personnel at all levels was equally emphasized. The consensus was that, while it was still necessary in many cases to train personnel for trade and medium levels as well as more advanced university level research and management staff, there was a greater demand now for experienced

planners, investment economists, skilled administrators, and for the national training of teachers at African technical institutions to apply available research results effectively. The need for coordinated activities in regionalizing training institutes was repeatedly expressed.

58. Other delegations mentioned the importance of forestry, an action area specifically mentioned by the Indicative World Plan, as one of the three important prospective foreign exchange earners, regretted its exclusion from the Technical Committees' agenda, and reiterated its importance to the African economy. Indispensable to effective land-use practices, land reclamation, soil erosion control and wildlife management, forestry was of unquestionable economic significance and delegations expressed support for its inclusion in the agenda of the next Regional Conference.

59. Member Nations unanimously supported the Director-General's resolve to enhance the status of the Regional Representative's post to Assistant Director-General and requested that there be a commensurate increase in responsibility and authority vested in the Regional Office for coordinating the activity of Country Representatives and FAO field programmes with a strengthened number of experienced officers. Various suggestions were adduced for providing finance for increasing the permanent staff in the Region, if necessary by redeployment of certain Headquarters posts and budgetary resources to the field. The Conference commended the intention to have more Africans in FAO's establishment. This would enable FAO to have a more realistic impact in African affairs, they observed.

60. Many delegations referred to activities being undertaken through FAO executed or bilaterally sponsored programmes and voiced some criticisms regarding missions and delayed transmission of project recommendations. They urged the closest collaboration between countries, specifically with respect to regional research activities applicable on an ecological grouping basis and the prompt dissemination of their results.

61. Delegations urged the appointment of FAO Country Representatives in all the countries, for the more effective coordination of the countries' agricultural programmes.

62. Most delegations underlined the reality and urgency of a common UN policy for African agriculture in which FAO, ECA, OAU and all bilateral agency inputs were effectively coordinated, taking full cognizance of national objectives but with a clear perspective of complementarity and regional objectives. Convergent views on evident priorities accepted for the Region are apparent within the framework of Indicative World Plan guidelines, development plans formulated by countries, sub-regional programmes and the aims of regional economic grouping. It was stressed that the gloomy prospect for African agricultural products in the world market had been covered by the Indicative World Plan and that the problems consequent upon the development of synthetic industries in developed countries had serious implications.

63. Some delegations referred specifically to the Director-General's remarks on implications of recommendations made by the World Food Congress, the Pearson Report and the Jackson Report. Other delegations considered that the Conference had not been invited to study the importance of these reports which evidently required more than cursory remarks. Other comments supported the philosophy and principles urged by the Pearson Report, endorsed the practicality of the World Food Congress recommendations, and favoured the adoption of country programming to incorporate technical assistance with their established development plans.

64. Additional suggestions were expressed regarding the establishment of a Land and Water-Use Commission, centralized assembly plants for farm mechanization equipment, special studies on the problems inherent in the conservation of African environments. Further reference was made to the World Agricultural Census, research on socio-economic problems related to agriculture and investment, as well as research on rain stimulation.

#### Other Statements

65. Countries sponsoring programmes of agricultural assistance in the Region provided brief summaries of their varied activities as related to the general trends and policies outlined above. The wide range of activities of USAID in research, training and development in various parts of the Region including the Rockefeller Institute in Nigeria and the assistance in rice research and development were outlined. On-going research activities of French technical assistance through IRAT, ORSTOM, CTFT amounting to enormous financial inputs with far-reaching impact in the Region were also described. The work of Tropical Products Research Institute sponsored by the United Kingdom and the other bilateral aid projects which provided volunteers and technicians from various countries were also referred to. Appreciation was expressed for the mutual co-operation of all concerned in such projects.

66. The significant contributions being made by the African Development Bank and UNICEF were indicated. Impressive statistical data were provided on the very considerable total assistance in the field of agriculture made available from all sources. Though financed independently of FAO and UNDP administration, there was evidence of close collaboration of such assistance in the various programmes throughout the Region in tackling problems of production, marketing, processing, storage, training, research and organizational structures.

#### Statement by FAO Council Chairman Prof. M. Cépède

67. Professor Cépède expressed his pleasure at attending this Africa Regional Conference, particularly as the idea of meeting prior to FAO Council originated at previous Africa Regional Conferences, thus permitting recommendations made to be reflected in the policies of the Council. While appreciating the eloquent views expressed, he cautioned against demands on FAO for everything as the responsibility for action was always shared between FAO staff and Member Countries. He recalled FAO's First Director-General's statement that "to a hungry world we are feeding reports" and also the truism that the "aim of successful technical assistance is to end technical assistance". He considered that such success could be achieved only by truly co-operative efforts for the well-being of producers and consumers alike. He wished the Conference total success.

#### Director-General's Concluding Statement

68. Before his departure, the Director-General commented on various issues, most of which arose from the country statements. He expressed his appreciation for the constructive suggestions that were put forward with a view to making FAO's work in the Region even more effective. With regard to country statements themselves, he welcomed a proposal that had been advanced in the form of a resolution to the effect that the part of such statements dealing with the agricultural situation in individual countries should be circulated in written form and that the oral



statements should concentrate on policy matters.

69. He was gratified by the support that delegations had shown for the proposed strengthening of FAO activities at regional and country level. He was in accordance with the general views of the Fifth Regional Conference in Kampala that the Africa Regional Office should be maintained as a separate entity in order that it could deal more effectively with agricultural problems in the Region. Any budgetary increase in the Regional Offices should, however, closely conform to real programme needs. In this connection he pointed out that there were various common services at Headquarters which were available to all regions which could not be decentralised without loss of efficiency. He took note of the unanimous support for his proposal to grade the strengthened and higher status of the Regional Representative at the Assistant Director-General level, as in other regions.

70. With regard to various suggestions concerning future activities he drew attention to financial implications involved. The impact of inflation imposed restrictions on the forthcoming biennial budget but every effort would be made to satisfy the more urgent needs in Regional programmes. It would greatly assist FAO if the Conference were to indicate what it regarded as the action programmes having the highest priority. This would make it easier to concentrate available funds on the projects most important for the Region. Due to the limitations on the budget of the Regional Representative which he had already mentioned, every effort was being made to obtain extra-budgetary sources of finance.

71. He had noted the criticisms that had been made with respect to provision of aid resources. So far as the World Bank was concerned, he pointed out that careful preparation of projects which it financed was a more important consideration than speed of delivery.

72. The Director-General expressed satisfaction at the importance which countries attached to the five areas of concentration. With regard to the IWP he recognised the validity of some of the reservations that had been made but welcomed the recognition that the Plan's projections were very significant to many countries in planning their agricultural development policies and programmes.

73. Mr. Boerma then specifically referred to various recommendations of the Technical Committees. Regarding the establishment of an African Inland Fisheries Commission, he informed the Conference that FAO was already recruiting the necessary staff and planned to hold a preparatory meeting the following year, after consulting Governments on the terms of reference of such a body. He agreed to the proposal for the convening of a technical meeting of African States on the conservation of fisheries resources in seas surrounding Africa. The OAU would be invited to attend at the meetings as an observer, and, if it sponsored a political conference on the subject FAO will be prepared to attend in the same capacity.

74. The Director-General expressed his satisfaction at the frank and constructive dialogue which had taken place at the Conference and the evidence of dedicated commitment to the spirit of self-help in national development programmes, which had so clearly emerged from the Country Statements and the Technical Committee Reports. He wished the Conference all success and assured it of FAO's deep interest in the agricultural development of the African Region.

Policy Implications for the Region of the IWP World Study and their Relation to the Second Development Decade

75. The Conference generally agreed with the views and suggestions contained in document ARC/70/3. It was informed of the continuation of the work initiated under the IWP, as defined in the Conference Resolution 1/69 calling for a Perspective Study of World Agricultural Development. The interrelationship between this item and the medium-term programme of work of the Organization within the area of agricultural policy planning was taken into consideration in the debate. The major policy conclusions of the IWP at the regional and country levels were considered.
76. In addition to making use of the Regional Conference of statisticians and planners, it was recommended to multiply the contacts between secretariat and national planners, through missions of the secretariat staff concerned. Such mission could take stock of the latest developments in long-term planning through two-way flows of information, suggest economic guidelines to both national policy makers and international bodies, and help to diffuse to other countries the experience gained.
77. The Conference urged FAO to collaborate with the countries of the Region and OAU in fostering intra-regional trade as a follow-up of the first phase of the various sub-regional studies conducted under ECA/FAO project 39.
78. In order to promote harmonization between national plans of countries subject to similar economic constraints, pursuing similar development policies and/or experiencing similar or complementary ecological conditions, it was suggested that FAO and Member Countries organize meetings of both policy makers and planners.
79. As a first phase, the Conference recommended that FAO should promote as soon as possible meetings of planners to discuss the agricultural policy implications of mutual interest already highlighted in the IWP.
80. In a second phase, these meetings should be expanded to include policy makers: from comparative analyses of national development plans, and taking into account the policy conclusions reached by planners' meetings, the discussions should aim at specific practical action for promoting co-operation in the field of agricultural development planning, of research and training, and of expanding agricultural trade among the Member Countries concerned. These symposia should be organized in co-operation with the most appropriate multinational institutions and/or channels for economic co-operation or integration, so as to ensure the most immediate return for the countries concerned, and at the same time use more efficiently the secretariat resources.
81. Given the important role of agricultural export earnings in African economies, the Conference strongly supported the recommendations made by the Second World Food Congress on the liberalization of the protectionist production and trade policies followed by industrialized countries. It took note that a study was being undertaken by the secretariat in co-operation with the Economic Commission for Europe on their agricultural problems and policies, following the recommendation made at the Fifteenth FAO Conference. It was emphasized that this study should investigate the sectoral adjustments needed in advanced industrial countries to accommodate growing quantities of low-technology, labour-intensive exports from developing countries.

82. To the same end, the Conference supported the proposal of the Second World Food Congress that FAO should study the comparative advantages of alternative locations of production and processing of farm products, in co-operation with other interested agencies.

83. Lastly, the Conference welcomed the inclusion in the medium-term programme of work of a study of the impact of synthetics on some of the traditional exports of the African Region.

84. Considering the growing concern over rural unemployment and under-employment, it was suggested to analyse, through selected case studies the most appropriate agricultural modernization policies compatible with the necessity of securing a stable and remunerative agricultural income for rural masses. Special attention should be paid to the role of mechanization in agricultural development, including its effects on reducing or expanding employment.

85. The Conference reiterated its support to the establishment of an input programme as already discussed in the Second World Food Congress and previous FAO Conferences.

#### Sectors of Significance for Agricultural Development in the Region

86. The Conference considered the reports of the Technical Committees I and II and while approving their recommendations passed the following resolution:

##### RESOLUTION I - Technical Committee Reports

The Regional Conference,

Noting the valuable work done by the Technical Committees of the Conference on many areas of vital importance to the development of African economies;

Considering the urgency of implementation of the recommendations both of the Technical Committees and of the Plenary, as adopted by the Conference;

Calls upon the Director-General to translate these recommendations into action-oriented programmes to be implemented by the FAO Headquarters, Regional Office, Joint FAO/ECA Division, UNDP, ADB, IBRD, other international organizations and the Governments, as appropriate.

### Food Crops Development

87. The Conference generally agreed with document ARC/70/5 presented on the great social, economic and political importance to the Region of the development of food crops, recognizing that food crop production should be an integral and not isolated part of their economic and social development programme because of many interrelated aspects. The Conference also felt that only radical changes and concrete actions will satisfy the increasing demand with regard to quantity and quality consequent upon population growth and urbanization.

88. Inadequate efforts in research and modernized technology have traditionally characterised food crops production, as well as inadequate institutional and infrastructural facilities. Thus the continuation of well oriented research on food crops, with the establishment of adequate coordinated programmes at a regional or sub-regional level was indicated as a basic requirement.

89. The Conference stressed that the creation of incentive was essential to increase production and modify present trends effectively by overcoming marketing difficulties, developing new markets with adequate storage facilities to cope with food surpluses and stabilize prices. Because they will make a more substantial contribution than hitherto by the development of local industries and foreign exchange earnings, food crop production policies are important in integrated national development plans.

90. The importance of seed multiplication units for distributing high-yielding varieties wherever appropriate, the introduction of modern techniques, and extension and husbandry practices were stressed, while the exacting pre-conditions of infrastructure organization, equipment and credit facilities, and contributory control production factors like irrigation are essential to realize the full benefit of such introduced varieties. On the other hand, maximum efforts should be made to utilize improved varieties with a view to increasing yields of crops less exigent than high-yielding varieties. Attention must be given to the introduction and testing of the varieties under different ecological conditions.

91. The Conference welcomed the initiative taken by FAO and other agencies in the formation of a West African Rice Development Association (WARDA). Though rice was considered as a minor cereal in Africa generally, to some countries it was of major importance, where, for a number of years rice production and research had been underway and resulted in the production of improved varieties suited to different ecological conditions. Such results could not be fully exploited because of the need for high capital inputs and improved husbandry practices which these new varieties require in order to yield their full potential. The needed capital inputs are often regrettably far beyond the means of farmers who therefore require both technical and financial assistance. In certain areas low returns from food crops resulted from competition for best available labour offered by cash crops and mining industries.

92. The Conference felt that Africa could exploit its great variety of climates for intensive production of fruit and vegetables, and in a general way, of all African food crops, so that they could become cash crops. FAO was urged to provide immediate assistance to the Region in identifying market possibilities in various countries for individual food crops in the view of the lack of both technical and market information.

93. The shortage of trained technicians and extension services to apply the spectacular results achieved in experimental stations was stressed by many delegations. The example was cited where yields per acre of improved varieties of maize in experimental stations were at least four times the average yield obtained by farmers. Increased effort to introduce effectively appropriate new methods adapted to local social and current farming practices were clearly indicated. FAO was thus urged to assist:

- a) by establishing a pool of technical personnel with relevant specialist experience in defined fields to help minimise the scarcity of experienced personnel in some countries;
- b) by training nationals of the Region who are required at all levels to replace expatriate personnel.

94. The Conference agreed on the existence of a number of common problems in the Region, some inherent to underdevelopment to which solutions ought to be on the basis of a new regional or group country approach with enough opportunity for growth and flexibility and applicable to the varied conditions in Africa. An integrated programme of this nature should encompass research training, exchange of information, utilization of national and international expertise, prompt, effective exchange and testing of new varieties, and the promotion of realistic food policies, including socio-economic aspects appropriate to the Region. The successful regional programme carried out in the Near East and in North Africa on wheat and barley (which may be extended to maize and sorghum) and including some 20 countries, may, when modified to include marketing aspects and other regional conditions, serve as a useful pattern for Africa.

95. It was stressed that such a programme should include continuous interchange of research results, maintenance of technical knowledge through organized symposia as well as advanced training centres to serve as a continuous refresher course for personnel. In addition, in order to make the results fully productive, attention should also be given to provision of credit and assistance to farmers and marketing and other factors, which may represent constraints to the application of results of the programme.

96. The Conference, while expressing its desire for action-oriented programmes, and taking note of successful projects on wheat and barley in the Near East, agreed that in order to further food crops development a programme was needed on specific key crops to:

- a) carry out co-operative research and training of personnel on food crops;
- b) promote exchange of information and experience among countries;

- c) make full use of available national and international expertise and institutions;
- d) encourage the establishment of effective national and sub-regional policies on food crops;
- e) identify other critical problems of food crop development, particularly the fight against insects, diseases and the study of the use of herbicides.

97. The Conference therefore recommended that FAO should consider organizing, with multilateral and bilateral financial assistance, regional or group country programmes, along the above lines, on sorghum, millet and maize, on grain legumes, wheat and on root crops. Consideration should also be given to the expansion of multi-national projects such as the WARDA programme on rice to other interested countries.

#### Livestock Development in Africa

98. The Conference expressed the view that the paper on Livestock Development in Africa (ARC/70/6) was too brief and did not present a progress report on the recommendations of previous international conferences on livestock development in Africa. It considered that there was enough background data and that the present need was for the formulation of concrete action programmes on regional, sub-regional and country basis. Several delegations offered constructive proposals along the following lines:

- a) all relevant information, including the results of international Conferences which had a bearing on the work of the Regional Conference and its technical committees, should be reported to the Conference or its relevant committees;
- b) FAO should assist the appropriate authorities to establish and demarcate adequately recognized rinderpest-free zones to facilitate international trade in meat from such areas;
- c) because of the vast potential area which would be made available for livestock development by a comprehensive programme of tse-tse fly control in Africa; to achieve this objective the eradication of tse-tse should be placed on the same basis as the desert locust control campaign;
- d) a campaign for bovine pleuropneumonia, similar to the measures used for the successful control of rinderpest, should be established;
- e) there was need for proper structures and services, supported by appropriate agrarian legislative measures and amended land tenure practices, for improving all phases of livestock development;
- f) FAO should support training schemes adapted to local livestock conditions with technical and financial assistance through UNDP;

- g) FAO should look into the problems involved and assist Member Countries requesting advice on the control or regulation of bush and forest fires and of improved land-use practices;
- h) agricultural credit facilities should be expanded to cover the needs of livestock and the rational use of pastures;
- i) considerably more watering points should be developed and safeguarded from mis-use.

99. Future papers presented to the Conference should summarize activities on animal husbandry problems in the Region. These should cover animal health, animal production practices, meat and milk preparation and handling, fodder production and the marketing of live-stock and their products, indicating how the resolutions of previous meetings have been implemented. From such analyses, regionally acceptable practical programmes could be suggested.

Considerable scope existed for regional action in:

- a) establishing zoo-sanitary arrangements between countries;
- b) the importation of semen and for developing artificial insemination facilities for livestock improvement;
- c) range management and livestock feeding practices;
- d) the supply of improved breeds of smaller livestock and poultry;
- e) livestock problems by sub-regional or ecological groups;
- f) dairy products development.

100. The Conference suggested that the compilation of an inventory of important livestock projects in the African Region, with summaries of the achievements attained, could provide help for coordinating activities, the exchange of information and for collaboration between countries in the Region.

101. The Conference was subsequently informed of the meeting of the World-wide Committee on Commodity Problems which will be concerned with the collation of national plans for meat and poultry production; and of the international dairy development and milk distribution schemes which are to be inventoried by FAO .

102. Because livestock problems in Northern Africa had been little mentioned in Conference documents, even though nomadic grazing practices, sheep and goat productions were of economic and social significance in that area, it was recommended that such problems should be studied with the same concern as for other areas.

103. The Conference felt there was merit in elaborating a livestock development strategy to cover the whole range of associated problems (e.g. production, health, dairying, marketing, transport, abattoirs, cold storage, etc.), because a coordinated exchange between countries in training opportunities, research facilities and investigational results should help to strengthen African coordination in the field of livestock development.

104. The Conference urged the strengthening of the Regional Office's capacity and authority to provide effective services among the priority areas indicated above and such others as may be identified in National Development Programmes.

105. The Conference fully endorsed the recommendations of the Second FAO Africa Regional Conference on Animal Production and Health (Kinshasa, 1969) in Doc. ARC/70/add. 1. It considered that, since the Regional Conference should be the policy-making body for the Africa Region, the technical recommendations of its technical committees should be reflected to the FAO Council and Conference. The Conference agreed that the Regional Office, with information provided from Headquarters, should keep regional personnel fully informed of decisions at international meetings and of such technical meetings as were scheduled for the future. It further urged the provision of group country technical assistance to accomplish effective animal censuses.

106. Strong support was expressed for a Regional Research Institute on range management which would take environmental factors fully into account. The need was emphasised to create, maintain or improve range vegetation in the arid zones in Africa. This Institute should serve as a unit for research a focal centre for training national staff and provide facilities for related studies on social, economic, ecological and land tenure conditions, including investigations associated with nomadic grazing practices.

107. The Conference recommended that attention should be paid to the possible effects on, and dangers to humans eating meat from animals that had been fed antibiotics or hormones or similar substances for intensifying their liveweight increases. The necessary studies should be made and the results disseminated as quickly as possible.

108. The organization of a regional grassland survey team was endorsed as an essential means for providing data by which to assess potential investment projects and provide a sound basis for further research and integrated development programmes.

109. Regional training courses in pasture and range management deserved high priority. Information on dairy training courses had not been provided but was a declared need for both French and English-speaking African countries.

110. The integration of cereals, fodder crops and animal production was advocated since such association was of particular importance in rotational practices, better animal feeding, soil conservation and the stabilisation of production. Specific reference was made to the role of forage legumes as an alternative to unproductive fallows.

111. The Conference noted the recommendation of the ad hoc FAO Consultation on Meat and Poultry held in Buenos Aires in August 1970 that the FAO Committee on Commodity Problems should establish a permanent Study Group on Meat and Poultry. Since many African Member Governments had long supported the setting up of a permanent intergovernmental body on this important group of commodities, the Conference endorsed the recommendation of the Buenos Aires consultation and requested the Director-General to inform the Committee on Commodity Problems to this effect at its session in October 1970.



112. The Conference also drew the attention of Member Governments to the initiation of the International Dairy Development Scheme sponsored by FAO and WFP. Under this scheme, FAO was ready to assist developing countries to obtain external aid needed for the implementation of their plans for the expansion and improvement of milk distribution and domestic dairy development. Such aid could take the form of feedgrains or surplus milk products, especially through the WFP, or technical assistance, equipment or investment resources as required. The Conference took note of FAO's readiness to assist countries on request, to formulate medium-term dairy schemes, identifying the external aid needed, and helping to mobilize the required package of aid through informal contacts with multilateral and bilateral donor agencies willing to co-operate. The Conference welcomed the setting up of the International Dairy Development Scheme, and stressed its significance for many African countries.

#### Fisheries Development

113. Statements by various delegations re-emphasized the importance of the role of inland fisheries in Africa and the immediate need for coordinated action, requiring specific practical action as opposed to further biological studies. Areas cited were: flood plain fisheries, marketing, processing, distribution outlets, aquatic weed control, floating islands, the provision of suitable boats, gear and equipment all of which were necessary for acceleration of increased and efficient production levels. The Conference urged FAO to implement immediately the establishment of an action-oriented Inland Fisheries Commission which could coordinate the efforts of Member States for the national development of this African resource.

114. The greatest need in the Region was for training at all levels since the lack of trained personnel, whether at operative, technician, extension, research or business management level was evident in varying degrees in all countries in the Region. The studies carried out by FAO on education and training needs in Africa, while clearly indicating actions to be taken, had yet not resulted in the establishment of regional institutions which could be supported initially by international staff catering to students from the Region so as to provide the necessary trained personnel. The regional strengthening of existing national schools in Western, Northern and Eastern Africa was cited as a matter for urgent action in the next biennium, possibly on the pattern of the UNDP/FAO assistance to the school in the Ivory Coast. The Conference urged that immediate attention should be devoted to regional training at all levels as a matter of urgent priority. The Conference requested FAO to provide a special allocation through UNDP for training fellowships in fisheries at all levels.

115. Great concern was expressed over the intensive and uncontrolled fishing operations off the coasts of Africa particularly in the East-Central and Southern Atlantic. Most of these fishing activities are being conducted by vessels owned outside Africa, and they constitute a permanent impediment to fishery development of countries in the Region. The Conference stressed that resolutions bearing on this problem made by other bodies, and the recurrent expression of concern merited attention at a high policy level of FAO Member States.

116. A number of common problems indicated by delegations pointed to the obvious possibility of joint technical assistance action for

their practical solution on a sub-regional or regional level. These included studies leading to bankable projects on: optimizing investment in boat building for efficient labour-intensive artisanal production for inshore marine, lake and river fisheries and an exhaustive inventory of artisanal fisheries; economic processing of fish products susceptible of marketing and storage in varying climatic conditions without loss of food value; intra-regional markets, economic assessment of inputs for investment; protein (fish/meat) consumption surveys; manuals and film strips for extension and training institutions; assessment of brackish water lagoon potential in Western Africa; research on commercially suitable fish culture species adaptable in the African context.

117. The evident need for continuous exchange of information on fisheries development currently underway in African countries was repeatedly voiced, and the absence of an FAO Fisheries Information Bulletin to maintain such fisheries intelligence exchange was indicated as a serious gap peculiar to the African Region. This, the Conference felt, should be remedied as a matter of urgent priority by the setting up and financing of such a bulletin at the level of the Regional Office of FAO.

118. The services rendered to the Region by the Organization at regional and headquarters level, though much appreciated, were inadequate in view of the pressing demands in most development sectors. The need for strengthening services by FAO personnel based in Africa to assist in the identification and formulation of action programmes for development and investment was strongly emphasized. A regional staff adequately reflecting the importance of Governments' and FAO's action programmes in the Region was specifically recommended.

119. Emphasis was placed by most coastal countries on the production of species like shrimp, spiny lobsters, tuna, sardinella, which are susceptible of high yields and/or export value. The Conference, recognizing that most Governments urgently required results in terms of efficient increased production, underlined the need for the establishment of projects which are immediately investment-oriented, whether for optimized production or industrialized marketing; in addition to such projects as conduct biological studies and stock assessment surveys that have longer-term investment implications.

120. The FAO Fishery Committee for Eastern Central Atlantic (CECAF) which was established following the 1967 Dakar technical meeting had its first meeting in Accra in 1969 and its second meeting is not due until 1971. Delegates considered that FAO should give stronger support to CECAF for meetings and for projects that CECAF may formulate, if necessary through extra-budgetary sources of finance as is the case with the Indian Ocean Fisheries Commission.

121. The Conference, while recognizing that some provision had been made for fisheries as an item in intra-regional trade, expressed concern that fisheries studies, similar to livestock studies as in Project 3, were not included in the work programme of the BCA/FAO Joint Agriculture Division. It urged that a Fishery Development project similar to Project 3 should be undertaken.

122. The attention of the Conference was drawn to the potential pollution hazard to fisheries through increasing use of pesticides and detergents.

123. The Conference considered that the training of technical, scientific and administrative personnel for fisheries is a costly enterprise, in which States and specialized Agencies of the United Nations should co-operate if maximum efficiency is to be achieved. The adequate use of existing and future institutions in the Region is the best way to ensure within the next few years, the training of the personnel required for fishery development. It recognized the very useful work being done in this field by the CCPI Sub-Committee on Fishery Education and Training.

124. The Conference recommended to FAC:

- a) the convening of a meeting of the appropriate national authorities to finalize approval of regional and sub-regional training institutions previously listed by FAC;
- b) the preparation, in co-operation with the countries, of suitable curricula of such sub-regional institutions;
- c) the formulation of projects for such institutions and their sponsorship to financing bodies including the pre-project financing where necessary, for training national teaching staff.

125. The Conference observed that the intensive and uncontrolled exploitation of fishery resources along the coast of Africa constitutes a permanent threat to fishery development in the area. It considered that these resources are essential for meeting the protein needs of the African population and for speeding up the industrialization of the countries concerned. Most of the catch of such foreign vessels is lost to the regional economy. The efforts and sacrifices made by the African Countries for fishery development involve heavy investments which can only be justified by economic exploitation of important fisheries resources extending well beyond the territorial waters of the different States. The Conference noted the proposal by the UN Secretary-General on the desirability of convening an International Conference on the Law of the Sea, as well as the recommendation of CCPI to the FAC Council on this matter.

126. The Conference recommended that African Governments should meet as a matter of urgency, in 1971, to coordinate their views and to study the best means for the conservation of resources and the control of fishing operations in all seas around Africa. It requested that FAC should assist in convening this meeting and explore the possibilities of co-sponsorship of the meeting by the OAU.

127. Noting the importance of fisheries in Africa's economy and the important part played by FAC in assisting African countries, the Conference considered that personnel are required in greater numbers in Africa in view of the need for more effective dissemination of information and coordination of programmes at the continental level, and for more assistance for specific projects. The Conference noted that the Regional Office has only one fishery officer and recommended that the Director-General of FAC should find ways and means of effectively strengthening the regional fisheries staff, including a fishery statistician to coordinate national data collection systems and facilitate information exchange.

128. Considering the demonstrated importance of inland fisheries to Africa and the urgent need for consolidation of efforts in the further development and improvement of these fisheries, the Conference

recommended to FAO, as a matter of highest priority, the establishment of an Inland Fisheries Commission for Africa and requested that progress be reviewed by April 1971.

129. The Conference was informed that the FAO Department of Fisheries was taking immediate steps to implement the recommendations made by the Fifteenth Session of the FAO Conference with regard to the establishment of an inter-governmental fishery body for the inland waters of Africa.

130. Before the end of 1970 the Department of Fisheries will recruit a specialist on inland fisheries to assist the Department in preparing ad hoc consultations of African Governments for April 1971 and to service the commission once established.

131. A questionnaire will be circulated by mid-November 1970 regarding the status, composition, area of competence and functions of the Commission and Member Nations will be requested to reply by the end of 1970.

132. On the basis of replies received, FAO will prepare background documents with suitable alternatives regarding the commission and despatch such documentation to Member Nations by the end of February 1971.

133. FAO will then invite African Member Nations to take part in ad hoc consultations, to be held in Rome immediately preceeding the Sixth Session of COFI (15-21 April 1971). The Department of Fisheries will advise African Governments of the importance of these consultations and of the Sixth Session of COFI, which, it is expected, will lend its support to the conclusions reached resulting from these consultations. All African Member Nations will be able to participate fully and equally in the consultations, while they may attend the Session of COFI as members or observers, as the case may be.

#### Intra-Regional Trade in the Field of Agriculture

134. The Conference reviewed the summary of the study made through the Joint ECA/FAO Programme on Central, West, East and North African Sub-regions.

135. The Conference expressed much interest in the future trends indicated by the study but would have liked more emphasis placed on the main export products from the Region since integrated development plans must include all crops in view of profitable interrelation of production of crops. It recommended the inclusion of follow-up studies for processed agricultural products and derived manufactured products, taking into account external markets.

136. Recognising that among the objectives of intra-regional trade are to lessen dependence of African countries on overseas markets and to expand the regional market for products with limited market opportunities outside Africa, the Conference stressed the importance of removing constraints to trade in all commodities. The view was held that active promotion of intra-regional trade could stimulate increased production, serving as a dynamic factor for economic development in Africa, and strengthening economic ties between African countries.

137. The constraints to the development of intra-regional trade cited by the Conference included:

- a) conflict of interests between national and regional development objectives;
- b) inadequate transportation and communication links and the one-sided orientation of traditional trade routes;
- c) foreign control of trade and shipping;
- d) diversity in measures, grades and standards in neighbouring countries;
- e) strong historical trade links and preferential tariffs with non-African countries;
- f) different monetary zones;
- g) inconvertibility of national currency and other payment difficulties;
- h) lack of credit for the development of trade;
- i) inter-country competition in the establishment of industries.

138. Additionally, the low import capacity and low production of individual countries limit the volume of trade.

139. In view of these limitations, and realizing the implications of high-level policy involved, the Conference recommended that countries should endeavour:

- a) to remove trade barriers and grant preferential tariffs for goods and services within the Region;
- b) to harmonize commercial legislation, standards, grades, weights and measures;
- c) to promote control of trade by nationals.

140. The Conference recognized that the removal of trade barriers and re-orientation of trade links with former metropolitan countries were matters for policy decisions of Governments as were also the establishment of a Payment Union to minimize payment difficulties, and the harmonization of national programmes and policies. It therefore recommended that the OAU should be very closely associated with the studies on intra-regional trade. It also recommended that a special study be made of existing trade agreements between African and former metropolitan countries. The Conference considered that FAO and ECA should take further action to promote intra-regional trade in co-operation with GATT, UNCTAD and other regional bodies. This should include:

- bringing importers and exporters together to discuss trading opportunities open to them;
- promoting market information and distributing the Market Information Bulletin published by ECA to commercial enterprises;
- strengthening the Trade Promotion Centre and the All-African Trade Centre;

- promoting market research ;
- encouraging the organization of a Federation of African Chambers of Commerce ;
- promoting the establishment of regional reserves of essential commodities ;
- training of Africans in the techniques of export trade.

141. The Conference felt that in view of experience in the Region, FAO and ECA should ensure that food aid, provided under the World Food Programme or from bilateral sources does not disrupt normal production and trade patterns. The Conference also considered that individual countries should further promote intra-regional trade by limiting commercial activities to their nationals.

142. The Conference noted that the study is only Phase I of a three-phased study and that its conclusions are only tentative. Considering data limitations, the findings could only be approximate. Phases II and III would include a careful examination of the pattern of current agricultural practices, comparison of these with development possibilities and recommendation of measures for initiating improvements and new developments.

143. The Conference considered that these subsequent studies should be based on assessment of ecological characteristics of individual countries and should include investigation of ways of reducing production costs in order to make prices competitive. Detailed study of unrecorded trade should also be made, since this constitutes an important proportion of intra-regional trade. Inter-country complementarity should be examined in addition to sub-regional complementarity. Sub-regional groupings should not be water-tight, as in some cases countries have considerable trade links with neighbours in other sub-regions. In this connection, OAU should be invited to play an active role.

144. The Conference recognized the apparent conflict between the national objectives to achieve self-sufficiency and to promote diversification as against the need to promote intra-regional trade through specialization. Nevertheless, it felt that the long-term implications of the assessment of ecological potentialities of countries would help resolve such apparent conflict. However, the countries themselves should try to harmonize their agricultural development policies so as to avoid duplication and waste.

145. The Conference further considered that the findings of the present study provide sufficient basis for discussion among countries as a first step towards co-operation in the promotion of intra-regional trade. It therefore recommended that FAO and ECA should sponsor inter-governmental meetings for this purpose.

146. The Conference also recommended that UNDP, other multi-lateral and bilateral organizations be invited to provide assistance for the rapid completion of the subsequent phases of this study.

#### Investment possibilities in agriculture

147. The Conference felt that the document on investment possibilities in agriculture should have provided a deeper analysis of the types of projects which could be undertaken so as to enable an acceleration of financial investments in the agricultural sector.

148. The Conference, referring to the long period taken for project preparation, questioned the need for visits by numerous missions which did not always result in the financing of the project. It was explained that FAO assisted Governments, through Bank Co-operative Programmes, in project preparation. In order to comply with the established standards of international banks, a certain methodology has to be applied. The Conference expressed concern at the cumbersome procedures adopted by IBRD in evaluating projects and urged IBRD to adopt more flexible and speedy procedures.

149. In reply to questions on the distribution and frequency of missions to countries, the Conference noted that missions of the Bank Co-operative Programmes to African countries depended on requests of Governments. The operational responsibility for project preparation was shared by the Permanent African Missions of IBRD, IBRD and ADB Headquarters and the FAO Investment Centre.

150. The Conference, recognizing that the need for training of local personnel in methodology of project preparation and management for effective bankable projects, urged FAO to provide such training within the Region.

151. The Conference, expressing the view that investments in food crops development were of great economic importance, also urged the financing of supporting activities and related projects such as roads, marketing facilities and other infrastructures.

152. The Conference emphasized that, apart from traditional banking criteria, such as rates of return, foreign exchange earning and saving, employment opportunities offered, impact on the national economy and on farmers' income, socio-economic consideration should receive much greater attention than hitherto by the Banks.

153. The Conference further stressed the need for greater involvement of banking institutions in the financing of agro-allied industries.

154. Several delegates expressed concern that the procurement of materials was tied to the source of aid given but noted that regulations of international banks required international competitive bidding. Concerning complaints expressed about the cumbersome procedure used by IBRD, the Conference also noted the limitations of FAO's Investment Centre, since bank terms or conditions and detailed procedures of IBRD's activities were beyond the competence or control of FAO.

155. The Conference noted the channel and procedure for requests from Governments addressed both to the FAO Investment Centre and the financing institutions so as to initiate the preparation of bankable projects.

156. The Conference recommended the financing of agricultural research as an essential component of development projects whenever required.

157. The Conference emphasized that financing agencies should take an active part at an early stage in basic feasibility studies and should take fully into consideration the social and economic priorities outlined in national development plans of the countries. The Conference insisted that more attention should be paid to the integration of bank projects into existing development plans of individual countries for the purpose of adequate national control and training of personnel.

158. The Conference requested FAO's assistance for the preparation of projects to be locally financed and expressed concern that certain financing agencies were not interested in small project requests. The Conference noted that the financing of such projects could be sought from ADB.

159. The Conference noted that ADB's activities in the Region amounting to 12 projects totalling US\$25 million since its creation in 1964 and giving particular emphasis to financing regional projects while also assisting Governments with preparing and financing national projects.

160. The Conference reiterated its concern about the onerous terms of lending ; the delays in project preparation, evaluation and implementation and urged that the terms of lending should be made less onerous, that project preparation and evaluation be speeded up so as to expedite project implementation.

Communication Media as a Means of Mobilizing  
Human Resources for Rural Development

161. The Conference unanimously welcomed the document ARC/70/10 as evidence of the recognized importance of information and mass communication media, and of FAO's readiness to assist Governments in activities they both consider indispensable for the mobilization of human resources.

162. The Conference also unanimously approved the suggestion that permanent training centres for communications support in agricultural development be set up in the Region. It recommended that two be established for English and French-speaking countries as soon as possible and urged that more eventually be set up. The Conference also urged that the programme and methods to be used at such centres should be realistically attuned to African rural conditions.

163. Diverse views were expressed by the Conference on the functioning of the training centres and of the desirability of bilingual instruction in some cases. The consensus, however, was that though recognizing the value of University level training in foreign countries, greater emphasis should be placed on the need for training within the environment. In this connection, FAO was requested to provide fellowships for agricultural communications training, particularly for high-level personnel, not only to countries with on-going FAO/UNDP projects, but to all other countries requesting it.

164. Lack of trained personnel and equipment for mass communication media was a generally acknowledged handicap to development, and it was emphasized that a major need was the provision of instructors to train others for appropriate means of mass communications in the Region.

165. Different philosophies regarding communications were expressed by the Conference involving both the exposure of the rural communities to all ideas thus permitting responsibility for their own development, and also the need for Government controlled information to avoid counter-productive ideas.

166. Much emphasis was given to the need to integrate communications media and programming, with country development planning through elimination of illiteracy, development of general educational processes and the institution of specialized mass communication support services.

167. The Conference strongly emphasized that the development process was not just a matter of good mass communications at all levels, nor merely a problem for technicians, but rather an area involving social and economic values that concerned everybody.

168. The difficulties regarding innovations to communities steeped in traditions and opposed to change were discussed. It was however agreed



that even where good communications media exist, people could only be induced to change their ways when convinced of consequent benefits. It was suggested that the document needed to be more imaginative and to envisage the use of modern advertising techniques.

169. Some delegates strongly urged that countries in the Region more experienced in mass communication media be encouraged to help others whose facilities were now being established. It was suggested that existing training facilities be made available to neighbouring countries with similar or relevant conditions.

170. The importance was stressed of research in this field and of studies by rural sociologists, economists and specialist teachers in communications, though it was appreciated that all the aspects of the mass communication media could not be dealt with immediately.

171. FFHC's continuous interest in problems of education information for mobilizing human resources was mentioned, as well as the means available to it for such work. In view of recommendations submitted by the Director-General to the Fifteenth Session of the FAO Conference, of various FFHC Conferences and of the Second World Food Congress, closer collaboration with FFHC was suggested so as to achieve these objectives. Similar collaboration with all other interested bodies was also advocated in this regard.

172. The Conference urged FAO to provide more help in the production of films, film strips and other audio-visual aids in support of rural, agricultural and fisheries development.

173. The Conference specifically recommended :

- the establishment of permanent training centres ;
- the convening of a technical information conference in the Region to explore the best ways of setting up the centres and the nature of curricula ;
- the strengthening of the resources of the Information Division and particularly at the Regional Office, for the purposes of Rural Development Support Communications ;
- the establishment by FAO, UNICEF and UNESCO of a joint programme for the effective use of mass communications media for rural development ;
- the inclusion of a mass communication component in all agricultural development projects in the Region.

Agriculture Research

174. The Conference heard the introductory statements on document ARC/70/4 covering all disciplines of physical, biological, economical, human and social sciences of agriculture.

175. The Conference commended and expressed agreement with the initiative taken by the Director-General concerning the identification and promotion of global projects in agricultural research. Thanks to the co-operation established between the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, the United Nations Development Programme, FAO, donor countries and Foundations, resources can be mobilized for the financing of specific research programmes.

176. In view of the variety in the nature and degree of research needs at the regional, sub-regional and national levels, it was recommended that proper balances should be struck in programmes at the various levels. Emphasis was also placed on the need for proper balance between fundamental research on the one hand, and applied or adaptive and developmental research which must necessarily be carried out under local environmental, social and economic conditions, on the other. The Conference further urged that emphasis should be on applied or adaptive research as opposed to academic.

177. The Conference also endorsed the five points proposed by the Secretariat for developing an action programme in research organization. These points are as follows:

- a) National and Regional Structures: The strengthening of organizational, administrative and institutional structures of research:

At the national level, in order to:

- i. meet national needs and implement national plans and programmes for agricultural development;
- ii. ensure full participation of each State in the activities of the international scientific community;
- iii. enable every country to derive maximum benefits from scientific and technical progress and developments.

At the regional level, in order to:

- i. establish for other crops new structures similar to WARDA;
- ii. raise a number of existing stations to the status of Regional Research Centres;
- iii. co-operate closely in the implementation of regional programmes and in the development of international activities and institutes.

- b) Liaison Bureaux: The establishment in each country of a machinery ensuring closer liaison between national agricultural research institutes and services as well as local technical assistance

authorities, on the one hand, and on the other hand, similar research institutes and services working in other countries or regions.

- c) Inter-African Commission: The establishment of an Inter-African Commission on Agricultural Research which would include agricultural research authorities in the various Member States and in the bilateral or international organizations concerned and directly associated with the development of agricultural research in Africa, in order to:
- i. make decisions on research priorities at the regional and international levels;
  - ii. develop joint research programmes;
  - iii. decide on activities and projects to be undertaken jointly and on the means to be used for their implementation;
  - iv. maintain a steady flow of information and exchange of data and material among Member States;
  - v. discuss the measures to be taken in order to reduce the time lag between the achievement of results and their implementation;
  - vi. ensure closer inter-governmental coordination and co-operation with regard to training and specialization programmes for scientific and technical personnel in Member countries.
- d) Meetings and Conferences: The concerted organization of intergovernmental meetings and scientific and technical regional conferences on general and specific research of topics of multilateral interest (grouping countries with similar problems) in order to prevent the proliferation and undue duplication of such meetings.
- e) Documentation Centres: The gradual establishment of a network of national and regional documentation centres covering all agricultural and rural activities and problems, including of course data concerning research. These centres would operate in liaison with FAO Documentation Centre in order to promote the quick exchange of information and facilitate the transfer of scientific and technical agricultural knowledge both within Africa and on a global scale.
178. The Conference, however, emphasized the need to promote development research and requested that particular attention should be given to the following problems:
- a) Training of personnel: The Conference laid particular emphasis on the problem of training research workers. In view of the shortage of qualified personnel in specific disciplines, developing countries are often unable to provide duly qualified counterparts who would be in a position to bring a more comprehensive technical contribution in the field of research.

The Conference, while fully aware of the responsibility of Member countries to meet their own needs and organize their own agricultural services, stressed that FAO should help them to find the means for both training and specialization of the research workers they require, by increasing the number of the "André Mayer" fellowships and by establishing pre-project financing of fellowships for counterparts.

- b) Liaison between research and extension services: Emphasizing the difficulties which confront extension services, that are often understaffed, in translating research results into practice, the Conference requested FAO to provide assistance to establish or strengthen pre-extension institutions and services. This should include the training of extension specialists which would allow a better liaison between research and extension and result in a more effectual transmission of such results at the extension level.
- c) Documentation: As regards point e) above on the need for establishing national and regional documentation centres to serve agriculture in general, including agricultural research, the Conference unanimously welcomed the action now being promoted by FAO in this direction within the framework of UNDP technical assistance.

A number of delegates emphasized the following specific needs:

- that some priority should be given to organizing documentation activities in developing countries through the establishment of information collecting and processing centres for the dissemination of such information in order to avoid duplication of research work to allow research workers to be kept informed of what is being done elsewhere in their own field;
- that these centres should be linked with Research Councils at the national level;
- that they should be incorporated in a wider documentation network at the international level in order that they may draw from more sources of information and thus be in a position to disseminate more substantial and useful material.

179. Considering that it is most difficult to establish continent-wide priorities and that sub-regional conferences organized on an ecological basis should be responsible for determining which research programmes are best suited to the countries in the sub-region, the Conference cited a number of problems, which though not an exhaustive list or in specific priority, could receive particular attention:

- a. research on millets and sorghum including the cropping systems; oilseeds; grain legumes; high-yielding varieties (main food crops, root crops, grasses, fodder and tree crops); the regional extension of a global project on millets in Senegal;
- b. studies and research on nomadic grazing, ranges and animal production; meat marketing; production of vaccines; all livestock diseases, with particular attention to contagious bovine pleuro-pneumonia, trypanasomiasis and tse-tse fly control and eradication;

- c. research on the storage of agricultural commodities, toxic residues, control of Quelea quelea, Spondoptera and coconut diseases, as well as on the whole range of phytosanitary problems and crop pests;
- d. research on inland and marine fisheries;
- e. research on the development of forestry and forest industries;
- f. research on agro-meteorology and water management in agriculture;
- g. sociological and economic research;
- h. the Conference also mentioned the priorities that should be given to the development of documentation and information centres in agricultural research and to the strengthening of selected research stations which should be raised to the status of regional centres.

180. The Conference took note of the explanations given by the Secretariat as to the content of research programmes, which must include socio-economic research, the respective shares given to basic (fundamental) and applied research in the institutes, the proportion to be maintained between national research on the one hand and regional and international research on the other, as well as the criteria to be adopted for the selection of research stations which will work on a regional scale.

181. Realizing the need for closer coordination in the formulation of research programmes as well as in their implementation, the Conference requested FAO to intensify its co-operation with the Scientific, Technical and Research Commission of OAU and with other African regional organizations.

182. The Conference noted that the Secretariat intends to send to participants documentary material enabling them to find an answer to the various points raised during discussions on specific problems of research organization and on the services associated with the implementation of results.

183. The Assistant Director-General, Development Department, provided a supplementary statement on global research relevant to research in Africa. Indicating that the "green revolution" has been made possible through long, patient, basic research carried out by the Rockefeller and Ford Foundations, very purposefully oriented with well-staffed and well-equipped institutions, he reminded the Conference of many further research needs re quality improvement, disease control and degeneration, and in other areas like food crops, legumes, oilseeds, etc.

184. The Administrator of UNDP had, in consultation with FAO, provided some financing to global projects of basic research, as for example high yielding varieties of wheat and maize, and contractually allotted this to the Ford Foundation under the supervisory responsibility of FAO. While the Governing Board of UNDP, on the basis of the Jackson Report, decided to allocate 18% of its funds for regional projects, it was agreed to limit it temporarily to 1% for global projects. He urged that the importance of this aspect of research may be conveyed by Conference delegates to their countries' delegations to the UNDP Governing Body.

185. Currently, feasibility studies are underway for establishing new international institutes for Animal Production and Health in East Africa, Arid Zones, Water Use. Consultation with the President of IBRD, the Administrator of UNDP and the Director-General of FAO had resulted in the proposal to set up a basic programme for agricultural research. FAO agreed to the setting up of an Advisory Committee, considered itself the competent technical Organization, and had requested that responsibility for the Technical Committee be vested with the Organization. The first meeting was due in Washington in November 1970. It is FAO's view that this Advisory Committee should primarily finance research programmes which have an impact on the agricultural development of developing countries. These programmes should be entrusted to existing international institutes or to the regional or national institutes which could carry out such projects or interest on a broadly regional or world-wide basis rather than those limited to country or sub-regional interest.

#### Other Sectors

186. The Conference welcomed the inclusion of Technical Committees in the organization of the Sixth Regional Conference. It noted with satisfaction the effective way in which the work of these Committees was conducted and recommended that in future the study of all agenda items of a technical character be entrusted to them. The Conference took note of the statement by the Director-General concerning the conclusions reached by the Second World Food Congress held in The Hague in June 1970 and requested him to incorporate these conclusions in elaborating the strategy for the Second Development Decade and implementing the World Indicative Plan.

187. Forestry and Forest Industries: The Conference felt that Forestry problems should have been discussed at this session. In view of the part played by forest industries in economic and social growth on the one hand, and of world trade prospects for tropical woods on the other, urged the inclusion of these problems in the agenda of the next Regional Conference.

188. The Conference strongly supported the establishment of Tropical Timber Bureaux with UNDP assistance and recommended that the implementation of this project should be speeded up. It also recommended that pulp and paper industries be organized on a regional basis and requested that FAO should continue to study this question in the light of the conclusions of the Cairo Conference. Similarly, FAO should give continuing attention to afforestation problems in Africa.

Proposals for Medium-Term Activities and Programme

189. The Conference considered documents ARC/70/12, ARC/70/12 add.1. It noted that the substance of the policy in these documents had already been dealt with in the work of the Technical Committees, the Director-General's statement and the other agenda items and the Conference has already in effect expressed its views on the policy issues involved and the priorities to be followed.

190. The Conference generally endorsed the main lines of the proposals for medium-term activities and programmes in documents ARC/70/12 and ARC/70/12 (a), but stressed that the regional priorities have been defined by the Conference and its Technical Committees. The following further points were made in the discussions:

191. Some delegates considered that the documents ARC/70/12 and ARC/70/12 (a) should have been submitted to the Technical Committees, and that they were too general and lacking in quantitative detail.

192. As far as additional priorities are concerned, emphasis was laid upon the production basis of creating employment opportunities; research; assistance to Governments in improving national statistics and in national agricultural development planning; the establishment of a Nutrition Institute for Africa; the establishment of Applied Nutrition Training Centres; and work on trade questions.

193. The Conference noted that the main policy lines in ARC/70/12/Add.1 correspond with those in ARC/70/12 and welcomed the continued collaboration of FAO and ECA through the Joint Division. Reservations were expressed about the long period of the programme of studies proposed in ARC/70/12/Add.1 and urged that it be expedited.

194. In conclusion, the Conference noted that the Medium-term Programme would be modified and refined and that the development of programme budgeting would be a valuable tool in this connection and in the implementation of priorities in successive Programmes of Work and Budget corresponding to the resources available.

### III. CONCLUDING ITEMS

#### Adoption of the Report of the Conference

195. The conference was invited to consider a procedure for the adoption of the report of the conference and decided on the establishment of a drafting committee to formulate specific resolutions from the recommendations made on each agenda item discussed. This resolution drafting committee was selected on a sub-regional basis with the intention that representatives from four delegations, viz : Morocco, Nigeria, Cameroon and Kenya would broadly reflect the views from Northern, Western, Central and Eastern Africa, after consultations with delegations, if necessary. The conference then recessed to allow the work of resolution drafting to proceed and resumed later to consider the draft report prepared by them. The report adopted appears in preceding pages.

196. The conference considered the matter of Regional Conference, the Regional Office and FAO Country Representation and in this context adopted the following resolution :

#### RESOLUTION II - Regional Conference, Regional Office, FAO Country Representatives

The Regional Conference,

Considering the terms of reference given to the Regional Conferences by Resolution 14/69 adopted by the Fifteenth Session of the FAO Conference, and the considerable impact which these terms of reference can have on the activities of FAO in the Africa Region ;

Recognizing the vital role which the Regional Office and FAO Country Representatives must play in the implementation of the above-mentioned resolution;

Anxious that Resolution 14/69 be fully implemented ;

Requests the Director-General communicate in due time to Member Governments the main policy lines to be dealt with in his introductory statement to the Regional Conference and which the Regional Conference must discuss in the spirit of the terms of reference stated in Resolution 14/69 ;

Requests Member Governments, in accordance with Resolution 14/69, to submit their country statements to the Regional Conference in two parts, as follows:

- i) An oral statement dealing with policy matters in general and the terms of reference in particular ;
- ii) A written statement on the country's food and agriculture situation, with particular reference to progress made in the five areas of concentration and international trade, with emphasis on intra-regional trade ;

Endorses fully the Director-General's intention to raise the post of Regional Representative for Africa to the status of an Assistant Director-General and calls on him, in addition, to reassess the other posts and effect readjustments ;

Calls upon the Director-General to proceed with the implementation of paragraphs I (a) and I (b) of Resolution II adopted by the Fifth Regional Conference ;



In this connection :

- a) The means available to the Regional Office should be reinforced, in particular by posting additional qualified personnel at the disposal of the Regional Representative ;
- b) In the light of the discussions and recommendations of the Regional Conference, the Regional Office should be given more authority in the area of programme formulation ;
- c) It is most important that the co-operation already established between the FAO Regional Office and other bodies working for economic development in Africa, and especially OAU, ECA and ADB, should be continued and intensified ;
- d) Co-operation between the Regional Office and FAO Country Representatives should be supported, in particular through the periodical meetings envisaged by the Director-General ;

Requests the Director-General to make every effort to speed up the appointment of FAO Representatives in African countries where they do not exist.

#### Closing ceremony

197. The closing ceremony began in the late afternoon of Friday 2 October with His Excellency Mr Tayébi Mohamed Bel Hadj in the chair. The Chairman requested the Conference to observe a minute's silence to honour the memory of the President of the United Arab Republic, Djamal Abdel Nasser.

198. Opening remarks were made by Mr Terver, the Assistant Director-General, Development, who briefly reviewed general impressions of the Conference mentioning particularly the excellent arrangements afforded by the Algerian Government, the efficient Secretariat organized by the Regional Office, and the great success of the technical committees in their comprehensive review of priority requirements in the various fields. Certain criticisms re content or late receipt of papers would certainly be corrected in future. While the Conference had asked very much from FAO resources, he hoped that they will jointly find solutions to problems of major concern in production, trade and human resources development to effect desired action. He was happy at acceptance by the Conference of the global resources programme and advised that the Regional Office and Country Representatives would keep them informed of any future decisions and action. Delegations should feel assured that FAO appreciated the constructive criticisms of FAO action and he expressed the hope that future Conferences would continue such frank dialogue between the organization and its member countries. He wished to express on behalf of the Director-General and all Conference delegations their sincere appreciation to all concerned in the Algerian Government who helped to make the Conference a notable success.

199. Mr M. Mensah, Regional Representative, remarked that though this was in a way an experimental Conference with initial testing of the working of Technical Committees, its results were most effective. Two years hence at the next Regional Conference, he indicated progress would be inventoried and it would be possible with added experience to define clearly the top priorities of particular significance for medium term action. He felt that any practical success achieved would depend on the mutual interest and action of the countries and the Organization. Technical and political organizations had been effectively collaborating to implement or initiate ideas for real progress in solving the numerous problems inherent in the Region. He was inspired by the evident awareness of both the economic priorities and the political and social circumstances.

Finally, he wished to express his keen appreciation at the atmosphere of mutual understanding with which the delegations worked with the Secretariat in accomplishing their work. They had all appreciated the most effective arrangements provided by the Algerian Government. All delegations had appreciated and expressed their thanks for field trips, visits to the Trade Fair and the many ways in which their host contributed to their stay in Algiers and he wished to reinforce these expressions of gratitude.

200. The Chairman of the Conference then briefly reviewed what the Conference had accomplished through frank exchange of technical views, the tone set by the high and positive level of discussions in the Technical Committee agenda, the concrete measures recommended for development, changes of structures, training and research. He felt that there was a theme underlying all their deliberation that the development of resources on the Continent depended essentially on our own determination and manpower to overcome our problems.

201. The Conference approved the suggestion that Algeria should be the spokesman for the Africa Region at the commemorative Conference of the 25th anniversary of the United Nations.

202. On behalf of participants of the Conference, the head of the Ethiopian delegation expressed the appreciation of all delegations for the solicitude and active support of the host government in all their many efforts which matched the sincerity and earnestness prevailing at deliberations of the Conference. He also commended the Conference Secretariat and all those who had contributed in many ways to the efficient preparations and back-room servicing of the Conference which, they had noted with satisfaction, was conducted by the Regional Office for the first time. Other delegations seconded these appreciative remarks and the Conference recorded its approval by acclamation.

#### Seventh Regional Conference for Africa

203. The Conference noted with pleasure the verbal invitation extended through the head of the Liberian delegation to hold the next Regional Conference in Monrovia in 1972. The Assistant Director-General in thanking the government of Liberia explained that it was customary for the Director-General to consult with various governments from whom invitations may be received before a final decision is taken. He further explained that the first draft agenda for the Seventh Regional Conference would be circulated during the meetings of the Conference in 1971 so that countries of the Region would be fully consulted. For this agenda, due regard would be taken of items suggested in the course of this Conference.

204. The Minister of Agriculture of the Popular Democratic Republic of Algeria then, as Chairman of the Conference, officially declared the Sixth Conference for Africa closed.

APPENDIX I

IV. APPENDICES

Proceedings of Technical Committee I : 17 to 19 September 1970

Statement by the Regional Representative

Mr. M. C. Mensah, FAO Regional Representative for Africa, in welcoming the delegates and observers to the first meeting of Technical Committee I, thanked the Government of the Popular Democratic Republic of Algeria for their generous hospitality and facilities put at their disposal. The Conference, he explained, was a precedent for other Conferences, in that for the first time, the work of the Conference itself was preceded by technical discussions of two Committees, whose conclusions and recommendations would be sent to the main Conference which followed, for endorsement and submission to FAO's Council in November 1970. This involved the modification of timing and the provision of suggestions for the programme of work and budget for the next biennium and was consequent upon Resolution No. 3 of the Fifth FAO Regional Conference held in Kampala in November 1968.

Delegates were therefore assembled to apply this new formula of conferences, and the first session of Technical Committee I was to discuss technical matters from which it was hoped definite conclusions would emerge which the Conference would submit in the form of Resolutions to the Director-General and the Member Countries for action, as to whether the problems could best be dealt with at national, regional or international level. He commended to the Committees the submission of creative and realistic proposals capable of practical implementation.

Each of the two Committees were to discuss three subjects which were interrelated though distinct. The Committees were to be presided over by a Chairman and three Vice-Chairmen elected by the delegates. He concluded by transmitting the best wishes of the Director-General for a successful outcome to the Conference.

Election of Chairman and Vice-Chairmen : The Committee elected the following officers :

- |                      |   |  |
|----------------------|---|--|
| Chairman             | - | M. Ahmed Bouchetata, Directeur de l'Institut national de la recherche agronomique;               |
| First Vice-Chairman  | - | Dr. Bukar Shaib, Permanent Secretary Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Natural Resources;      |
| Second Vice-Chairman | - | M. Abdoulaye Maiga, Directeur du Cabinet, Ministère de la Production, Mali;                      |
| Third Vice-Chairman  | - | Mr. Matthew Okai, Principal Agricultural Economist, Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, Uganda |

Adoption of the Agenda : The following agenda and time-table were adopted.

- a. Opening of the first meeting of the Technical Committee
- b. Election of the Chairman and Vice-Chairmen
- c. Adoption of the Agenda
- d. Consideration of the items on the agenda:
  - (i) Food Crops Development in Africa (ARC/70/5)
  - (ii) Livestock Development in Africa (ARC/70/6)
  - (iii) Fisheries Development in Africa (ARC/70/7)

Technical Report : These recommendations being completely endorsed by the plenary session of the Conference are incorporated within this report of the Conference appearing in preceeding pages.

## APPENDIX II

### Proceedings of Technical Committee II : 21-24 September 1970

The delegates adopted the order of the day and the provisional agenda and proceeded to elect the following delegates to preside over the debates of Technical Committee II :

- |                      |   |  |
|----------------------|---|--|
| Chairman             | - | Mr. Jean-Baptiste Yonke, Conseiller technique du Secrétariat d'Etat au développement rural du Cameroun oriental; |
| First Vice-Chairman  | - | Mr. Albert Mohali, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture, Lesotho;  |
| Second Vice-Chairman | - | Mr. Raphaël Remezzo, Directeur de l'Agriculture, Burundi;  |
| Third Vice-Chairman  | - | Mr. M.B. Alpha, Assistant Chief Agriculturist, Ministry of Agriculture and Natural Resources, Sierra Leone.      |

The Agenda comprised :

- (i) Intra-regional Trade (ARC/70/8)
- (ii) Investment Possibilities in Agriculture (ARC/70/9)
- (iii) Mass Communication Media as a Medium for the Mobilization of Human Resources (ARC/70/10)

Technical Reports of this Committee being completely endorsed by the Conference are incorporated within the report of the Conference in preceeding pages of this document.

APPENDIX III

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

A. DELEGATES

ALGERIA

Tayebi Md. Belhadj Larbi  
Ministre de l'Agriculture et de la réforme agraire

Boukli Nouredine Hassan Tani  
Secrétaire général au Ministère de l'Agriculture et de la  
réforme agraire

Boudjakdji Raouf  
Chef de la Division des Organisations internationales

Chenni Bachir  
Conseiller technique  
Ministère de l'Agriculture et de la réforme agraire

Bouchetate Ahmed  
Directeur de l'Institut national de la recherche agronomique

Karaterki Ahmed  
Conseiller technique  
Ministère de l'Agriculture et de la réforme agraire

Alloum Djaffar  
Directeur de la production végétale  
Ministère de l'Agriculture et de la réforme agraire

Abdelaziz Mohammed  
Directeur de la réforme agraire  
Ministère de l'Agriculture et de la réforme agraire

Benkourdel Ahmed  
Directeur de la production animale  
Ministère de l'Agriculture et de la réforme agraire

Chellig Rabah  
Conseiller technique pour le pastoralisme  
Ministère de l'Agriculture et de la réforme agraire

Karsenty Jean-Claude  
Directeur comptabilité et financement  
Ministère de l'Agriculture et de la réforme agraire

Harrati Mahmoud  
Directeur général  
Office algérien des pêches

Aïssa Ebrahim  
Secrétaire des affaires étrangères  
Division des Organisations internationales

Fasla Abdelmajid  
Deuxième Secrétaire à l'Ambassade d'Algérie à Rome

Boukebous Abdelmadjid  
Sous-directeur des pêches  
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APPENDIX IV

LIST OF DOCUMENTS

General Information

ARC/70/INF/1	Information note
ARC/70/INF/1 (a)	Registration form
ARC/70/INF/2	Provisional timetable
ARC/70/INF/3	List of documents
ARC/70/INF/4	Recommendations of the Fifth FAO Regional Conference for Africa and action taken
ARC/70/INF/5	List of participants (Technical Committees)
ARC/70/INF/6/ Rev. 1	FAO Staff Members attending the Sixth FAO Regional Conference for Africa
ARC/70/INF/7	List of participants (Plenary Session)
ARC/70/INF/8	Statement by Mr P. Terver

Background Documents

ARC/70/1	Provisional Agenda
ARC/70/1 (a)	Provisional Annotated Agenda
ARC/70/2	Regional Representative's review of FAO activities in the Region
ARC/70/3	Policy Implications for the Region of the IWP World-Wide Study, and its relation to the Second Development Decade
ARC/70/4	Agricultural Research
ARC/70/4 (a)	Introduction to Regional Conference Paper ARC/70/4
ARC/70/5	Food Crops Development
ARC/70/6	Livestock Development
ARC/70/6/Add. 1	Recommendations and Summary of discussions of the Second FAO Regional Conference on Animal Production and Health
ARC/70/7	Fisheries Development
ARC/70/8	Intra-Regional Trade
ARC/70/8/Add. 1	Prospective opportunities of Agricultural Intra-Sub-Regional Trade over the Second Development Decade (1970-1980)
ARC/70/9	Investment Possibilities in Agriculture
ARC/70/10	Communication Media as a Medium for the Mobilization of Human Resources
ARC/70/11	No document
ARC/70/12	Medium-Term Programme Supplementary Paper to CL 55/9 for the Regional Conference for Africa
ARC/70/12 (a)	Proposals for Medium-Term Activities and Programmes (note by Director-General)
ARC/70/12/Add.1	Medium-Term Programme of Work and Budget ECA/FAO Joint Agriculture Division.

Conference Documents

ARC/70/CONF/1	Director-General's Introductory Statement
ARC/70/CONF/2	Statement by the Executive Secretary of ECA
ARC/70/CONF/3	Statement by the Regional Representative
ARC/70/CONF/4	Statement by the Executive Director of WFP
ARC/70/CONF/4 (a)	Joint African activities with other UN and Associated Agencies : World Food Programme
ARC/70/CONF/5	Statement by Mr Michel Cépède, Independent Chairman of the FAO Council.

Reports

ARC/70/REP/I  
Rev.1

Report of Technical Committee I

ARC/70/REP/II  
Rev. 1

Report of Technical Committee II

ARC/70/REP/III

Report of Plenary Sessions of the  
Regional Conference.

APPENDIX V

SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS ON SHORT-TERM ACTIONS

I. General Regional Activities

To FAO

1. Promote harmonization between national plans of countries with similar economic constraints, development policies and complementary ecological conditions, by organizing meetings of both policy makers and planners of Member Countries. (78)
2. For future Regional Conferences the study of all agenda items of a technical character be entrusted to Technical Committees. Incorporate the conclusions of the Second World Food Congress in elaborating the strategy for the Second Development Decade and implementing the World Indicative Plan. (186)
3. Delegations supported the Director-General's resolve to enhance the status of the Regional Representative as an Assistant Director-General and requested that there be a commensurate increase in responsibility and authority vested in the Regional Office for co-ordinating the activity of Country Representatives and FAO field staff programmes with a strengthened number of experienced officers. Various suggestions were adduced for providing finance for increasing the permanent staff in the Region, if necessary by redeployment of certain Headquarters posts and budgetary resources to the field. (59)
4. Appointment of FAO Country Representatives in all the countries, for the more effective coordination of the countries' agricultural programmes. (61)
5. Regarding FAO executed or bilaterally sponsored programmes some criticisms were voiced about missions and delayed transmission of project recommendations. They urged the closest collaboration between countries, specifically with respect to regional research activities. (60)
6. The reality and urgency of a common UN policy for African agriculture in which FAO, ECA, OAU and all bilateral agency inputs were effectively coordinated, taking full cognizance of national objectives but with a clear perspective of complementarity and regional objectives. Convergent views on evident priorities accepted for the Region are apparent within the framework of Indicative World Plan guidelines, development plans formulated by countries, sub-regional programmes and the aims of regional economic groupings. (62)
7. Conference supported the philosophy and principles urged by the Pearson Report, endorsed the practicality of the World Food Congress recommendations, and favoured the adoption of country programming to incorporate technical assistance with their established development plans. (63)
8. Conference suggested the establishment of a Land and Water-Use Commission, special studies on the problems inherent in the conservation of African environments and research on socio-economic problems related to agriculture and investment. (64)

To Governments

9. Country statements in future to comment more on Director-General's policy statement with fewer detailed statistics of agricultural achievements, which are to be presented as written statements and report on action of past conference resolutions. (35, 49)
10. The Conference supported the philosophy and principles urged by the Pearson Report, endorsed the practicality of the World Food Congress recommendations, and favoured the adoption of country programming to incorporate technical assistance with their established development plans. (63)
11. Establishment of a Land and Water-Use Commission, centralized assembly plants for farm mechanization equipment, special studies on the problems inherent in the conservation of African environments, the World Agricultural Census and research on socio-economic problems related to agriculture and investment. (64)

II. Indicative World Plan

To FAO

1. The Indicative World Plan's coverage should include developing and developed countries, and assess the impact of synthetics on African agricultural export products and consequent problems. (50, 62, 82)
2. Convening of a regional conference of statisticians and planners, and more frequent contacts between FAO and national planners, through missions of IWP staff to take stock of the latest developments in long-term planning, exchange information, suggest economic guidelines to both national policy makers and international bodies, and help diffuse to other countries the experience gained. (76)
3. Promote, as soon as possible, meetings of planners to discuss the agricultural policy implications of mutual interest already highlighted in the IWP. (79)
4. In a second phase, meetings should include policy makers : comparative analyses of national plans, policy conclusions reached by planners' meetings, specific practical action for promoting co-operation in the field of agricultural development planning, of research, training and agricultural trade expansion. These symposia should be organized in co-operation with the most appropriate multinational institutions to ensure the most immediate return for the countries concerned, and to use the secretariat resources more efficiently. (80)
5. Strong support for recommendations made by the Second World Food Congress on the liberalization of the protectionist production and trade policies followed by industrialized countries and study being undertaken by FAO in co-operation with the Economic Commission for Europe on their agricultural problems and policies. This study should investigate the sectoral adjustments needed in advanced industrial countries to accommodate growing quantities of low-technology, labour-intensive exports from developing countries. (81)

To FAO

6. Proposal of the Second World Food Congress for FAO study of comparative advantages of alternative locations of production and processing of farm products, in co-operation with other interested agencies. (82)
7. Considering the growing concern over rural unemployment and under-employment, to analyse the most appropriate agricultural modernization policies compatible with a stable and remunerative agricultural income for rural masses. The role of mechanization in agricultural development and its effects on reducing or expanding employment. (84)
8. Establishment of an input programme as already discussed in the Second World Food Congress and previous FAO Conferences. (85)

To Governments

9. Promote harmonization between national plans of countries with similar economic constraints, development policies and/or experiencing similar or complementary ecological conditions, through meetings of both policy makers and planners of Member Countries and FAO staff. (78)
10. First phase : meetings of planners to discuss the agricultural policy implications of mutual interest in the IWP. (79)
11. Second phase : meetings of policy makers for analysis of national development plans, re policy conclusions reached by planners' meetings, aiming at specific practical action for promoting co-operation in agricultural development planning, research training, expanding agricultural trade. (80)
12. Considering the growing concern over rural unemployment and under-employment, to analyse the most appropriate agricultural modernization policies compatible with securing a stable and remunerative agricultural income for rural masses. Study of the role of mechanization in agricultural development and its effects on reducing or expanding employment. (84)

III. Food Crops

To FAO

1. Continuation of well oriented research on food crops with the establishment of adequate coordinated programmes at a regional or sub-regional level. (88)
2. Immediate assistance to the Region in identifying market possibilities in various countries for individual food crops in the view of the lack of both technical and market information. (92)
3. To establish a pool of technical personnel with relevant specialist experience in defined fields to help minimise the scarcity of experienced personnel in some countries. To train nationals of the Region who are required at all levels to replace expatriate personnel. (93)

To FAO

4. In order to foster food crops development a programme was needed on specific key crops to :

- a) carry out co-operative research and training of personnel
- b) promote exchange of information and experience among countries
- c) make full use of available national and international expertise and institutions;
- d) encourage the establishment of effective national and sub-regional policies on food crops;
- e) identify other critical problems of food crop development, particularly insects, diseases and the use of herbicides. (96)

5. To organize, with multilateral and bilateral financial assistance, regional or group country programmes, on sorghum, millet and maize, on grain legumes, wheat and on root crops. The expansion of multinational projects such as the WARDA programme on rice to other interested countries. (93, 96, 97)

To Governments

6. The need for diversification as well as national self-sufficiency since the great variety of climatic and ecological conditions could permit the production of almost all the food products that Africa needed with the avoidance of recurrent shortages. Emphasis on improved storage and research on the processing biochemistry of tropical foods and perishable commodities for effective practical storage and distribution in rural areas. (50)

7. Creation of incentives to increase production and modify present trends by overcoming marketing difficulties, developing new markets with adequate storage facilities to cope with food surpluses and stabilize prices. Because they will make a more substantial contribution than hitherto by the development of local industries and foreign exchange earnings, food crop production policies are important in integrated national development plans. (89)

8. Seed multiplication units for distributing high-yielding varieties whenever appropriate, the introduction of modern techniques, with extension and husbandry practices and the exacting pre-conditions of infrastructure organization, equipment and credit facilities. Contributory control production factors like irrigation are essential to realize the full benefit of such introduced varieties. On the other hand, maximum efforts should be made to utilize improved varieties less exigent than high-yielding varieties with a view to increasing yields of crops. Attention must be given to the introduction and testing of the varieties under different ecological conditions. (90)



IV. Livestock

To FAO

1. Assistance in establishing disease-free zone for livestock and meat production because of the added significance of African livestock development in view of its defined importance as one of the three essential African export items of the Indicative World Plan's perspectives. (51)

2. Provide :

- a) all relevant information, including the results of international Conferences which had a bearing on the work of the Regional Conference and its technical committees.
- b) Assist the appropriate authorities to establish and demarcate adequately recognized rinderpest-free zones to facilitate international trade in meat from such areas.
- c) Because of the vast potential area which would be made available for livestock development by a comprehensive programme of tse-tse fly control in Africa; to achieve this objective the eradication of tse-tse should be placed on the same basis as the desert locust control campaign.
- d) A campaign for bovine pleuropneumonia, similar to the measures used for the successful control of rinderpest, should be established.
- e) To support training schemes adapted to local livestock conditions with technical and financial assistance through UNDP.
- f) Problems involved and assist Member Countries requesting advice on the control or regulation of bush and forest fires and of improved land-use practices. (98)

3. Future papers presented to the Conference should summarize activities on animal husbandry problems in the Region. These should cover animal health, animal production practices, meat and milk preparation and handling, fodder production and the marketing of livestock and their products, indicating how the resolutions of previous meetings have been implemented. From such analyses, regionally acceptable practical programmes could be suggested.

Considerable scope existed for regional action in :

- a) establishing zoo-sanitary arrangements between countries;
- b) the importation of semen and for developing artificial insemination facilities for livestock improvement;
- c) range management and livestock feeding practices;
- d) the supply of improved breeds of smaller livestock and poultry;
- e) livestock problems by sub-regional or ecological groups;
- f) dairy products development. (99)

4. The compilation of an inventory of important livestock projects in the African Region, with summaries of the achievements attained for coordinating activities between countries in the Region. (100)

5. More attention to livestock problems of Northern Africa. (102)

To FAO

6. Elaborating a livestock development strategy to cover the whole range of associated problems (e.g. production, health, dairying, marketing, transport, abattoirs, cold storage, etc.) because a co-ordinated exchange between countries in training opportunities, research facilities and investigational results should help to strengthen African coordination in the field of livestock development. (103)
7. Strengthening of the Regional Office's capacity and authority to provide effective services among the priority areas indicated above and such others as may be identified in National Development Programmes. (104)
8. The Regional Office should keep regional personnel fully informed of decisions at international meetings and of such technical meetings as were scheduled for the future. Group country technical assistance for animal censuses. (105)
9. Regional Research Institute on range management with objectives to create, maintain or improve range vegetation in the arid zones in Africa, to serve as a unit for research, a focal centre for training national staff and provide facilities for related studies on social, economic, ecological and land tenure conditions, including investigations associated with nomadic grazing practices. (106)
10. Attention should be paid to the possible effects on, and danger to humans eating meat from animals that had been fed antibiotics or hormones or similar substances for intensifying their liveweight increases. The necessary studies should be made and the results disseminated as quickly as possible. (107)
11. The organization of a regional grassland survey team for providing data to assess potential investment projects and provide a sound basis for further research and integrated development programmes. (108)
12. Regional training courses in pasture and range management. Information on dairy training courses for both French and English-speaking African countries. (109)
13. Conference endorsed the recommendations of the Buenos Aires Consultation on Meat and Poultry and requested the Director-General to inform the Committee on Commodity Problems to this effect. (111)

To Governments

14. Proper structures and services, supported by appropriate agrarian legislative measures and amended land tenure practices, for improving all phases of livestock development. Expansion of agricultural credit facilities to cover the needs of livestock and the rational use of pastures. Considerably more watering points should be developed and safeguarded from mis-use. (98)

To Governments

15. The provision of group country technical assistance to accomplish effective animal censuses. (105)
16. The integration of cereals, fodder crops and animal production, of particular importance in rotational practices, better animal feeding, soil conservation and the stabilisation of production; the role of forage legumes as an alternative to unproductive fallows. (110)
17. Under the International Dairy Development Scheme sponsored by FAO and WFP, FAO was ready to assist developing countries to obtain external aid needed for the implementation of their plans for the expansion and improvement of milk distribution and domestic dairy development. (112)

V. Fisheries

To FAO

1. Prompt action in the establishment of an Inland Fishery Commission. The problem of fishing along the African coast and the need for regulatory measures in collaboration with those non-African countries fishing the resource. Delegations referred to the proposed Law of the Sea Conference and urged a preparatory meeting of African States. The Conference had provided for ample discussions on fishery matters and urged that this procedure be continued to ensure that this important sector for the Indicative World Plan should receive adequate attention and priority in FAO's and national programmes. (52)
2. A number of common problems indicated by delegations pointed to the obvious possibility of joint technical assistance action for their practical solution on a sub-regional or regional level. These included studies leading to bankable projects on : optimizing investment in boat building for efficient labour-intensive artisanal production for inshore marine, lake and river fisheries and an exhaustive inventory of artisanal fisheries; economic processing of fish products susceptible of marketing and storage in varying climatic conditions without loss of food value; intra-regional markets, economic assessment of inputs for investment; protein (fish/meat) consumption surveys, manuals and film strips for extension and training institutions; assessment of brackish water lagoon potential in Western Africa; research on commercially suitable fish culture species adaptable in the African context. (116)
3. The evident need for continuous exchange of information on fisheries development currently underway in African countries was repeatedly voiced. Absence of an FAO Fisheries Information Bulletin to maintain such fisheries intelligence exchange was indicated as a serious gap peculiar to the African Region. Urgent priority for the setting up and financing of such a bulletin at the level of the Regional Office. (117)
4. Strengthening services by FAO personnel based in Africa to assist in the identification and formulation of action programmes for development and investment. A regional staff adequately reflecting the importance of Governments' and FAO's action programme in the Region. (118)

To FAO

5. Emphasis on the production of species like shrimp, spiny lobsters, tuna, sardinella, which are susceptible of high yields and/or export value. Because of urgently required results in terms of efficient increased production, the need for the establishment of projects which are immediately investment-oriented, whether for optimized production or industrialized marketing; in addition to such projects as conduct biological studies and stock assessment surveys that have longer-term investment implications. (119)
6. Stronger support to CECAF for meetings and for projects that CECAF may formulate, if necessary through extra-budgetary sources of finance as is the case with the Indian Ocean Fisheries Commission. (120)
7. The Conference, while recognizing that some provision had been made for fisheries as an item in intra-regional trade, expressed concern that fisheries studies, similar to livestock studies as in Project 3, were not included in the work programme of the ECA/FAO Joint Agriculture Division. It urged that a Fishery development project similar to Project 3 should be undertaken. (121)
8. The convening of a meeting of the appropriate national authorities to finalize approval of regional and sub-regional training institutions previously listed by FAO. The preparation, in co-operation with the countries of suitable curricula of such institutions. The formulation of projects for such institutions and their sponsorship to financing bodies including the pre-project financing, where necessary, for training national teaching staff. (124)
9. African Governments should meet as a matter of urgency, in 1971, to coordinate their views and to study the best means for the conservation of resources and the control of fishing operations in all seas around Africa. FAO should assist in convening this meeting and explore the possibilities of co-sponsorship of the meeting by the OAU. (77, 126)
10. The Conference noted that the Regional Office has only one fishery officer and recommended that the Director-General of FAO should find ways and means of effectively strengthening the regional fisheries staff, including a fishery statistician to coordinate national data collection systems and facilitate information exchange. (127)
11. The establishment of an Inland Fisheries Commission for Africa and requested that progress be reviewed by April 1971. (128)
12. A questionnaire on the scope of the Inland Fisheries to be circulated and Member Nations will be requested to reply by the end of 1970. (131)
13. African Member Nations to be invited to participate fully in the ad hoc consultation establishing an Inland Fisheries Commission prior to April 1971 Sessions of COFI. (133)

To Governments

14. Investments and national efforts should be mobilized for the maximum efficiency in harvesting fishery resources for artisanal and industrial development. Delegations with established national training facilities offered their use for other fishery students. (52)
15. The need for the establishment of projects which are immediately investment-oriented, whether for optimized production or industrialized marketing; in addition to such projects as conduct biological studies and stock assessment surveys that have longer-term investment implications, particularly regarding shrimp, spiny lobsters, tuna and sardinella. (119)
16. The potential pollution hazard to fisheries through increasing use of pesticides and detergents. (122)
17. African Governments should meet as a matter of urgency, in 1971, to coordinate their views and to study the best means for the conservation of resources and the control of fishing operations in all seas around Africa. FAO should assist in convening this meeting and explore the possibilities of co-sponsorship of the meeting by the OAU. (52, 126)
18. FAO will invite African Member Nations to take part in ad hoc consultations, to be held in Rome immediately preceding the Sixth Session of COFI (15-21 April 1971). The Department of Fisheries will advise African Governments of the importance of these consultations and of the Sixth Session of COFI, which, it is expected would lend its support to the conclusions reached resulting from these consultations. All African Member Nations would be able to participate fully and equally in the consultations, while they may attend the Session of COFI as members or observers, as the case may be. (133)

VI. Intra-regional Trade

To FAO

1. Delegations all emphasized the importance of developing intra-regional trade, market surveys, the concomitant problems of which have been well defined by the Technical Committee discussions. The speeding up of investment procedures to facilitate agro-industrial development, to stimulate agricultural credit and to modernize rural structures. (53)
2. To collaborate with the countries of the Region and OAU in fostering intra-regional trade as a follow-up of the first phase of the various sub-regional studies conducted under BCA/FAO project 39. (77)
3. The inclusion of follow-up studies for processed agricultural products and derived manufactured products for internal and external markets. (135)

To FAO

4. FAO and ECA should take further action to promote intra-regional trade in co-operation with GATT, UNCTAD and other regional bodies; to bring importers and exporters together to discuss trading opportunities open to them; to promote market information and distribute the Market Information Bulletin published by ECA to commercial enterprises; to strengthen the Trade Promotion Centre and the All-African Trade Centre; to promote market research; to encourage the organization of a Federation of African Chambers of Commerce; to promote the establishment of regional reserves of essential commodities; to train Africans in the techniques of export trade. (140)

5. In view of experience in the Region, FAO and ECA should ensure that food aid, provided under the World Food Programme or from bilateral sources does not disrupt normal production and trade patterns. (141)

6. Subsequent studies should be based on assessment of ecological characteristics of individual countries and should include investigation of ways of reducing production costs in order to make prices competitive. Detailed study of unrecorded trade should also be made, since this constitutes an important proportion of intra-regional trade. Inter-country complementarity should be examined in addition to sub-regional complementarity. Sub-regional groupings should not be water-tight, as in some cases countries have considerable trade links with neighbours in other sub-regions. In this connection OAU should be invited to play an active role. (143)

7. Considering data limitations of the Phase I study, the findings could only be approximate. Phases II and III should include a careful examination of the pattern of current agricultural practices, comparison of these with development possibilities and recommendation of measures for initiating improvements and new developments. UNDP, other multilateral and bilateral organizations be invited to provide assistance for the rapid completion of the subsequent phases of this study. (142, 146)

To Governments

8. To collaborate with the countries of the Region and OAU in fostering intra-regional trade as a follow-up of the first phase of the various sub-regional studies conducted under ECA/FAO project 39. (77)

9. Countries should endeavour to remove trade barriers and grant preferential tariffs for goods and services within the Region; to harmonize commercial legislation, standards, grades, weights and measures; to promote control of trade by nationals. (139)

10. The removal of trade barriers and re-orientation of trade links with former metropolitan countries were matters for policy decisions of Governments as were also the establishment of a Payment Union to minimize payment difficulties, and the harmonization of national programmes and policies. OAU should be very closely associated with the studies on intra-regional trade. A special study be made of existing trade agreements between African and former metropolitan

To Governments

countries. The Conference considered that FAO and ECA should take further action to promote intra-regional trade in co-operation with GATT, UNCTAD and other regional bodies and bring importers and exporters together to discuss trading opportunities open to them; promote market information and distribute the Market Information Bulletin published by ECA to commercial enterprises; strengthen the Trade Promotion Centre and the All-African Trade Centre; promote market research; encourage the organization of a Federation of African Chambers of Commerce; promote the establishment of regional reserves of essential commodities; train Africans in the techniques of export trade. (140)

11. Individual countries should further promote intra-regional trade by limiting commercial activities to their nationals. (141)

12. The Conference recognized the apparent conflict between the national objectives to achieve self-sufficiency and to promote diversification as against the need to promote intra-regional trade through specialization, and urged countries themselves to harmonize their agricultural development policies so as to avoid duplication and waste. (144)

13. FAO and ECA should sponsor inter-governmental meetings to ensure co-operation in the promotion of intra-regional trade. (145)

VII. Investment Possibilities

To FAO

1. The document on investment possibilities in agriculture should have provided a deeper analysis of the types of projects which could be undertaken so as to enable an acceleration of financial investments in the agricultural sector. (147)

2. The Conference expressed concern at the cumbersome procedures adopted by IBRD in evaluating projects and urged IBRD to adopt more flexible and speedy procedures. (148)

3. The need for training of local personnel in methodology of project preparation and management for effective bankable projects; FAO urged to provide such training within the Region. (150)

4. Since investments in food crops development were of great economic importance, the financing of supporting activities and related projects such as roads, marketing facilities and other infra-structures was needed. (151)

5. Apart from traditional banking criteria, such as rates of return, foreign exchange earning and saving, employment opportunities offered, impact on the national economy and on farmers' income; socio-economic considerations should receive much greater attention than hitherto by the Banks. (152)

6. Greater involvement of banking institutions in the financing of agro-allied industries. (153)

To FAO

7. Financing of agricultural research as an essential component of development projects whenever required. (156)
8. Financing agencies should take an active part at an early stage in basic feasibility studies and should take fully into consideration the social and economic priorities outlined in national development plan of the countries. More attention should be paid to the integration of bank projects into existing development plans of individual countries for the purpose of adequate national control and training of personnel. (157)
9. FAO's assistance for the preparation of projects to be locally financed and expressed concern that certain financing agencies were not interested in small project requests. The Conference noted that the financing of such projects could be sought from ADB. (158)
10. Concern about the onerous terms of lending; the delays in project preparation, evaluation and implementation and urged that the terms of lending should be made less onerous, that project preparation and evaluation be speeded up so as to expedite project implementation. (160)

To Governments

11. Re the distribution and frequency of missions to countries, the Conference noted that missions of the Bank Co-operative Programmes to African countries depended on requests of Governments. The operational responsibility for project preparation was shared by the Permanent African Missions of IBRD, IBRD and ADB Headquarters and the FAO Investment Centre. (149)
12. Re procurement of materials regulations of international banks required international competitive bidding. Concerning complaints expressed about the cumbersome procedure used by IBRD, the Conference also noted the limitations of FAO's Investment Centre, since bank terms or conditions and detailed procedures of IBRD's activities were beyond the competence or control of FAO. (154)
13. Procedure for requests from Governments addressed both to the FAO Investment Centre and the financing institutions so as to initiate the preparation of bankable projects. (155)
14. ADB's activities in the Region gave particular emphasis to financing regional projects while also assisting Governments with preparing and financing national projects. (159)

VIII. Mass Communications Media

To FAO

1. The establishment of efficient mass communication as an effective means for motivating rural communities and indicated their support for FAO assisted permanent training institutions with very practical programmes. (55)



To FAO

2. Two permanent training centres for communications support in agricultural development be established for English and French-speaking countries as soon as possible, and more eventually. The programme and methods to be used at such centres should be realistically attuned to African rural conditions. (162)

3. Though recognizing the value of University level training in foreign countries, greater emphasis should be placed on the need for training within the environment. FAO was requested to provide fellowships for agricultural communications training, particularly for high-level personnel, not only for countries with on-going FAO/UNDP projects, but for all other countries requesting it. (163)

4. Major need was the provision of instructors to train others for appropriate means of mass communications in the Region. (164)

5. Research in this field and of studies by rural sociologists, economists and specialist teachers in communications important. (170)

6. In view of recommendations submitted by the Director-General to the Fifteenth Session of the FAO Conference, of various FFHC Conferences and of the Second World Food Congress, closer collaboration with FFHC and with all other interested bodies was advocated. (171)

7. To provide more help in the production of films, film strips and other audio-visual aids in support of rural, agricultural and fisheries development. (172)

8. The Conference specifically recommended the establishment of permanent training centres; the convening of a technical information conference in the Region to explore the best ways of setting up the centres and the nature of curricula; the strengthening of the resources of the Information Division and particularly at the Regional Office, for the purposes of Rural Development Support Communications; the establishment by FAO, UNICEF and UNESCO of a joint programme for the effective use of mass communications media for rural development; the inclusion of a mass communication component in all agricultural development projects in the Region. (173)

To Governments

9. The need to integrate communications media and programming, with country development planning through elimination of illiteracy, development of general educational processes and the institution of specialized mass communication support services. (166)

10. The development process was not just a matter of good mass communications at all levels, nor merely a problem for technicians, but rather an area involving social and economic values that concerned everybody. (167)

11. Countries in the Region more experienced in mass communication media be encouraged to help others whose facilities were now being established. It was suggested that existing training facilities be made available to neighbouring countries with similar or relevant conditions. (169)

IX. Research

To FAO

1. The further regionalization of research studies on problems common to certain ecological areas in various fields. (54)
2. Agreement expressed with the initiative taken by the Director-General concerning the identification and promotion of global projects in agricultural research. The need for proper balance between fundamental research on the one hand, and applied or adaptive and developmental research which must necessarily be carried out under local environmental, social and economic conditions, on the other. Emphasis should be on applied or adaptive research as opposed to academic. (175, 176)
3. Support for FAO's programme of :
  - a) strengthening of National and Regional structures;
  - b) establishing liaison bureaux;
  - c) Inter-African Commission on Agricultural research;
  - d) coordination of research meetings and conferences;
  - e) Regional Documentation Centres. (177)
4. Promotion of :
  - a) personnel training;
  - b) liaison between research and extension services;
  - c) documentation. (178)
5. Priorities for research on certain food and fodder crops, nomadic grazing, specific pests and toxic residues and specified research fields. (179)
6. Closer coordination in the formulation of research programmes as well as in their implementation. FAO to intensify its co-operation with the Scientific, Technical and Research Commission of OAU and with other African regional organizations. (181)
7. The Conference noted that the Secretariat intends to send to participants documentary material enabling them to find an answer to the various points raised during discussions on specific problems of research organization and on the services associated with the implementation of results. (182)

To Governments

8. The Conference urged the closest collaboration between countries, specifically with respect to regional research activities applicable on an ecological grouping basis and the prompt dissemination of their results. (60)
9. The strengthening of organizational, institutional National and Regional structures of research. At the national level so as to meet national needs; ensure full participation of each State; and enable every country to derive maximum benefits from scientific and technical progress and developments. At the regional level so as to establish for other crops new structures similar to WARDAs, and increase the number of Regional Research Centres. (177)

To Governments

10. The establishment of effective national liaison machinery. (177)
11. The concerted organization of inter-governmental meetings on scientific and technical research topics of multilateral interest but to prevent the proliferation and undue duplication of such meetings. (177)
12. The gradual establishment of a network of national and regional documentation centres covering all agricultural and rural activities and problems. These centres would operate in liaison with FAO Documentation Centre in order to promote the quick exchange of information and facilitate the transfer of scientific and technical agricultural knowledge both within Africa and on a global scale. (177)

X. Forestry

To FAO and Governments

1. The Conference felt that forestry problems should have been discussed at this session. In view of the part played by forest industries in economic and social growth on the one hand, and of world trade prospects for tropical woods on the other, urged the inclusion of these problems in the agenda of the next Regional Conference. (58, 187)
2. The establishment of Tropical Timber Bureaux with UNDP assistance should be speeded up. It also recommended that pulp and paper industries be organized on a regional basis and requested that FAO should continue to study this question in the light of the conclusions of the Cairo Conference. Similarly, FAO should give continuing attention to afforestation problems in Africa. (188)

XI. Nutrition

To FAO

1. The establishment of an African Nutrition Institute. Some delegations specifically urged the inclusion in the next Regional Conference agenda of Nutrition. (56)
2. The establishment of a Nutrition Institute for Africa; the establishment of Applied Nutrition Training Centres. (192)

XII. Medium-Term Activities

To FAO

1. Some delegates considered that the documents ARC/70/12 and ARC/70/12 (a) should have been considered by the Technical Committees, but they were too general and lacking in quantitative detail. (191)
2. Priorities : the production basis of creating employment opportunities; research; assistance to Governments in improving national statistics and in national agricultural development planning; the establishment of a Nutrition Institute for Africa; the establishment of Applied Nutrition Training Centres; and work on trade questions. (192)

To FAO

3. The Conference noted that the main policy lines in ARC/70/12/Add.1 correspond with those in ARC/70/12 and welcomed the continued collaboration of FAO and ECA through the Joint Division. Reservations were expressed about the length of the programme of studies proposed in ARC/70/12/Add.1 and urged that it be expedited. (193)

4. Medium-term Programme would be modified and refined and that the development of programme budgeting in the implementation of priorities in successive Programmes of Work and Budget corresponding to the resources available. (194)

XIII. Regional Conference

To FAO

1. To translate the recommendations of the Technical Committees I and II into action-oriented programmes to be implemented by the FAO Headquarters, Regional Office, Joint ECA/FAO Division, UNDP, ADB, IBRD, other international organizations and the Governments, as appropriate. (86)

2. The Director-General to communicate in due time to Member Governments the main policy lines to be dealt with in his introductory statement of the Regional Conference and which the Regional Conference must discuss in the spirit of the terms of reference stated in Resolution 14/69. (196)

3. The Director-General's intention to raise the post of Regional Representative for Africa to the status of an Assistant Director-General endorsed and calls on him, in addition, to re-assess the other posts and effect readjustments. (196)

4. The Director-General to proceed with the implementation of paragraphs I (a) and I (b) of Resolution II adopted by the Fifth Regional Conference viz : the means available to the Regional Office should be reinforced, in particular by posting additional qualified personnel at the disposal of the Regional Representative; the Regional Office to be given more authority in the area of programme formulation; the co-operation already established between the FAO Regional Office and other bodies working for economic development in Africa, and especially OAU, ECA and ADB, should be continued and intensified; co-operation between the Regional Office and FAO Country Representatives should be reinforced and country representatives to be appointed in all African countries. (196)

To Governments

5. Member Governments to submit their country statements to the Regional Conference in two parts :

- a) an oral statement dealing with policy matters in general and the terms of reference in particular;
- b) a written statement on the country's food and agriculture situation, with particular reference to progress made in the five areas of concentration and international trade, with emphasis on intra-regional trade. (196)

APPENDIX VI

SIXTH FAO REGIONAL CONFERENCE FOR AFRICA

Algiers, 25 September - 3 October 1970

Agenda

I. INTRODUCTORY ITEMS

1. Opening of the Conference
2. Election of Chairman and Vice-Chairman
3. Adoption of Agenda

II. SITUATION AND PROSPECTS OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE IN AFRICA  
AND FAO ACTION IN THE REGION

4. Director-General's Introductory Statement
5. Statement by the Executive Secretary of ECA
6. Statement by the Regional Representative
7. Statement by the Executive Director of the World Food Programme
8. Country Statements
9. Policy Implications for the Region of the IWP World-Wide Study  
and its relation to the Second Development Decade.

III. SECTORS OF SIGNIFICANCE FOR AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE  
REGION IN RELATION TO THE AREAS OF CONCENTRATION

- |                                     |                                 |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 10. Food Crops Development          | ) Regional Action in Progress : |
| 11. Livestock Development           | ) Conclusions of Technical      |
| 12. Fisheries Development           | ) Committee I                   |
| 13. Intra-Regional Trade            |                                 |
| 14. Investment Possibilities        | ) Future Orientation for        |
| in Agriculture                      | ) Regional Action on Major      |
| 15. Communication Media as a        | ) Problems : Conclusions of     |
| Medium for the Mobilization)        | Technical Committee II          |
| of Human Resources                  | )                               |
| 16. Agricultural Research in Africa |                                 |

IV. FAO PROGRAMMES IN THE REGION

17. Orientation of FAO Activities in the Region

V. CONCLUDING ITEMS

18. Adoption of the Report
19. Date and Place of the Seventh FAO Regional Conference for Africa
20. Closing of the Conference.









