

Report of the

**THIRTEENTH FAO REGIONAL CONFERENCE
FOR AFRICA**

Harare, 16 - 25 July 1984



FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS

FAO Member Nations in the African Region (as at 25 July 1984)

Algeria	Guinea	Rwanda
Angola	Guinea-Bissau	São Tomé and Príncipe
Benin	Ivory Coast	Senegal
Botswana	Kenya	Seychelles
Burundi	Lesotho	Sierra Leone
Cameroon, Republic of	Liberia	Sudan
Cape Verde	Madagascar	Swaziland
Central African Republic	Malawi	Tanzania, United Rep. of
Chad	Mali	Togo
Comoros	Mauritania	Tunisia
Congo	Mauritius	Uganda
Equatorial Guinea	Morocco	Upper Volta*
Ethiopia	Mozambique	Zaire
Gabon	Namibia	Zambia
Gambia	Niger	Zimbabwe
Ghana	Nigeria	

Date and Place of FAO Regional Conferences for Africa

First	— Lagos, Nigeria, 3-12 November 1960
Second	— Tunis, Tunisia, 1-10 November 1962
Third	— Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, 3-15 September 1964
Fourth	— Abidjan, Ivory Coast, 9-19 November 1966
Fifth	— Kampala, Uganda, 18-29 November 1968
Sixth	— Algiers, Algeria, 17 September - 3 October 1970
Seventh	— Libreville, Gabon, 14-30 September 1972
Eighth	— Rose Hill, Mauritius, 1-17 August 1974
Ninth	— Freetown, Sierra Leone, 2-12 November 1976
Tenth	— Arusha, United Republic of Tanzania, 18-28 September 1978
Eleventh	— Lomé, Togo, 16-27 June 1980
Twelfth	— Algiers, Algeria, 22 September - 2 October 1982
Thirteenth	— Harare, Zimbabwe, 16-25 July 1984

*Name changed to Burkina Faso on 4 August 1984.

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Rome, 1984

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SUMMARY OF THE MAIN RECOMMENDATIONS

Training of Manpower for Agricultural and Rural Development in Africa

For the attention of Governments

The Conference:

1. recommended that all African countries take the necessary actions to establish national policies and plans and formulate programmes and projects for the implementation of the Strategy and Programme of Action (para. 62);
2. recommended that governments take the necessary measures to train a sufficient number of agricultural personnel (para. 63);
3. urged African governments to strengthen their veterinary services (para. 64);
4. recommended that Governments of the Region should make more effective use of existing training institutions in Africa and undertake collaborative efforts to strengthen them (para. 65);
5. recommended that governments take the necessary measures to expand training capacities in selected institutions (para. 66);
6. emphasized the need to intensify agricultural training at all levels for African women (para. 67);
7. recommended that the percentage of women enrolled in agricultural institutions should be increased from the present 15 percent to 30 percent by the year 2000 (para. 67);
8. recommended that more opportunities should be given to trained women to occupy various positions (para. 67);
9. emphasized the need for further disaggregation of information by major agricultural disciplines and recognized that such a task required more in-depth studies and analysis at the national level (para. 68);
10. emphasized the need to develop programmes of specialized training in important subject matter such as food and cash crops research, project design and analysis, water resources development, agricultural extension, veterinary services, food industry, plant protection, post-harvest technology, farm power and energy, poultry industries, catching and handling fish products, home economics, etc. (para. 69);
11. recommended the creation of a network of centres for advanced agricultural studies in these disciplines and the strengthening of their efforts for its establishment (para. 69);
12. urged governments to focus more on the training of extension workers and middle-level technicians (para. 70);
13. urged African countries to collaborate in improving and upgrading existing institutions (para. 75);
14. urged governments to establish TCDC schemes in the field of agricultural education and training (para. 76);
15. urged governments to undertake significant measures to improve career structures, stabilize appointments, create incentives and provide logistic support (para. 77).

For the attention of FAO

The Conference:

16. recommended that the documents "Trained Agricultural Manpower Assessment", "Directory of Agricultural Education and Training Institutions in Africa" and "FAO's Agricultural Training Activities in Africa" be distributed to all interested national and regional institutions as well as regional bodies concerned with agricultural and rural development in Africa (para. 60).
17. urged FAO and other concerned international organizations to assist, within their available resources, African countries in the implementation of the Strategy and Programme of Action (para. 62);
18. requested that FAO should consider the possibility of setting aside funds to provide more fellowships for specialization in food and agricultural disciplines (para. 72);
19. recommended that FAO should assist African countries specifically in the following activities:
 - preparation of projects for those countries where there is a critical shortage of trained manpower for submission to bilateral and multilateral donors;
 - provision of fellowships to countries of the Region based on the priorities set by the Governments;
 - strengthening existing education and training institutions or establishing new ones;
 - creation of centres of advanced studies for specialized agricultural disciplines;
 - assistance to member countries to establish national evaluation and monitoring systems for agricultural education and training (para. 73);
20. recommended FAO should play a coordinating role in the mobilization of additional resources for the implementation of training and institutional building programmes (para. 74);
21. requested FAO to assist African countries in the promotion of TCDC activities in this field (para. 76);
22. requested FAO to continue, within the available resources, its technical support to African countries in training-required manpower (para. 78).

Agricultural Price Policies in Africa

For the attention of Governments

The Conference:

23. recommended to member countries to collaborate with FAO in the global study (para. 80);
24. recommended that food aid commodities should as far as possible be obtained from countries having similar dietary habits and supplied through triangular transactions (para. 90);
25. recommended that inter-country or intra-regional trade in foodstuffs should be encouraged (para. 90);

26. emphasized the need for subsidies to encourage introduction of improved production techniques, but that subsidies should not become a permanent policy (para. 92).

For the attention of FAO

The Conference:

27. recommended that the Secretariat should take into account in the global study the heterogeneity of conditions in Africa (para. 80);
28. recommended the use of country-specific pricing policy studies in Africa (para. 80);
29. requested FAO to expand its assistance to member countries in developing their capabilities in price policy analysis (para. 84).

Monitoring the Implementation of the Agricultural Part of the Lagos Plan of Action

For the attention of Governments

The Conference:

30. stressed the need for stronger efforts by all concerned to achieve the objectives of LPA and the central role of FAO in assisting countries (para. 96);
31. stressed the importance of establishing monitoring systems (para. 97);
32. suggested that development of suitable monitoring systems was primarily the responsibility of the countries concerned (para. 97);
33. decided to recommend to Member Governments:
- the establishment of a feasible monitoring system, as described in Section V of ARC/84/5;
 - the adoption of the socio-economic indicators for monitoring, as contained in Appendix B, with such modifications as were appropriate to individual countries; and
 - to request FAO, in association with other appropriate bodies, to assist in the establishment of suitable monitoring systems and to provide guidance and training to strengthen national and regional monitoring systems (para. 98).

For the attention of FAO

The Conference:

34. requested FAO to liaise closely with other relevant agencies, particularly with OAU and ECA, in establishing an effective monitoring system (para. 97).

WCARRD Follow-up: Changing Agrarian Systems Towards Rural Poverty Alleviation

For the attention of Governments

The Conference:

35. urged Member Governments to implement the recommendations of the Government Consultation on Women in Agricultural Production and Food Security (para. 104).

36. emphasized the contribution women make to the production of food staples and called for the development of appropriate technology (para. 107);
37. recognized people's participation as a prerequisite for any rural development strategy and called for continued support to people's organizations (para. 108);
38. emphasized the need for effectively reaching the rural people and recommended governments to take the necessary measures to strengthen extension services for men and women farmers (para. 109);
39. urged governments to intensify their efforts in rural development and to take the necessary measures to benefit from the experiences and knowledge generated in the region through TCDC activities (para. 110);
40. appealed to countries who had not yet joined CIRDAFRICA to do so (para. 113);
41. considered that the main task has to be undertaken by the governments and the people themselves and recommended therefore that Governments undertake the following specific actions:
 - further orientate their policies toward the alleviation of rural poverty, increase the allocation of resources to agriculture, improve the services in rural areas and establish an adequate monitoring and evaluation system for rural development activities;
 - encourage the organization of the rural people into self-reliant associations and provide necessary structures for inputs and services to the rural populations;
 - encourage women's programmes and coordinate action between government agencies to ensure women's participation in development activities with special emphasis on food production and security;
 - provide education, training and extension to rural populations through appropriate methodologies suitable to their specific conditions;
 - provide support to the Centre on Integrated Rural Development for Africa (para. 114).

For the attention of FAO

The Conference:

42. requested FAO to continue improving the socio-economic indicators relevant to monitoring and evaluation systems under African conditions (para. 102);
43. suggested that the documents and the recommendations of the Government Consultation on Women in Agricultural Production and Food Security be circulated to all countries and organizations concerned (para. 104);
44. suggested that a report on the integration of women in rural development be prepared for the next Regional Conference for Africa in preparation for the 1987 FAO Conference and be discussed at other fora (para. 105);
45. requested that FAO mobilize additional resources for related activities at policy, research and field levels, with special emphasis on extension and training and support for structures and planning to facilitate integration and support for rural women's activities in the work of their ministries (para. 106);
46. requested that in-depth studies on the dynamics of agrarian structures and rural poverty be continued (para. 111);

47. reiterated its appreciation to FAO for the effective assistance to rural development and suggested that the Organization:
- continue its programme for assisting countries in their efforts to implement the WCARRD Programme of Action and give priority to Africa;
 - collaborate as the lead agency in the ACC Task Force on Rural Development, with the UN family, in assisting countries in agrarian reform and rural development at the national and regional levels;
 - maintain its technical support to the Centre of Integrated Rural Development for Africa, and provide the necessary assistance so that the Centre can continue to assist its member countries;
 - assist member countries in their efforts to analyze changes in their agrarian systems and in identifying indicators for better developing systems for monitoring and evaluation of their national policies for agrarian reform and rural development;
 - continue its assistance to member countries in the identification of rural women's needs in rural development and in planning and executing national activities to meet these needs, with special emphasis on women in food production and security following the recommendations of the Government Consultation on the subject;
 - report to the Fourteenth Regional Conference for Africa on progress made on WCARRD follow-up (para. 115).

Prospects and Trends of Irrigation in Africa

For the attention of Governments

The Conference:

48. stressed the need for sound irrigation and drainage development and management policies and strategies (para. 118);
49. suggested that experience from other regions should be drawn on (para. 120);
50. felt that governments needed to give greater emphasis to cooperation with the existing inter-country river basin commissions (para. 121);
51. urged that continuing priority should be given to the survey of manpower needs (para. 124).

For the attention of FAO

The Conference:

52. accepted the proposed study and examination of irrigation experience within and outside the Region (para. 119);
53. suggested that a Regional Consultation Meeting be held for exchange of information on strategies for irrigation development and regional cooperation (para. 119).

Development and Transfer of Food and Agricultural Technology

For the attention of Governments

The Conference:

54. recommended adaptive action-oriented research for crops suitable to smallholder farming systems and techniques (para. 43);

55. recommended the development of appropriate technological packages (para. 127);
56. suggested that the effect of industrial pollution on aquatic ecosystems should receive attention (para. 130);
57. recommended that as part of their overall food and agricultural development, each country should specifically identify its technological requirements and policy (para. 132);
58. urged Member Governments to make full use of the excellent services of AGRIS and CARIS provided by FAO (para. 134).

For the attention of FAO

The Conference:

59. urged the Organization to intensify its efforts in strengthening cooperative networks, encouraging the exchange of genetic resources, organizing meetings of African research scientists and strengthening cooperation among national research institutions (para. 131);
60. requested FAO to continue providing assistance to Member Governments in surveying and planning national research systems (para. 133);
61. urged the Organization to continue and further strengthen its efforts in assisting in surveying and planning research systems (para. 133);
62. requested the Organization, in collaboration with other organizations and international and regional research institutions, to undertake periodic examination of available technologies (para. 134);
63. expressed the hope that assistance to research and technology development would continue and be further expanded (para. 135).

Implementation of the Pan-African Rinderpest Campaign

For the attention of Governments

The Conference:

64. emphasized the need to launch the long-term multi-donor funded Pan-African Rinderpest Campaign (para. 136);
65. underlined that the prompt start of the PARC depended mainly on availability of funds (para. 139);
66. stressed the importance of extensive training of all staff to be included in the PARC (para. 140);
67. agreed that those countries not yet participating in PARC should participate in the training, particularly in diagnostic techniques (para. 140);
68. stressed the importance of research on rinderpest in the field of diagnostic methods (para. 141);
69. noted that the ultimate success of the PARC would depend mainly on the commitment of the African governments (para. 145);
70. suggested that all governments should be prepared to ensure that adequate national financial resources were available (para. 145).

For the attention of FAO, other organizations and Governments

The Conference:

71. recommended that, in view of the urgency and importance of the implementation as soon as possible of PARC:
- all parties involved should do everything possible to ensure a prompt start of the PARC as outlined in the project document;
 - the EEC and other donors should be requested to ensure the adequacy of the funding arrangements during the execution of PARC;
 - member states of the PARC should increase allocation of resources to the implementation of national rinderpest projects and ensure that the essential long-term follow-up of the consolidation phase would be achieved, and so facilitate the overall livestock development in Africa;
 - the rinderpest campaign should be accompanied by overall strengthening of veterinary services and should be harmonized with all established overall livestock development policies in the African countries concerned and dealing with other animal diseases, such as trypanosomiasis;
 - special efforts should be made to increase the production of rinderpest vaccines in Africa and to improve their quality;
 - FAO should continue its efforts to seek financial resources to assist member nations particularly in the training of staff at all levels and to continue monitoring progress throughout the campaign;
 - FAO maintain and augment within available resources its funding level and support for the rinderpest campaign in Africa (para. 147).

Representation of the Region on the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (CGIAR)

72. The Conference elected Guinea for four years (1985-1988) to represent the Region along with Tanzania whose turn is continuing. The Conference thanked Senegal for representing the Region for the past four years (para. 151).

INTRODUCTORY ITEMS

Organization of the Conference

1. The Thirteenth FAO Regional Conference for Africa was held in Harare, Republic of Zimbabwe from 16 to 25 July 1984. The Technical Committee Meeting which preceded the Plenary Session was held from 16 to 20 July 1984.
2. Delegates from 41 Member Nations, as well as observers from Member Nations outside the Africa Region, Representatives of the United Nations and Specialised Agencies and observers from inter-governmental organizations and representatives of National Liberation Movements recognised by the Organization of African Unity (OAU), attended the Conference. A full list of participants is given as Appendix B of the Report.

Election of the Chairman, Vice-Chairmen and Rapporteur

3. At its first working session, the Conference by acclaim elected Senator Denis Norman, Minister of Agriculture of the Republic of Zimbabwe as its Chairman. In a short acceptance speech, Senator Norman expressed his gratitude to the delegates for having confided in him to guide the deliberations of the Conference and appealed for their cooperation.
4. The Conference then unanimously elected Mr. Gills Laubhouet-Vally, Minister of Rural Development of the Republic of Ivory Coast, and Mr. Michel Anchouey, Minister of Agriculture, Animal Husbandry and Rural Economy of the Republic of Gabon as its first and second Vice-Chairmen respectively. General G.K. Chinkuli, Minister of Agriculture and Water Development of the Republic of Zambia was unanimously elected as Rapporteur.

Adoption of the Agenda and Timetable

5. The Conference approved the agenda with an additional item "The Harare Declaration" and it established a drafting Committee under the Chairmanship of the Rapporteur. The Agenda as amended and adopted is reproduced as Appendix A.

Inaugural Ceremony

6. In a brief introductory statement, the Director-General of FAO, Mr. Edouard Saouma, paid tribute to the Government of the Republic of Zimbabwe for its warm hospitality and for the excellent facilities made available for the Conference. The Director-General paid special tribute to Honourable Comrade Robert G. Mugabe, Prime Minister of the Republic of Zimbabwe, for his courageous, determined and inspiring contribution to the political, economic and social development of his country and Africa at large. He then invited the Honourable Prime Minister to address the Conference.
7. The Honourable Prime Minister welcomed the delegates to the Republic of Zimbabwe. He expressed his pleasure that Zimbabwe was hosting the Thirteenth FAO Regional Conference for Africa.
8. Referring to the problems of development and malnutrition, the Prime Minister recalled the deliberations of the Economic Summit giving birth to the Lagos Plan of Action, which reaffirmed Africa's unequivocal collective determination to achieve self-sufficiency in food supply. He expressed his support for regional cooperation as evidenced by Zimbabwean faith and confidence in the Southern African Development Coordination Conference (SADCC) and the Preferential Trade Area of Eastern and Southern Africa.
9. The Prime Minister expressed appreciation for the work of FAO in Africa and referred specifically to the study of agricultural potential based on agro-ecological zones

which had indicated the land resource base in Africa as being adequate to achieve self-sufficiency. To realise this objective, he expressed the need for expansion in cultivation, improvement in productivity and the consolidation of scattered land holdings into larger economic units. He appealed for the adoption of improved cultural practices and improved technologies, especially the use of technical production inputs and the recycling of organic matter. These measures should be complemented by improvement in plant protection, irrigation development and management, soil conservation, adaptive agricultural research, the training of extension staff and delivery systems. He stressed the need for rational use of natural resources to avert the danger of soil degradation caused by increasing population pressure on land, bush fires and inadequate conservation measures. To this end, he emphasized the need for the adoption of technical, economic and social measures that would safeguard soil and ensure land productivity.

10. The Prime Minister noted the deterioration in food/requirements ratio and the shortfalls which were having to be met through imports. To reverse this trend, the Prime Minister urged that steps be taken to harness water resources and develop irrigation potential. He referred to the composite flour development programme, with particular emphasis on technologies that would facilitate the use of traditional forms of food production, minimise food losses and ensure food security.

11. In this endeavour, Africa would require the support of the international community, including the organizations of the United Nations system. In this regard, he appealed to FAO in particular to continue to render assistance to Africa's endeavour to achieve self-sufficiency, control animal diseases, ensure adequate provision of improved seeds, fertilizers and other necessary agricultural inputs, laying emphasis on the professional training in the field of agricultural project identification, planning, implementation, management and monitoring.

12. The Prime Minister expressed appreciation for FAO activities in the follow-up action to the World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development, especially in reviewing agrarian reforms, and rural development, integration of women in economic development and the expansion of education, training and extension services in the rural areas. He drew attention to the need to develop new and renewable sources of energy for food production in rural areas.

SUMMARY OF PROCEEDINGS

Statement by the Director-General of FAO

13. In his keynote address, the Director-General of FAO referred to the persistent devastating drought that afflicted many African countries causing famine in a few countries. Even in areas where climatic conditions had been favourable, the countries had been adversely affected by the spread of crop infestation and the outbreak of animal diseases. It had become necessary for the Organization and the World Food Programme to monitor the situation and keep the international community informed through a special Task Force established for this purpose.

14. The Director-General informed the Conference that the donor community had responded generously to requests from the stricken countries, although actual deliveries of emergency food aid remained short of pledges, commitments and needs. Delays had been caused by logistic difficulties. The Director-General also referred to the erratic rainfall in Eastern and Southern Africa, portending another poor harvest and a critical food supply situation. Accordingly, he appealed to the donor community for the additional food aid and related emergency needs of Africa.

15. The Director-General observed with great concern the problems related to the global economic recession, especially the deterioration in the international terms of trade, balance of payments difficulties compounded by monetary instability, foreign debt, limited access to markets and the general worsening of international economic relations. African economies had also been ravaged by refugee problems, civil disturbances, and rural insecurity. He expressed the hope that the recently concluded International Conference on Assistance to Refugees in Africa would provide some reprieve.

16. The Director-General emphasized the consequences of the demographic patterns of Africa. With the highest population growth rate, Africa was facing a future population explosion which would upset the food/population balance, especially because of increased food demand from the growing urban population.

17. Urbanization had spurred a change in dietary habits, shifting consumption preferences to 'convenience' foods. This trend had been reinforced by availability of cheap imports and food aid, and had been weaning Africans from eating traditional foodstuffs. Increasing food imports had been absorbing a sizeable amount of export earnings, while the purchasing power of exports was declining. Continuing dependence on external sources of foodstuffs could be disastrous. To restore the food supply/requirements equilibrium, the Director-General recommended simultaneous progressive adoption of improved technologies for agricultural production and control of population growth.

18. The Director-General expressed firm support for the United Nations Secretary-General's recent initiative on the economic and social crisis in Africa and the appointment of a Special Representative in the person of the Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa. The Director-General informed the Conference that he himself had earlier called for a special Conference or a Special Session of the United Nations General Assembly on the African crisis. This proposal had been endorsed by the Economic Commission for Africa Council of Ministers and the Tenth Ministerial Session of the World Food Council. The Economic and Social Council's recent session had been examining the "Critical Economic Situation in Africa".

19. Referring to the FAO activities in Africa, the Director-General informed the Conference that the Organization's Programme of Work and Budget had increasingly been devoted to activities for the exclusive benefit of the Africa Region, absorbing as much as 45 percent of the budget of the Regular Programme. He referred also to FAO Special Action Programmes on post-emergency rehabilitation especially the provision of agricultural inputs, the activities of the Technical Cooperation Programme, and action to cope with drought and other disasters. The Director-General further informed the Conference

that about half of the work of FAO Investment Centre was addressed to Africa. He also referred to the recent World Conference on Fisheries Management and Development which had mandated FAO to expand its activities in the principal areas of fisheries development; Africa would be one of the principal beneficiaries.

20. Before concluding his address, the Director-General referred to two specific issues for discussion pertaining to the training of manpower and rinderpest campaign. He stressed the urgent need to increase professionally trained manpower and to develop the technical cadre to support the professionals; also to improve the quality of training. Efforts were now being made to use Portuguese as a language in some training seminars and workshops.

21. As regards the Rinderpest Campaign, the Director-General stressed the leading role of FAO, especially in resource mobilization, training, technical backstopping and preparation of projects. He appealed to Governments to take necessary measures to ensure the success of the campaign, strengthen veterinary services in the Region, and contribute to African agricultural development in general.

22. In concluding his statement, the Director-General recalled that extensive studies had been undertaken and a host of recommendations made about Africa with minimal success. The Director-General therefore proposed the undertaking of a critical in-depth examination, possibly with the theme "Steps Towards a Revival of African Food Production". The results of the in-depth study could be presented to a special FAO Regional Conference for Africa in 1986, and to any special United Nations Conference on Africa, which might then be held. The work would require a big effort by FAO, with the cooperation and concerted efforts of governments and in collaboration with United Nations agencies and other bilateral and multilateral development organizations. The Conference might wish to consider this proposal and include a recommendation accordingly in its report.

Country Statements and General Debate on Food and Agricultural Situation in Africa

23. In their country statements on the food and agricultural situation in Africa, delegations expressed appreciation for the assistance FAO had provided to their countries to supplement their efforts in the development of their crops, animals, fishery and forestry resources. Tribute was paid to the Director-General for his vigilance over the food and agricultural crisis in Africa and his dedication to alerting and mobilizing the international community to help deal with it.

24. Special mention was made of the FAO decentralization policy which had facilitated exchanges between the Organization and member Governments, particularly in improving project formulation and delivery and general assistance. In this connection, some delegations recommended that the FAO Regional Office for Africa should be restructured so as to enable it to assist more effectively in the preparation of sub-regional and regional projects.

25. The operation of the Technical Cooperation Programme was greatly appreciated. It had, inter alia, generated substantial investments in the agricultural sector. Delegations also appreciated the high proportion of regular budget allocations to the Africa Region and the appointment of more Africans in the Organization.

26. The Conference welcomed the Director-General's proposal made to the Conference of a special World Conference or a special session of the United Nations General Assembly to consider the African food crisis which had been taken up by the ECA Council of Ministers and was now under consideration in ECOSOC, and recommended FAO to play a leading role in the preparation of the documentation for the session.

27. The Conference strongly supported the proposal of the Director-General to devote the fourteenth FAO Regional Conference for Africa to an in-depth examination of the root causes of the African food crisis, the options and the measures required to improve the performance of the food and agricultural sector in Africa.

28. On the food crisis in Africa, delegations, while appreciating that some areas with fragile ecological conditions were vulnerable to environmental stress and recurrent food shortages, regretted the paradoxical situation in which there was in Africa abundance of land, water, livestock, fishery and human resources. Yet Africa was scourged by hunger and malnutrition. They noted the further paradox that Africa had been suffering from scarcity of food, whereas in developed market economy countries, growing surpluses arising from efforts to maintain farmers' incomes were a matter of preoccupation.

29. Delegations regretted that Africa had to suffer the humiliation of deprivation and heavy dependence on food aid and imports. The trend of food availability, they recalled, was contrary to the expectation of the World Food Conference held in 1974 that by 1984 no child should go to bed hungry. In Africa today, the number of people living below the poverty line and in abject poverty had actually increased, the food/requirements ratio continued to deteriorate, and there were no immediate prospects that the situation would improve.

30. Delegations expressed concern that this would be disastrous, since some 70 percent of the African population derived their livelihood solely from agriculture. The agricultural sector also remained the mainstay of most economies of African countries, accounting for about 40 percent of the Gross Domestic Product (GDP), over 70 percent of export earnings and a sizeable percentage of government revenue receipts.

31. Most delegations indicated that in the past self-sufficiency in food supplies was normal and food production was in many cases of peripheral interest in national development policy formulation. Given the growing menace of supply shortage, however, the food problem had now become a key stand in national development policy and strategy.

32. Faced with this embarrassing phenomenon, African governments had adopted various measures to improve food and agricultural production. Delegations indicated that the major structural transformation of the rural sector included reform of agrarian and social systems, institutional reforms, institution building, development of rural infrastructure, attempts to clarify and introduce incentives necessary and sufficient to motivate the farmers to increase production. Some delegations also informed the Conference that their governments had drawn up a national food strategy. These measures were being complemented by ancillary services such as the improvement of delivery systems and the marketing infrastructure, supply of seeds, fertilizers, etc. and extension services.

33. Many delegations also informed the Conference that their governments were pursuing equity-oriented as well as poverty alleviation policies in consonance with the Declaration of Principles and Programme of Action and the Peasants Charter of the World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development. Some delegations also indicated that their governments undertook periodic policy reviews and adjustments leading to needed reforms. Mention was made of structural adjustments, currency and exchange rate adjustments, liberalization of internal marketing, payments of remunerative producer prices. These efforts had been complemented by expansion in training programmes for both the extension staff and the farmers. Some delegations, however, pointed out that their governments had difficulty in reconciling the conflicting objectives of paying remunerative prices to producers and maintaining consumer prices at reasonable levels.

34. As regards the integration of women in food production and general economic development, delegations underlined that women had already formed an integral part of the economic system. Accordingly, the recommendations of the Government Consultation on the Role of Women in Food Production and Security held in Harare from 10 to 13 July 1984, were endorsed.

35. Delegations observed that their efforts had often been frustrated by endogenous and exogenous factors. It was noted with concern that in recent years the African food and agricultural situation had been ravaged by recurrent drought in some areas, random occurrence in others and erratic rainfall in most areas. The drought situation had persisted, especially in the Sahel countries as well as in Southern Africa where the population had been denied the fundamental right to eat and drink. This had led to extensive population movement in search of food, grazing and water.

36. Meanwhile, increasing population pressure on land had been upsetting the ecological balance and coupled with drought had resulted in serious desertification. The Conference emphasized the need to safeguard agricultural land from desert encroachment and appealed for rational management of natural resources, by adopting cultural practices that would safeguard the ecological base on which crops were produced and animals raised, in order to avoid ecological disaster.

37. Delegations observed that given the unreliability of rainfall, heavy dependence on rainfed agriculture could not offer sufficient food security. Accordingly, nearly all delegations emphasized the need for irrigation and drainage development to reduce the risk of crop failures and improve food security. It was noted that large-scale capital-intensive irrigation projects would compete for scarce resources with smallholder development. Accordingly, delegations recommended the development of small-scale irrigation schemes which could suit smallholders and were easy to implement. FAO was requested to assist in such development especially in training.

38. Furthermore, efforts to improve food and agricultural production had been frustrated by outbreaks of pests and diseases of both plants and animals. Seasonal upsurges of crop pests and diseases, especially migratory locusts, continued to occur in various parts of the Region. Another pest causing concern for food supplies had been the Larger Grain Borer discovered in Tanzania but which had spread to neighbouring countries. It was suggested that the control of the pest should be carried out on a sub-regional basis. Another infestation common in East Africa had been army worms which caused extensive damage to crops.

39. Many delegations referred to the serious ravages of Rinderpest. It was noted that in 1983 the outbreak of rinderpest had reached its new peak, but had been contained following emergency action through the expansion of vaccination, utilizing national resources and those provided by external assistance. Delegations expressed appreciation for FAO's prompt actions to help them to control the outbreak and to mobilize external help.

40. The situation, however, remained critical in many areas. The need for speedy implementation of the Pan-African Rinderpest Campaign was stressed. Delegations appreciated FAO's role in launching the campaign and expressed the hope that the OAU would continue to generate the needed political and coordinating support. FAO was requested to continue to mobilize resources and to carry out its role as the leading technical agency in this field. Delegations expressed appreciation to the EEC for its readiness to provide the funds to finance the first phase of PARC. OIE assistance was also appreciated.

41. Some delegations indicated that their countries had been able to reduce food imports following favourable development in domestic supply as growth in food production was a little higher than population growth rate. In many other cases, however, commercial food imports had fallen in order to meet shortfalls mainly because of foreign exchange difficulties, debt burdens and high prices.

42. The Conference noted that there had been a massive exodus of school leavers from rural to urban centres. This shift in demographic trends resulted in the average age of farmers increasing. In the absence of increases in productivity to compensate for the labour force lost to urban centres, a fall in food and agricultural output could be expected.

43. Prospects for increasing productivity remained bleak, delegations noted, because millets, sorghum and tubers which constituted 60 percent of the staples in Africa, had had the least technical packages which could be extended to the farmers. This had occurred because research efforts were devoted to the development of export cash crops. Accordingly, it was recommended that adaptive action-oriented research be pursued to develop crops which could fit the smallholder farming system and techniques.

44. Regarding fishery development, delegations provided information on the status of their fishery resources, and expressed support for the recommendations for the recently concluded World Conference on Fisheries Management and Development. Particular emphasis was placed on resource assessment and the development of aquaculture. The damaging effects of industrial effluents and the use of agro-chemicals were noted.

45. Delegations recognized that the pre-requisite for the development of food and agricultural production in Africa was the improvement of agrarian structures, especially the institutional framework that would facilitate access to productive assets and inputs, especially land and credit, as well as to internal and external markets. These measures should be complemented by improving research programmes to develop new productive inputs of seeds and improved animals and suitable technological packages, by the provision of credit to facilitate and support the diffusion of biological yield-increasing and labour-saving innovation; and by the improvement of extension services and delivery systems to promote acceptance of technological innovations. It was observed that access to these innovations could best be carried out through appropriate institutions capable of integrating agricultural modernization with credit and marketing policies. This could be realised by creating appropriate rural institutions which would facilitate people's participation in economic decision-making activities.

46. Special appeal was made for wider support to CIRDAFRICA, as the regional centre for cooperation in rural development. FAO assistance to the Centre was greatly appreciated. A further appeal for continued support was made to the Organization. In respect of research, some delegations noted that regional cooperation had existed in the past, but that this had broken down after independence. An appeal was made for the establishment of new links of cooperation among countries having similar ecological conditions. Cooperation in training and regional trade were also emphasized.

47. Given that the world had become a 'global village', delegations regretted that their economies were exposed to recession-related problems. Delegations referred in particular to governments' inability to insulate their economies from imported inflation. Special mention was made of the deterioration in the international terms of trade which had eroded export earnings and purchasing power, and of limited access to markets through restrictive trade practices. Because of dwindling foreign exchange receipts, many countries had been suffering from severe balance of payment stresses and a foreign debt burden exacerbated by high interest rates. This situation had reduced the capacity of many countries to import the needed foodstuffs to meet shortfalls in domestic supply.

48. In general, the Conference was deeply concerned that the food supply situation in Africa would remain critical for some time to come, and that the battle against hunger and malnutrition would remain a protracted and difficult one.

49. Many delegations expressed concern with the continuing imbalances in international relations. They appealed for more economic relationships based upon better terms of trade and increased resource transfer to developing African countries.

50. The problem of external economic relations was also raised in the context of expatriates employed under technical assistance programmes. Emphasis was laid on the training of local personnel to replace expatriates and the importance of availability of trained manpower at all levels for agricultural development. It was pointed out that locally trained manpower should also be provided with similar facilities for the successful

execution of their work, including attractive emoluments. Governments should review their salary structures to enhance the retentive capacity of national institutions in order to avoid a brain-drain of trained manpower.

51. Delegations expressed appreciation to the Director-General for responding so comprehensively to the request of the Twelfth FAO Regional Conference for Africa for an assessment of trained agricultural manpower in Africa. They requested FAO to continue to assist member governments in implementing the recommendations and conclusions of the assessment within the resources available.

52. The Conference noted that the serious social and economic dislocations caused by various factors had been exacerbated by external destabilizing political as well as economical forces, including in particular refugee problems. These factors had undermined the capacity of African countries to extricate themselves from the grips of economic and social crisis which continued to afflict Africa with unrelenting vigour. The situation could have been attenuated if there had been adequate resource flows to finance needed capital investments and productive inputs. Regrettably, international financial institutions which had been lending to poor developing countries at concessional terms had had difficulties in having their funds replenished. The Conference therefore appealed for prompt replenishment of these funds.

53. In conclusion, taking note of all these factors and in the context of the need to implement the food and agricultural chapter of the Lagos Plan of Action, the Conference expressed the utmost resolve to solve the African food problem as far as possible by its own self-reliant efforts. It accordingly adopted the following Harare Declaration.

HARARE DECLARATION ON THE FOOD CRISIS IN AFRICA

We, the African Ministers, responsible for agriculture and rural development, and for food production and distribution, assembled in Harare, Zimbabwe, for the Thirteenth FAO Regional Conference for Africa from 23 to 25 July 1984;

1. Deeply conscious of the ultimate responsibility vested in us by our Heads of State and Peoples to ensure that food is produced and supplied in our countries in sufficient quantities and suitable varieties and standards to the full satisfaction of all our populations;
2. Conscious of the fact that the main objectives of the Lagos Plan of Action, namely, to bring about substantial improvement in the food situation by 1985 and to lay the foundation for the achievement of food self-sufficiency have remained largely unrealized;
3. Gravely concerned by the structural constraints retarding food and agricultural production in Africa and by the global and domestic crises frustrating our best designed efforts to achieve these objectives, particularly:
 - (a) the prolonged drought and other calamities engulfing our continent;
 - (b) the rate of population growth and the effects of massive urbanization in the face of diminishing food supplies;
 - (c) the world economic recession seriously affecting the quantity and price of our exports;
 - (d) the debt problem, foreign exchange difficulties and constraints on the flow of concessional development aid;

- (e) the effects of conflicts and foreign interventions, especially the illegal occupation of Namibia by South Africa, as well as inequitable land distribution based on persistent political motivations;
 - (f) the consequent current food crisis in more than 20 of our countries;
4. Aggrieved and chagrined by the untold suffering of millions of our people who are perennial victims of these continuing and intensifying crises;
 5. Solemnly resolve to overcome the crisis of food and agriculture in Africa and achieve our priority objective of raising the level of food security and to this end we declare as follows:

I. SELF-RELIANCE

1. We reaffirm our determination to become controllers of our destinies and to this end we assert our rightful role both at the national and international level;
2. We solemnly renew our commitment to the establishment of a New International Economic Order through the implementation of the goals and objectives of the International Development Strategy for the Third Development Decade, the Regional Food Plan for Africa (AFPLAN), the Lagos Plan of Action, the Declaration of Principles and Programme of Action of the World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development, the new Concept for the Implementation of the Plan of Action on World Food Security, and the Strategy for Fisheries Management and Development;
3. In paying tribute to all those who struggle with us, be they Governments, International Organizations, particularly the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, Non-Governmental Organizations and individuals, we fully accept that the burden of developing our agricultural and rural areas and raising the nutritional standards of all our peoples rests substantially on the efforts of our own Governments and peoples.

II. FOOD AND AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION

4. We pledge ourselves to continue to give the highest priority to agricultural and rural development among our national priorities, plans, budgets and programmes;
5. In according the highest priority to agriculture, we shall:
 - (a) adopt more effective policies for food and agricultural development;
 - (b) take measures to increase efficiency of resource use in government institutions;
6. We affirm our determination to carry out these policies for faster agricultural growth on the basis of country specific strategies consisting where applicable of the following elements:
 - (a) Allocation of adequate resources to support agricultural production at all levels with special emphasis on small holders;

- (b) Establishment of improved incentive systems through more remunerative producer prices, more efficient marketing systems, sufficient and timely supply of inputs, and of consumer goods and greater involvement of farmers in decision making;
- (c) Provision of credit facilities and timely payment of farmers' entitlements;
- (d) Improvement in the implementation of existing programmes and projects and rehabilitation of existing infrastructure, irrigation schemes, and rural roads;
- (e) Intensification of training and research including in particular the granting of scholarships for studies or research to countries who may request them on appropriate technologies, crops, livestock, fisheries and forestry;
- (f) Expansion of pest control and related activities and measures to reduce post-harvest losses;
- (g) Eradication of animal diseases and pests such as rinderpest, trypanosomiasis, etc.

III. FOOD SECURITY

7. We reaffirm our accord with the application to Africa of the new concept of World Food Security as adopted by the FAO Conference and the UN General Assembly, with all its components of (i) facilitating adequate food production; (ii) maximizing stability in the flow of food supplies to the points where they are required; (iii) ensuring physical and economic access of all these who need them whether they be countries, families or individuals.

8. To this end, we renew our commitment to design and implement national food security programmes as integral parts of our overall development strategies.

9. We reaffirm our support to the establishment by FAO of a Food Security Action Programme at national and regional levels and we agree to the proposal to establish the World Food Security Compact.

IV. FOCUS ON AFRICA BY FAO AND OTHER ORGANIZATIONS

10. We appreciate the attention and support being given to help in solving the African food crisis by multilateral and bilateral organizations, in particular FAO;

11. We also express our appreciation to the Director-General of FAO and the Secretary-General of the United Nations for their recent initiatives on the food crisis in Africa;

12. We welcome the generous food aid and development assistance given to the most seriously affected countries by a number of donor countries, international organizations and intergovernmental and non-governmental bodies, and we appreciate their expressed willingness to increase such aid;

13. We support fully the recommendation of the Director-General of FAO made to the recent sessions of the ECA, the World Food Council and ECOSOC to ask the General Assembly to discuss all aspects of the economic and social crisis in Africa with the purpose of designing strategies and actions for solving the crisis;

14. We call on all international organizations and donor agencies to increase their financial and material assistance to accelerate agricultural development in the Region;

15. We invite the Director-General of FAO to keep the African food situation under close surveillance and keep the world community informed of new developments;

16. We welcome and endorse the Director-General's proposal that FAO make an in-depth review of the agricultural and food problems in Africa for our consideration at the 1986 Regional Conference for Africa;

17. We hereby reaffirm our confidence in the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, in its Director-General, and in its priorities and programmes, and we pledge to increase our support to the fulfilment of its goals and objectives.

V. CONCLUSION

18. We solemnly put forth this Harare Declaration on the food crisis in Africa in the conviction that we possess the will and capacity and have the full support of the international community to feed all our peoples and to lay the foundation for greater economic prosperity and self-reliance in Africa.

54. In addition to the Harare Declaration the Conference adopted the following resolution:

RESOLUTION 1/84 - Emergency food situation in Africa

The Conference

Deeply concerned with the extreme gravity of the food and agriculture situation leading to acute food shortages and widespread human suffering in as many as 25 African countries;

Concerned further with the continuing decline in food self-sufficiency of African countries and the rapid increase in the volume of their imports of food products;

Noting that the growth rate of food production in Africa continues to lag behind the population growth;

Considering that the present food supply situation has been aggravated by widespread and prolonged drought, desert encroachment, severe crop infestation and epizootic diseases, as well as the impact of an adverse international economic environment;

Deeply concerned with the persistence of rinderpest, which threatens the animal resources, constituting one of the basic wealth of the population in many sub-regions;

Recalling Resolution 1/83 of the FAO Conference in November 1983 drawing the attention of the international community to the critical situation of food and agriculture in Africa;

Noting the serious concern expressed by the Heads of State of member countries of CILSS in the Niamey Declaration of 31 January 1984;

Commending the Director-General of FAO for his ceaseless efforts to mobilize additional aid to alleviate the present crisis and restore the productive capacity of the affected countries;

Supporting the initiative of the Secretary-General of the United Nations on the economic crisis in Africa and the efforts undertaken by his Special Representative;

Noting that although the international community has generously responded to the series of appeals launched by the Director-General of FAO, there is still a serious gap in food

aid requirements as well as in agriculture and livestock rehabilitation, and an important part of the aid pledges has yet to be delivered,

1. Welcomes the political determination expressed by the African countries in the Harare Declaration on the Food Crisis in Africa adopted by the present Conference to mobilize national resources, stressing self-reliance in food production and food security,
2. Urges the international community to respond generously to the appeals of the Director-General of FAO, by providing additional quantities of food aid and support for the rehabilitation of agriculture and animal husbandry through the donation of agricultural inputs such as seeds, fertilizers, pesticides, vaccines, farm equipment and animal feed supplies,
3. Calls upon donors in particular to help cover the deficits in food aid requirements for the remainder of the 1983/84 campaign, presently estimated by the Joint FAO/WFP Special Task Force on Africa at 445 000 tons of cereals,
4. Urges that donors help meet the uncovered requirements of the rehabilitation of agriculture and livestock production, for transport and distribution of relief goods, as well as for preparedness and post-emergency measures estimated at US\$ 78 million;
5. Stresses the need to speed up the physical delivery of food aid pledges and other agricultural and livestock supplies and inputs in order to reach the needy areas without delay, especially in remote and inaccessible areas during the rainy seasons,
6. Urges in this context additional assistance for internal transport and distribution,
7. Urges all parties concerned to declare solemnly that they support the objectives of the Pan-African Rinderpest Campaign and that they undertake to implement the concrete measures required to launch and implement it,
8. Appeals to all donor countries and organizations to ensure the financing of the whole campaign and earnestly requests that the latter be initiated as soon as possible, in close collaboration between OAU, FAO, EEC and other organizations concerned,
9. Requests the Director-General of FAO to continue to monitor closely the food and agriculture situation in Africa and to play a leading role in mobilizing additional resources for the relief and rehabilitation of the affected countries.

Report by the Assistant Director-General/Regional Representative for Africa on FAO Activities in the Region Including Action Taken on the Main Recommendations made by the Twelfth Regional Conference, and Programme of Work and Budget 1984-85

55. In introducing document ARC/84/2, Mr. J.A.C. Davies, Assistant Director-General and Regional Representative for Africa outlined FAO activities in the Region during 1982-83 biennium as well as those included in the Programme of Work and Budget for 1984-85, and FAO Special Programmes for Africa. He also outlined the programmes in critical areas which FAO had implemented in member countries, including the development of land, water, plants, animals and ancillary services.

56. On the Programme of Work and Budget for 1984-85, the Regional Representative recalled that planned FAO assistance to the Africa Region during the biennium would absorb about 45 percent of total Regular Programme and extra-budgetary resources. He made special mention of the Technical Cooperation Programme, under which FAO had been able to respond quickly to requests from member countries.

57. He informed the Conference that all nine Regional Bodies had been found to have performed satisfactorily and demonstrated potential for promoting technical cooperation among African countries.

58. In consideration of the document, it was suggested that in future the report should be submitted to the Technical Committee and discussed by it.

Training of Manpower for Agricultural and Rural Development in Africa

59. The Conference discussed document ARC/84/3 which dealt with the Strategy and Programme of Action on training of manpower for agricultural and rural development in Africa and expressed its appreciation to the Director-General for his prompt action on responding to Resolution 4/82 of the Twelfth FAO Regional Conference for Africa. The Conference also commended FAO for the comprehensive studies of trained manpower and agricultural education and training institutions carried out by the Organization which provided the necessary data for the preparation of the Conference document.
60. The Conference noted with appreciation that, for the first time, such studies had been conducted in the Region providing very useful information for planning national agricultural trained manpower programmes, the improvement of national education and training institutions and the promotion of TCDC activities among African countries. The Conference recommended that the documents: Trained Agricultural Manpower Assessment, Directory of Agricultural Education and Training Institutions in Africa and FAO's Agricultural Training Activities in Africa be distributed to all interested national and regional institutions as well as all regional bodies concerned with agricultural and rural development in Africa.
61. The Conference also noted with appreciation the assessment of FAO's activities in agricultural education and training, as requested by the Twelfth Regional Conference and approved the high priority assigned to this sector in the Regular Programme.
62. The Conference endorsed the Strategy and Programme of Action on Training of Manpower for Agricultural and Rural Development in Africa as proposed in section VI of the document ARC/84/3 and recommended all African countries to take the necessary actions to establish national policies and plans and formulate programmes and projects for the implementation of the Strategy and Programme of Action. The Conference also urged FAO and other international organizations concerned to assist, within their available resources, African countries in this vital undertaking.
63. The Conference noted the very uneven distribution of professional and technical personnel, with serious shortages in some countries and relative abundance in others. It also recognized the critical shortage in the technical category mainly responsible for providing direct technical assistance to farm producers at the grassroots level. The Conference recommended Governments to take the necessary measures to train a sufficient number of agricultural personnel, at all levels, taking into consideration the minimum requirements indicated by the study and to put due emphasis on training at the technical level ensuring better assistance and services to farmers.
64. The Conference noted that while 88 percent of agricultural trained manpower in Africa had actually been employed in the agriculture and livestock sub-sector, the number of veterinarians in most African countries had not been sufficient to meet present needs. The Conference urged African Governments to strengthen their veterinary services, especially at the technical level in order to provide immediate assistance in animal health for protection against main diseases threatening this important sub-sector of the African economy.
65. Bearing in mind that shortages in trained forestry and fisheries personnel at professional and technical levels existed in most African countries, the Conference recommended that Governments of the Region should make more effective use of existing training institutions in Africa and undertake collaborative efforts to strengthen them. It felt that those countries in Africa which would not find it necessary or feasible to establish national university level programmes in forestry and fisheries, could use suitable institutions in the Region to meet their training needs.
66. The Conference recognized the great inequalities among African countries with regard to training institutions; some countries had insufficient capacity to cover projected needs until the year 2000, while others had enough capacity. The Conference also noted that most African countries needed to improve the quality of teaching and training programmes as well as the upgrading of the professional competence of the teaching staff. It recommended governments, therefore, to take the necessary measures to expand training capacities in selected institutions, including construction of physical facilities, training

of teachers and mobilization of necessary resources.

67. The Conference discussed at length the status of trained women in agriculture in Africa and the level of their recent enrolment in agricultural training institutions. The Conference emphasized the need to intensify agricultural training at all levels for African women who had been and would continue to be responsible for a large part of the agricultural production in the Region. It recommended that the percentage of women enrolled in agricultural institutions should be increased from the present 15 percent to 30 percent by the year 2000, and that more opportunities should be given to trained women to occupy various positions, especially in extension and field level assignments, to facilitate the provision of technical assistance to women farmers.

68. The Conference, while appreciating the data provided by the FAO study on assessment of actual trained manpower in the agricultural public sector, emphasized the need for more disaggregation of the information by major agricultural disciplines. It recognized that such a task required more in-depth studies and analysis at the national level, in order to identify priorities and design appropriate plans for agricultural manpower development to meet the minimum projected requirements.

69. Although some African countries had sufficient numbers of agricultural trained personnel and adequate capacity for general agricultural education, the Conference emphasized the need to develop programmes of specialized training in important subject matters such as food and cash crops research, project design, and analysis, water resources development, agricultural extension, veterinary services, food industry, plant protection, post-harvest technology, farm power and energy, poultry industries, catching and handling fish products, home economics, etc. The Conference recommended the creation of a network of centres for advanced agricultural studies in these disciplines and recommended strengthening their efforts for its establishment.

70. Governments were urged to focus more on the training of extension workers and middle level technicians who train farmers in improved agricultural practices and provide them with needed technical and managerial assistance.

71. The Conference considered that upgrading of the knowledge and skills of existing trained personnel had been and should be a continuous process through in-service training programmes. In addition to short courses and seminars on technical subjects, such programmes might include brief in-service workshops in management techniques for senior personnel at managerial levels.

72. The Conference considered that short-term group training activities were not adequate to meet the needs of African countries for high level specialists in major agricultural fields. It was also felt that some criteria applied under the system of fellowships provided as part of field projects were too rigid. The Conference therefore requested that FAO should consider the possibility of setting aside funds to provide more fellowships for specialization in food and agricultural disciplines. It was also requested that allocations should be made under the Regular Programme for strengthening existing training institutions or establishing new ones, including centres for advanced agricultural studies.

73. It was recommended that FAO assist African countries specifically in the following activities:

- a) preparation of projects for those countries where there is critical shortage of trained manpower for submission to bilateral and multilateral donors;
- b) provision of fellowships to countries of the Region based on the priorities set by the Governments;
- c) strengthening existing education and training institutions or establishing new ones;
- d) creation of centres of advanced studies for specialized agricultural disciplines;
- e) assistance to member countries to establish national evaluation and monitoring systems for agricultural education and training.

74. The Conference strongly recommended that FAO should play a coordinating role in the mobilization of additional resources for the implementation of the training and institutional building programmes identified above.

75. The Conference, realizing the high cost involved in the creation and the continuous functioning of new institutions urged African countries to collaborate in improving and upgrading existing institutions which would require fewer funds for the expansion of their present capacity and improvement of the quality of training. Several delegates felt that these improved institutions could be more suitable for training African personnel under local conditions in the Region than institutions outside the African continent.

76. Bearing in mind that while some countries in Africa had well-established education and training institutions which had been under-utilized, other countries in the Region suffered from inadequate training facilities. The Conference urged Governments to establish a TCDC scheme in the field of agricultural education and training in order to enable countries to benefit from the facilities available in various countries within the Region. It also requested FAO to assist African countries in the promotion of TCDC activities in this field.

77. The Conference emphasized the problem of inadequate utilization of trained personnel. It highlighted the fact that an effective and appropriate utilization of existing trained personnel was a priority task for all African countries. The Conference urged governments to undertake significant measures to improve career structure, stabilize appointments, create incentives and provide logistic support to existing personnel in order to retain them on the job and increase their productivity.

78. The Conference requested FAO to continue, within the available resources, its technical support to African countries in training required manpower for agricultural and rural development, improving the quality of education and training programmes and advising them on appropriate education and training methodologies.

Agricultural Price Policies in Africa

79. In considering document ARC/84/4 which outlined Agricultural Price Policies in Africa, the Conference noted that the role and effects of agricultural price policies had come to the forefront in the analysis of the low performance of the agricultural sector in most African countries and the role and performance of government marketing agencies in implementing these policies had come under closer scrutiny. The Conference noted that the document presented the results of an analysis of agricultural price policy recently undertaken by FAO as part of its world-wide, in-depth study on the subject. The analysis provided information on price policy experiences in the Region and presented some of the important lessons to which governments might refer when formulating price policies.

80. The Conference commended the FAO Secretariat for undertaking a comprehensive study of agricultural pricing policies in the Region and in some countries the Conference recognized that price policies had a crucial role to play in realizing the objectives of agricultural and overall national economic development. The Conference recommended that the Secretariat should take into account in the global study the heterogeneity of conditions in African countries and recommended the use of country-specific pricing policy studies in Africa. The Conference also recommended to member countries to collaborate with the FAO in this global study.

81. As regards the information given in the document, the Conference noted the complexity of pricing policy. The Conference recognized that increased food production did not depend solely on prices but also on many other political, economic, social, technical and geographical factors affecting production and consumption as well as on the adverse international terms of trade. The Conference also observed that the different socio-economic and political systems that exist in Africa could have been more fully taken into account in the document.

82. Most delegations provided information on prices and marketing policies pursued by their national governments. They reported on their experiences in price and marketing intervention, and lessons learnt which had given rise to the introduction of institutional reforms needed to improve their capacity in formulating and implementing appropriate price policies.

83. Several delegations pointed out difficulties their governments were facing in fixing producer prices given the paucity of the data and information base. This difficulty was, in part, a result of the heterogeneity in agro-ecological and climatic conditions, and the differences in farming systems prevalent in individual African countries. In part also, it was a result of the problems faced in reconciling the conflicting objectives of setting remunerative producer prices and at the same time stabilizing consumer prices at levels needed to avoid escalation of wages and generation of inflationary pressure in the economy.

84. Most of these problems could be resolved by developing a better and more accurate knowledge of the prevailing farming systems and production techniques for different crops and livestock enterprises for different types of farm and farming conditions. They had a direct bearing on the cost of production and therefore on the setting of producer prices. Many delegations indicated that their countries did not have the capabilities to undertake detailed price analysis taking into account the variables mentioned above. FAO was requested to expand its assistance to member countries in developing their capabilities in price policy analysis.

85. Many delegations also provided information on the characteristic features of price controls in their countries consisting mainly of official minimum prices and/or guaranteed minimum prices designed to stimulate production and protect the farmer. They indicated, however, that their governments had been unable to administer the system effectively due to shortage of storage and transport facilities and lack of financial resources to support the guaranteed minimum prices. Some delegations noted that parastatal institutions were often obliged to buy and sell at minimum prices, but the farmers were under no obligation to sell to these institutions, if they considered these prices unattractive. Such situations had created parallel markets and smuggling in search of better prices. For export cash crops in some countries this situation was aggravated by over-valuation of domestic currency which had the effect of depressing prices to the producer. A few delegations questioned the relevance of exchange rates and of currency over-valuation in considering price policy analysis.

86. Some delegations also referred to experiences gained and lessons learned in operating pan-territorial pricing policies. Under these uniform pricing policies, which did not take into account differences in transport costs, the result could be that producers near consumption centres ended up by subsidizing transport costs of distant producers. Although it was not always easy to assess the overall effect on income distribution, many governments had benefited more from differential pricing which stimulated production in areas of comparative advantage. However, it was pointed out that uniform pricing might be still relevant for countries which were small in size.

87. Some delegations referred to fiscal policies which taxed the agricultural sector and could result in sizeable income transfers from agricultural to non-agricultural activities. This could depress rural incomes and widen disparities. Any pricing policy should consider such fiscal policies since improved income and purchasing power of the rural agricultural population should be the objective rather than higher producer prices.

88. The Conference noted the fragmentation of the responsibility of agricultural pricing policy among several government ministries and institutions, which created difficulty in coordinating the formulation as well as the administration of pricing policies. The Conference recognized that the marketing system should be related to pricing policy.

89. As regards intervention in agricultural commodity supplies, some delegations provided information on the principal methods employed, namely government purchases using parastatal institutions for distribution purposes, holding stocks to stabilize seasonal price fluctuations and procurement of aid to meet domestic food shortfalls. Price policy analysis should not be confined to domestically supplied commodities but should also cover imported goods. Adverse international terms of trade had been responsible not only for the erosion of export earnings but also for the importation of inflation from developed countries.

90. As regards food aid, the Conference drew attention to recipient governments to the distortions and fluctuations which food aid could introduce both in price and production levels in some recipient countries. It further warned against the danger of food aid encouraging permanent dependence on staple foods which could not be grown in Africa, and would wean the African population away from eating domestically-produced foodstuffs.

In order to minimize dependence on external staple foodstuffs and changes in dietary patterns, food aid commodities should as far as possible be obtained from countries having similar dietary habits and supplied through triangular transactions. In addition, inter-country or intra-regional trade in foodstuffs should be encouraged. This would stimulate production in response to market enlargement. The promotion of such trade, however, would require improvement in supporting infrastructure, such as transport facilities, storage and processing, as well as necessary ancillary services.

91. Several delegations questioned whether there was inevitably a positive correlation between paying higher prices to producers and increases in production. It was felt that there had to be a comprehensive package, including non-price factors and supply of consumer goods, in order to mobilize and sustain the incentives and initiatives of the farmers to increase production. The Conference noted that African farming systems had been traditionally subsistence-oriented and invariably linked to fragmented markets with poor supporting marketing infrastructure and services.

92. Many delegations emphasized the need for subsidies to encourage the introduction of improved production techniques, but subsidies should not become a permanent policy. Some delegations indicated that subsidies could introduce a shift in demand and consumption patterns from traditional food to subsidized foodstuffs. Such changes in dietary patterns could cause hardship to the population when governments could not afford to sustain the level of subsidy. The Conference also noted the difficulty of access to subsidies by the less privileged producers.

93. Some delegations drew the attention of the Conference to the growing difficulty of obtaining access to developed countries' markets following their adoption of a variety of restrictive trade practices exercised through tariff and non-tariff barriers. This exogenous factor had had adverse effects on the level of prices paid to producers.

94. In conclusion, the Conference noted the importance of price policies, subject to the factors referred to above, and looked forward to the conclusion of the global study and its consideration by the Conference.

Monitoring the Implementation of the Agricultural Part of the Lagos Plan of Action

95. In dealing with document ARC/84/5 concerning Monitoring the Implementation of the Agricultural Part of the Lagos Plan of Action, the Conference briefly reviewed the FAO contribution to both the elaboration and implementation of the LPA, noting that since the adoption of the LPA by the Heads of State and Government, FAO's priority programmes for Africa had been framed in the context of the LPA's objectives.

96. The Conference congratulated FAO on its initiative on this subject and on the quality of the document. Many delegations noted however that efforts to meet the objectives of the LPA had been hampered by such factors as drought, the international economic recession and the consequent lack of essential production inputs. The Conference stressed the need for stronger efforts by all concerned to achieve the objectives of the LPA and the central role of FAO in assisting African countries to achieve these objectives as well as in developing an effective monitoring system.

97. The Conference stressed the importance of establishing monitoring systems which were suited to the particular circumstances of individual countries, based on existing structures and which avoided substantial new investment and additional burdens. Development of suitable monitoring systems was primarily the responsibility of the countries concerned, but FAO was available to assist, within available resources, in the achievement of the targets. The Conference requested FAO to liaise closely with other relevant agencies, particularly with OAU and ECA, in establishing an effective monitoring system. The Representative of the OAU informed the Conference of the existing strong cooperation with FAO and the expectation of this continuing.

98. The Conference decided to recommend to Member Governments:

- (a) the establishment of a feasible monitoring system, as described in section V of document ARC/84/5;

- (b) the adoption of the socio-economic indicators for monitoring, as contained in Appendix B, with such modifications as were appropriate to individual member countries; and,
- (c) to request FAO, in association with other appropriate bodies, to assist in the establishment of suitable monitoring systems and to provide guidance and training to strengthening national and regional monitoring systems.

WCARRD Follow-up: Changing Agrarian Systems Towards Rural Poverty Alleviation

99. The Conference discussed document ARC/84/9 highlighting the Changing Agrarian System to Alleviate Rural Poverty, and expressed its appreciation for this comprehensive and concise report and to the Director-General for the support he had given to the implementation of the WCARRD Follow-up Programme in the Africa Region. In relation to this item the Conference took note of document ARC/84/LIM/1 concerning Recommendations of Government Consultation on the Role of Women in Food Production and Food Security (Harare, Zimbabwe, 10-13 July 1984).

100. The Conference commended FAO for intensifying its efforts in the implementation of the WCARRD Programme of Action and in assisting member countries in the orientation of policies in favour of the disadvantaged rural population, the promotion of people's participation, the integration of women in the development process, the provision of adequate education, training, extension and various inputs services to rural people. The Conference urged FAO to continue its assistance in this programme which was already yielding fruitful results.

101. The Conference noted with satisfaction the increasing allocation of FAO's Regular Programme Budget to finance rural development activities. The Conference also appreciated the high priority given to Africa in the Organization's mobilization and extra-budgetary resources made available to FAO for the execution of rural development projects.

102. The Conference recalled the mandate of WCARRD to request governments to set up benchmarks to measure progress in agrarian reform and rural development. It requested FAO to continue improving the socio-economic indicators relevant to monitoring and evaluating systems under African conditions.

103. The Conference took note of the exemplary way in which FAO has exercised its role as lead agency of the ACC Task Force on Rural Development and commended the Organization on its efforts to encourage effective participation of other concerned UN agencies in joint activities, such as high level missions and WCARRD follow-up programmes on people's participation, women in development, and monitoring and evaluation.

104. With regard to the important role which rural women play in agricultural production in the Region, the Conference noted with great appreciation the convening of the Government Consultation on Women in Agricultural Production and Food Security sponsored by FAO (Harare, 10-13 July 1984) and strongly endorsed the recommendations of the Consultation. It urged member governments to implement them and suggested that the documents and the recommendations be circulated to all countries and organizations concerned.

105. Noting that the 1983 FAO Conference had called for the subject of women's integration in rural development to be discussed at Regional Conferences and reported to following FAO Conferences, the Conference suggested that a report be prepared for the next Regional Conference for Africa in preparation for the 1987 FAO Conference and be discussed at other fora.

106. The Conference requested that FAO mobilize additional resources for related activities at policy, research, and field levels, with special emphasis on extension and training and support for structures and planning to facilitate integration and support for rural women's activities in the work of their ministries.

107. Delegations reviewed progress on women's integration in their own countries. They emphasized the contributions women make to the production of food staples and called for them to have assistance in home economics for family management in addition to greater assistance to them as farmers.

108. The Conference recognized people's participation as a pre-requisite for any rural development strategy to involve intended beneficiaries in an active and genuine manner. Accordingly it called for continued support to people's organizations, in the development process, and more services and inputs and facilities for small producers.

109. The Conference emphasized the need for effectively reaching rural people, particularly women, with extension and training programmes and recommended governments to take necessary measures to strengthen extension services in rural areas and to allocate adequate resources for the implementation of extension programmes, using appropriate training methodologies.

110. The Conference noted countries' experiences in orientating national policies towards the rural poor, and planning and implementing rural development projects for increasing income and alleviating rural poverty. These activities were clear evidence of governments' will and intention to commit all possible resources to develop rural areas and eliminate the suffering of rural populations. The Conference urged governments to intensify their efforts in this direction and to take the necessary measures to benefit from the experiences and knowledge generated in the Region through TCDC activities.

111. The Conference appreciated the value and usefulness of in-depth studies on the dynamics of agrarian structures and rural poverty sponsored by FAO. It requested that these studies be continued and the results be disseminated widely.

112. The Conference supported the important role played by the Centre on Integrated Rural Development for Africa (CIRDAFRICA) in the Region's rural development efforts. It called for more activities to be sponsored through the centre by various donors, expressed appreciation for FAO's support for CIRDAFRICA since its inception, and requested that this be maintained.

113. The Conference observed that some 39 countries had attended the Government Consultation on the Establishment of CIRDAFRICA in September 1979, but that to date only 19 countries had joined the Centre. The Conference appealed to countries who had not yet joined to do so.

114. Although realizing that international and bilateral assistance had been needed by African governments and would continue to be so, for the development of rural areas in the Africa Region, the Conference considered that the main task had to be undertaken by the governments and the peoples themselves. It recommended, therefore, that governments undertake the following specific actions:

- (a) further orientate their policies toward the alleviation of rural poverty, increase the allocation of resources to agriculture, improve the services in rural areas and establish an adequate monitoring and evaluation system for rural development activities;
- (b) encourage the organization of the rural people into self-reliant associations and provide necessary structures for inputs and services to the rural populations;
- (c) encourage women's programmes and coordinate action between government agencies to ensure women's participation in development activities with special emphasis on food production and security;
- (d) provide education, training and extension to rural population through appropriate methodologies suitable to their specific conditions;
- (e) provide support to the Centre on Integrated Rural Development for Africa.

115. Reiterating its appreciation to FAO for the effective assistance to rural development, the Conference suggested that the Organization:

- (a) continue its programme for assisting countries in their efforts to implement the WCARRD Programme of Action and give priority to Africa;

- (b) collaborate as the lead agency in the ACC Task Force on Rural Development, with the UN family in assisting countries in agrarian reform and rural development at the national and regional levels;
- (c) maintain its technical support to the Centre on Integrated Rural Development for Africa, and provide the necessary assistance so that the Centre can continue to assist its member countries;
- (d) assist member countries in their efforts to analyse changes in their agrarian systems and in identifying indicators for better developing systems for monitoring and evaluation of their national policies for agrarian reform and rural development;
- (e) continue its assistance to member countries in the identification of rural women's needs in rural development and in planning and executing national activities to meet these needs, with special emphasis on women in food production and security following the recommendation of the Government Consultation on the subject;
- (f) report to the Fourteenth Regional Conference for Africa on progress made on WCARRD follow-up.

Prospects and Trends of Irrigation in Africa

116. The Conference reviewed document ARC/84/6 which aimed at increasing awareness amongst planners and administrators in governments, donor and investment agencies of the role irrigation could play in Africa in rural development and in increasing self-sufficiency in food. The document indicated the present state of irrigation development in Africa and the potential for future development, with regard to the harnessing of the resources of the major river basins and small-scale development in water-short areas. It also outlined the differences between formal, large-scale, production-oriented schemes and informal, small farmer-oriented schemes under the rural development approach, and reviewed the advantages and disadvantages of each. The document identified areas for action for irrigation development covering the resource potential, national policies, manpower resources, scheme management, planning small-scale irrigation, and mobilization of the irrigation experience already available within the Region.

117. The Conference recognized the key role irrigation played, under suitable conditions, in increasing and stabilizing agricultural production, reducing the adverse effects of droughts, and promoting rural development. Generally, the Conference endorsed the philosophy, concepts and areas for action for irrigation development and water management presented in the document, and appreciated FAO's actions and direct assistance provided in these fields.

118. It stressed the need for sound irrigation and drainage development and water management policies and strategies, and recognized the importance in the planning stage, of considering more fully than had previously been the case, the obstacles to and constraints on successful irrigation, which could be physical, economic or social. While they might vary considerably from place to place, according to local conditions, certain general factors leading to success or failure could be observed.

119. The Conference therefore accepted the need to study and examine the irrigation experience throughout the whole region as proposed in the document, in order to learn useful lessons for the future, and to incorporate this knowledge in the new strategies for irrigation development. The Conference appreciated the valuable information provided by some delegations about problems and failures of large-scale irrigation development and water management in their countries, as well as successes achieved in small-scale irrigation which both underlined the need for more information exchange, discussions and co-operation within the Region. It was suggested that a Regional Consultation meeting be held on these questions.

120. The Conference recognized the difficulties arising in large-scale capital-intensive investment schemes dependent on high levels of imported inputs. It was suggested that the experience from other regions should be drawn on, including information on special problems such as irrigation technology, management of underground water and quality and water development in small islands.

121. The Conference noted the large potential for irrigation development which existed in the major river basins, bearing in mind the particular problems such as flooding and salt-water intrusion that agriculture had to face in river plains. Careful planning of the development of the water resources of major rivers was necessary and governments needed to give greater emphasis to cooperation with the existing inter-country river basin commissions in order to maximize the benefits which could accrue to the parties concerned.

122. The Conference noted the present weakness in the management of irrigation schemes and considered that attention should be given to this problem, together with the rehabilitation of such schemes, as a matter of high priority. It also recognized that irrigation management could not be separated from farmers' participation in all phases of irrigation development, operation, maintenance and rehabilitation; this should include the formation of specialized water users' organizations and extension services.

123. The Conference emphasized the potential of low-cost small-scale irrigation for farming communities. This form of development was cost-effective, in that it was built on the felt needs and self-help resources of the people themselves, requiring relatively small external inputs and guidance rather than capital-intensive machinery or structures. Moreover, promoting small-farmer irrigation was a good example of the application of the principles of the WCARRD Programme of Action to assist the rural poor.

124. The Conference underlined the shortage of trained manpower at all levels in the irrigation field, in particular the lack of experienced engineers which extended the dependence of many governments on foreign aid. FAO's activities in manpower development and training were appreciated. The Conference urged that continuing priority should be given to the survey of manpower needs, facilities for training, exchange of trained personnel between countries, and greater cooperation in research and training within the Region, in the area of irrigation development.

Development and Transfer of Food and Agricultural Technology

125. In considering document ARC/84/7 setting out the Development and Transfer of Food and Agricultural Technology, the Conference noted the information provided on food and agricultural technologies in the Region. It viewed with concern the conclusions of the document that recent advances in research had had limited impact on food production in Africa. It concurred with the view that new and more appropriate technologies had still to be developed, especially in tropical areas. Nevertheless, the Conference noted that there were certain proven technologies which, if applied, could lead to increased food and agricultural production. However, the Conference realized that weak institutional capacity, shortage of trained and experienced researchers and technicians, and weak delivery systems continued to hamper the development and transfer of technology in Africa.

126. The Conference stressed that application of new technologies was not always socially neutral, as it could cause significant shifts in local traditions and in social and economic relationships. It was, therefore, necessary to gain a clear understanding of the consequences in terms of social and economic costs and benefits which the new technologies could introduce. Accordingly, to effect successful technology transfer, it would be necessary to develop a clearer understanding of the socio-cultural environment of the farmers and their behavioural characteristics as producers and consumers, especially as regards their responses to inducements and availability of consumer goods.

127. The Conference cautioned against blanket transfer of modern technology and recommended the development of appropriate technological packages to suit various agro-ecological structures and socio-cultural conditions and agrarian systems. This objective could

be realized through indigenous research and development, and adaptation of exotic technologies. It would require the strengthening of research and analytical capability of countries of the Region.

128. The Conference recognized that a pre-requisite for the development and transfer of technology was an increase in investment in research institutions and infrastructure. It further recognized that the provision of credit, the improvement of extension services and delivery systems were necessary to facilitate technology transfer. In addition, the operation of appropriate pricing and marketing policies and the supply of consumer goods would motivate the farmers to accept new technologies to increase their productivity and production output.

129. The training of researchers, extension service agents and the farmers themselves were considered vital to improve research performance, dissemination of information on proven technology and acceptance of innovation. In the field of training, career development programmes should be supported by the provision of fellowships for advanced training.

130. The Conference observed some imbalances in research programmes which could be corrected if the scope and coverage of research activities were expanded to include less well-covered areas, such as research on small ruminants, poultry and pig, forestry, aquaculture, rural energy, draught animal power and food technology. It was further suggested that the effect of industrial pollution on aquatic ecosystems and other environment-related problems should receive attention.

131. The Conference emphasized the need for strong regional and sub-regional technical cooperation in the area of research and technology development in particular by strengthening existing cooperative networks, and where necessary promoting the establishment of new ones, and encourage exchange of genetic resources. The Conference requested that the Organization, in collaboration with other relevant agencies and institutions, consider organizing consultation meetings of African research scientists to exchange information and ideas and also to formulate collaborative research programmes. It commended FAO's efforts in strengthening cooperation among national research institutions and promoting collaborative research and training activities, and urged the Organization to intensify its efforts in these areas.

132. The Conference recommended that as part of their overall food and agricultural development strategy, each country should specifically identify its technological requirements and policy, both for the fuller application of the existing technologies and for the new ones required in the future. To this end each country should develop clear-cut research priorities and develop research approaches relevant to local conditions.

133. The Conference requested FAO to continue providing assistance to member governments in surveying and planning national research systems and programmes and the assessment of national priorities for agricultural research. The Conference recognized the need for enhancing the efficiency and cost-effectiveness of research carried out by national institutions through research management and planning workshops and training courses for institute directors and programme leaders. It urged the Organization to continue and further strengthen its efforts in this regard.

134. The Conference recognized the need for careful and sustained effort of identification, assessment and dissemination of information on available technologies relevant to the Region. It requested the Organization, in collaboration with other organizations and international and regional research institutions, to undertake periodic detailed examination of available technologies related to major food crops, ecological zones and priority areas of research of relevance to the Region. In this regard the Conference expressed satisfaction with the valuable services of AGRIS and CARIS. It urged Member Countries to make full use of these excellent services provided by FAO.

135. The Conference expressed appreciation to multilateral and bilateral development assistance agencies for their support to research and technology development in the

Region. It expressed the hope that this assistance would continue and be further expanded.

Implementation of the Pan-African Rinderpest Campaign

136. The Conference in considering the document ARC/84/8 outlining the Implementation of the Pan-African Rinderpest Campaign, recalled the increasing serious problems of rinderpest in the countries of sub-Saharan Africa threatening its livestock production, food supplies, rural welfare and national economies, strongly emphasized the need to launch the long-term multi-donor funded Pan-African Rinderpest Campaign (PARC) as soon as possible and as an essential step to prevent the continuing losses and further spread of the disease.

137. The Conference commended and recognized the political and coordinating role of the OAU in launching the project of PARC, and underlined the role IBAR must play in the execution of this programme. In this respect, the Conference stressed the importance of close collaboration of all parties involved in PARC.

138. The Conference commended the Director-General of FAO for his support to PARC and for his emergency assistance provided under TCP projects to African countries and requested his continued support for rinderpest control. The Conference noted with appreciation FAO's efforts made in collaboration with other organizations such as OAU/IBAR (Inter-African Bureau of Animal Resources), OIE (International Office of Epizootics), EEC (European Economic Community), ODA (Official Development Assistance), and FAO and its action in formulating 20 out of the 28 national campaign projects which have been distributed to potential donors at the information meeting held at FAO Headquarters in June 1984.

139. The Conference underlined that the prompt start of PARC depended mainly on the availability of funds. It recalled the desire that funds should be provided on multi-donor basis. It was noted that the estimated cost of the first year of the campaign was US\$ 50 million. In this connection, it noted with appreciation the readiness of the EEC to provide up to US\$ 50 million for the first year. As regards other potential donors, the Conference expressed concern that no official commitment had been made so far towards the estimated total cost of approximately US\$ 170 million for the whole campaign. The Conference therefore appealed to all donor countries to announce pledges to the PARC as soon as possible.

140. The Conference stressed the importance of extensive training of all the staff to be included in the PARC before field activities start. The concern of some delegations about rinderpest spreading to countries not yet participating in PARC was noted and it was agreed that those countries should also participate in the training, particularly in diagnostic techniques.

141. Several delegations stressed the importance of increasing the production of rinderpest vaccine in Africa and of improving its quality control. The Conference also noted that vaccine-producing laboratories in Africa required continued assistance and that international systems for the quality control of rinderpest vaccine should be developed as soon as possible. The Conference also noted that the vaccines produced in Africa should be used in the campaign as much as possible.

142. The Conference stressed the importance of research on rinderpest in the field of diagnostic methods, vaccines and the role of wildlife in the epizootiology of rinderpests.

143. In discussing the structure of PARC some delegations expressed their reservations concerning the selection of PARC coordinators and the locations of the Regional Headquarters. It was suggested that this matter should be referred to the next Technical Committee Meeting of PARC.

144. The Conference noted with satisfaction the good cooperation which existed between the international organizations participating in the Preparatory Committee of PARC but

expressed the view that the role of each organization in the campaign should be clearly defined. Recognizing the overall responsibility of OAU in coordinating and executing PARC, the Conference underlined FAO's role as the major technical organization concerned. The Conference noted and thanked FAO for the leading role it has been taking in such fields as mobilization of donor inputs, technical backstopping, improved vaccine production in African countries and vaccine quality control, training and promoting of research, communication and public education.

145. The Conference noted that the ultimate success of PARC would depend mainly on the commitment of the African governments. Therefore, the Conference urged that high priority be given to finance the campaign. The continuation of the campaign in all 28 countries until total eradication of rinderpest was achieved required that all governments be pre-
pared to ensure that adequate national financial resources were available to support the surveillance of the disease, the control of outbreaks and continued vaccination activities after the termination of external financial aid.

146. A few delegations expressed the view that the Inter-governmental Consultation on PARC that had been recommended by the Eighty-fourth Session of the FAO Council should still be organized. However other delegations recognized that the governments would be adequately informed through this FAO Regional Conference and during the coming OAU Summit meeting.

147. In view of the urgency and importance of the implementation as soon as possible of PARC, the Conference recommended that:

- (a) all parties involved should do everything possible to ensure prompt start of PARC as outlined in the project document;
- (b) the EEC and other donors should be requested to ensure the adequacy of the funding arrangements during the execution of PARC;
- (c) member states of PARC should increase allocation of resources to the implementation of national rinderpest projects and ensure that the essential long-term follow-up of the consolidation phase will be achieved, and so facilitate the overall livestock development in Africa;
- (d) the rinderpest campaign should be accompanied by overall strengthening of veterinary services and should be harmonized with all established overall livestock development policies in the African countries concerned and dealing with other animal diseases, such as trypanosomiasis;
- (e) special efforts should be made to increase the production of rinderpest vaccines in Africa and to improve their quality;
- (f) FAO should continue its efforts to seek financial resources to assist member nations particularly in the training of staff at all levels and to continue monitoring progress throughout the campaign;
- (g) FAO maintain and augment within available resources its funding level and support for rinderpest campaign in Africa.

Representation of the Region on the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (CGIAR)

148. In considering document ARC/84/10 concerning Representation of the Region on the Consultative Group on International Agriculture Research, the Conference noted the wide ranging research activities in the region of the International Research Centres (IARCS), and expressed appreciation for the efforts of the CGIAR and its co-sponsors (FAO, UNDP and the World Bank)

149. The Conference welcomed the collaborative arrangements among the various IARCS working in the Region as a means of improving their effectiveness and avoiding the duplication of research effort arising from several IARCS working independently in the same country or the same crop. The Conference urged the IARCS to strengthen their relationship with national research systems (NARCS) in the Region.

150. The Conference noted with satisfaction the marked improvement in recent years in the attendance and the contribution of the representatives of the Region in the meetings of the CGIAR, and commended FAO for the arrangements made and steps taken to improve further the effectiveness of the Regional Representative in the CGIAR meetings.

151. The Conference then considered regional representation on CGIAR and elected Guinea for four years (1985-1988) to represent the Region along with Tanzania whose term was continuing. The Conference thanked Senegal for representing the Region for the past four years. The delegate of Senegal expressed appreciation for the support and cooperation given to his country Representative on CGIAR during the last four years.

CONCLUDING ITEMS

Date and Place of the Fourteenth FAO Regional Conference for Africa

152. The delegate from the People's Republic of Congo extended an invitation of his Government to host the Fourteenth FAO Regional Conference for Africa in 1986.

153. The Director-General thanked the delegate for the kind invitation and indicated that, in consultation with Member Nations, he would give a serious consideration to the invitation in arriving at a final decision.

Consideration and Adoption of Reports

154. The Conference unanimously adopted both the report of the Technical Committee and its own report.

Closure of the Conference

155. In his closing statement, the Director-General noted with appreciation the high level of representation at the Conference indicating the importance Member Countries attached to the food and agricultural situation in the Region. Country statements made during the Conference and the adoption of the Harare Declaration would greatly facilitate in reshaping the FAO Programme of Work in Africa. The Director-General also noted with appreciation that FAO enjoyed considerable support in the Region and reaffirmed his dedication in meeting the needs of Africa. He referred in particular to the pioneering work of FAO in alerting the international community on the food and agricultural crisis in the Region. In this respect he stated that the Organization supported the recent initiative of the Secretary-General of the United Nations with regard to the economic and social crisis in Africa and was collaborating with his Special Representative. The Director-General made a further appeal for emergency food aid to meet shortfalls in pledged deliveries.

156. The Director-General then referred to the devastating encroachment of the desert following the persistent drought. He also referred to other economic and social crises especially the mounting debt burden, balance of payment difficulties, uncontrolled population growth and increasing urbanization, the combination of which had further undermined the fragile African economies. In order to ensure that the food requirements equilibrium could be restored and sustained, Africa had to make every effort to accelerate the rate of agricultural production.

157. The Director-General expressed gratitude that, to this end, the Conference demonstrated the African resolve to tackle the problem resolutely by adopting the Harare Declaration. He recalled that the Declaration called for a reduction of heavy dependence on external sources of food, an increasing allocation of resources to agriculture, development of the agricultural sector and ensuring the food security of the African population by an appropriate policy mix. He assured the Conference that, in collaboration with Member Nations, FAO would undertake an in-depth study of the food and agriculture problems of the Region and propose needed remedial measures as requested by the Declaration. The Director-General observed that while Africa would rely on its resources, and given the global inter-dependence, foreign aid would still remain an important factor in complementing national efforts.

158. Regarding the study itself the Director-General felt that special attention should be given to:

- a) land and water resources highlighting their potential, management and limitations;
- b) existing food systems, highlighting production and marketing methods and supply systems for urban centres, taking into account established eating habits;
- c) food resources and subsistence technologies, undertaking study of various local food crops in an endeavour to highlight the most cost-effective agricultural enterprise;
- d) the major potential and technological options available for food self-sufficiency to tackle the problem of trade, prices, needs for external aids, etc..

159. The results of these studies would be discussed at technical meetings to be organized at sub-regional levels based on homogeneity of agro-ecological zones. Following the deliberations of these technical meetings, necessary documents would be submitted to the next FAO Regional Conference for Africa for decision at ministerial level. The study could also constitute an input into the background document for a possible Conference or special session of the United Nations General Assembly devoted to Africa.

160. Concluding his statement, the Director-General referred to the study on the evaluation of skilled agricultural manpower in Africa, and education and training establishments. He assured the Conference of FAO's continued support to training activities in Africa within the limit of available resources. He also expressed appreciation for the support given by the Conference to the Pan-African Rinderpest Campaign, and appealed for speedy implementation. He expressed gratitude to the EEC for its readiness to provide the initial fund needed for the first year of the campaign. The Director-General reassured the Conference that FAO would provide technical assistance to the Inter-African Bureau on Animal Resources of the OAU, the executing organization.

161. On behalf of the delegates, Dr. J.J. Otim, Minister of Animal Resources and Fisheries of the Republic of Uganda, expressed sincere appreciation for the excellent arrangements made by the Government of the Republic of Zimbabwe for the success of the Conference, and the numerous facilities placed at the disposal of the participants which made their stay in the country a pleasant and memorable one. He paid special tribute to the Director-General for his able leadership. Thanks were also extended to members of the FAO Secretariat and all those who worked hard for the success of the Conference. Senator Denis Norman, Minister of Agriculture, Zimbabwe, thanked the members of the FAO Secretariat and all the local staff who had worked tirelessly to bring the Conference to a successful conclusion.

162. The Thirteenth Session of the FAO Regional Conference for Africa was then declared closed.

A G E N D A

Technical Committee (16 - 20 July 1984)

I. INTRODUCTORY ITEMS

1. Organization of the Technical Committee
2. Opening of the Technical Committee
3. Election of Chairman, Vice Chairmen and Rapporteur
4. Adoption of the Agenda and Timetable

II. TECHNICAL ITEMS

1. Training of Manpower for Agricultural and Rural Development in Africa
2. Agricultural Price Policies in Africa
3. Monitoring the Implementation of the Agricultural Part of the Lagos Plan of Action
4. WCARRD Follow-up: Changing Agrarian Systems Towards Rural Poverty Alleviation
5. Prospects and Trends of Irrigation in Africa
6. Development and Transfer of Food and Agricultural Technology
7. Implementation of the Pan-African Rinderpest
8. Representation of the Region on the Consultative Group for International Agricultural Research

III. ADOPTION OF REPORT OF THE TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Plenary Session (23 - 25 July 1984)

VI. INTRODUCTORY ITEMS

1. Inaugural Ceremony
2. Election of Chairman, Vice-Chairmen and Rapporteur
3. Adoption of the Agenda and Timetable

V. SUMMARY OF PROCEEDINGS

4. Statement by the Director-General

5. Country Statement and General Debate of the Food and Agricultural Situation in Africa
6. Report by the Assistant Director-General/Regional Representative for Africa on FAO Activities in the Region, including action taken on the main recommendations made by the Twelfth Regional Conference, and Programme of Work and Budget for 1984-85.

VI. CONCLUDING ITEMS

7. Consideration of the Report of the Technical Committee
8. Any Other Business
9. Date and Place of the Fourteenth FAO Regional Conference for Africa
10. Adoption of the Conference Report
11. Closure of the Conference

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LISTE DES PARTICIPANTS

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First Vice-Chairman Premier Vice-Président	G. Laubhouet-Vally (Côte-d'Ivoire)
Second Vice-Chairman Deuxième Vice-Président	M. Anchouey (Gabon)
Rapporteur	G.H. Chinkuli (Zambia)

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- ARC/84/INF/4-Rev.1 Provisional List of Participants

ARC/84/LIM. Series

- ARC/84/LIM/1 Recommendations of the Governmental Consultation on the Role of
Women in Food Production and Food Security (Harare, 10-13 July,
1984)
- ARC/84/LIM/2 Harare Declaration on the Food Crisis in Africa
- ARC/84/LIM/3 Draft Resolution on the Emergency Food Situation in Africa

ARC/84/CONF. Series

- ARC/84/CONF/1 Statement by the Director-General (23 July, 1984)

ARC/84/REP. Series

ARC/84/TC/REP Report of the Technical Committee

ARC/84/REP 1 to
ARC/84/REP/3 Draft Report of the Conference

ARC/84/OD.Series

ARC/84/OD/1 to
ARC/84/OD/8 Orders of the Day

EXTRACT FROM TECHNICAL COMMITTEE REPORT

(16-20 July 1984)

Organization of the Technical Committee

1. The Thirteenth FAO Regional Conference for Africa was held in the Stewart Conference Room in the Meikle's Hotel, Harare, the Republic of Zimbabwe from 16 to 25 July 1984. The Technical Committee Meeting which preceded the Plenary Session was held from 16 to 20 July, 1984.

2. Delegates from 40 Member Nations, as well as observers from Member Nations outside the Africa Region, Representatives of the United Nations and Specialised Agencies, and observers from intergovernmental organisations and representatives of National Liberation Movements recognised by the Organisation of African Unity (OAU), attended the Meeting. A full list of participants is given in Appendix B of the Report.

Opening of the Technical Committee

3. On behalf of the Director-General, Mr. Edward M. West, Deputy Director-General, welcomed the delegates and observers to the Meeting. In a brief opening statement, he paid tribute to the Government of the Republic of Zimbabwe for its warm hospitality and the provision of excellent Conference facilities and a congenial environment for the Technical Committee Meeting. Referring to the substantive issues before the Technical Committee, Mr. West believed that the deliberations of the Meeting would advance the collective struggle for African agricultural development. To this end he reassured the Meeting of FAO's resolve to assist Member Countries in meeting the challenge in conformity with the expressed wishes of governments. The background documents had been prepared to facilitate the deliberations of the Committee Meeting which was expected to yield concrete measures to deal with the selected problems of African food and agricultural development on the Agenda, which were crucial elements in achieving success at national, regional and international levels.

4. Mr. West then invited Senator Denis Norman, Minister of Agriculture of the Republic of Zimbabwe, to inaugurate the Technical Committee Meeting. Senator Norman welcomed delegates to Zimbabwe. Delivering his inaugural address, Senator Norman underscored the critical role that the agricultural sector played in the economic development of countries in Africa especially in meeting basic human needs for food and nutrition, supplying many of the new materials required by industry and earning foreign exchange. He noted that this role had not been fully achieved since output from the sector has either declined or stagnated and the incidence of rural poverty had become widespread.

5. Senator Norman then referred to some of the topics before the Technical Committee for consideration. He pointed out that one of the most critical problems facing the continent was that of human resources, and the situation could be improved by increasing locally-trained personnel. He appealed to governments to take appropriate measures, especially pricing which could mobilise and sustain farmer initiatives to raise production. He, however, regretted that the pursuit of pricing objective of providing high producer prices might conflict with the other objective of ensuring cheap food for the consumer. He appealed to policy makers to reconcile the conflicts by adopting options which maintain an equitable balance between costs or benefits to producers and consumers.

6. He concurred with the emphasis in recent years on the importance of rural development, especially by making small farm sector the focus of growth-oriented rural development strategy. To alleviate poverty, still a predominantly rural phenomenon in Africa, he referred to some strategies which should be adopted, especially measures which would ameliorate the adverse effects of variations in seasonal rainfall and a high frequency of drought. Irrigation was cited as an example that would contribute to crop output. The other strategy cited was the development and application of food and agricultural

technologies in Africa, but this would require adequate manpower and financial resources in the field of research, and proper links between research and extension and ancillary services necessary for the technological transfer. He emphasized the importance of Rinderpest eradication and appealed for regional cooperation for the eradication campaign.

Election of the Chairman, Vice-Chairmen and Rapporteur

7. At its first working session, the Committee elected Mr. Robbie Mupawose, Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Agriculture, Zimbabwe, by acclaim as its Chairman. In a short acceptance speech, Mr. Mupawose expressed his gratitude to the delegates for having confided in him in the guidance of the deliberations of the Committee and appealed for their support in his tasks.

8. The Committee then unanimously elected H.E.D. Menezes, the Ambassador of Sao Tome and Principe to the EEC and Permanent Representative to FAO, and Mr. Sanda Maina, Director of Programmes and Studies of Niger, as first and second Vice-Chairmen respectively. Mr. Mansoor Simbwa Bunnya, Permanent Representative of Uganda to FAO, was unanimously elected as Rapporteur.

Adoption of the Agenda

9. The Technical Committee considered and adopted the provisional agenda and timetable. The agenda as adopted is reproduced in Appendix A.

