

Report of the

**FIFTH FAO REGIONAL CONFERENCE
FOR AFRICA**

Kampala, Uganda, 18-29 November 1968



FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS

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Rome, 1969

FOREWORD

The contents of this Report consist largely of a summary of Conference discussions, on the one hand, on FAO's short-term action based on a comparison of country needs and FAO proposals contained in the Regional Representative's review, and, on the other, on some of the major issues emerging from work on the Indicative World Plan and its focus on long-term objectives, as they affect the Region.

Some repetition in the emphasis given by the Conference in considering short-term action and long-term trends has unavoidably resulted. Furthermore, many of the items discussed were related, during debate, to the five priority areas of concentration of FAO's future effort; and this has necessarily introduced in the Report a wider range of aspects of agricultural development than would have been the case if the treatment had been kept within individual technical subject matter fields.

The reader who is interested only in specific specialized fields of action is advised to consult the index which follows. The numbers listed by the side of each heading indicate the paragraphs in the text of the Report which are of relevance.

Appendix III to the Report lists a summary of the main points requiring attention by Governments or by FAO, that emerged from Conference discussion. Here again, the relevant paragraphs in the body of the text are given so as to enable the reader to consider each point in context.

As in the past, the points requiring FAO's attention will be reproduced in an Appendix to the Director-General's proposed Programme of Work and Budget for 1970-71, together with a corresponding note on each item indicating the action which it is proposed should be taken during the biennium.

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I. INTRODUCTION

Organization of the Conference

1. The Fifth FAO Regional Conference for Africa was held in Parliament Building, Kampala, Uganda, from 18 to 29 November 1968. Delegations from the following Member Countries participated:

Algeria	Liberia
Botswana	Madagascar
Burundi	Malawi
Cameroon	Mali
Central African Republic	Mauritius
Chad	Morocco
Congo (Brazzaville)	Nigeria
Congo (Democratic Republic)	Rwanda
Dahomey	Senegal
Ethiopia	Sierra Leone
France	Tanzania
Gabon	Togo
Gambia	Tunisia
Ghana	Uganda
Ivory Coast	United Kingdom
Kenya	Upper Volta
Lesotho	Zambia

2. Representatives of the United Nations family participating were:

(i) UN Operating Agencies

United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD)
United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)
United Nations High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR)
World Food Programme (WFP)

(ii) United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (ECA)

(iii) Specialized Agencies

International Labour Organization (ILO)
United Nations Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization (Unesco)
World Health Organization (WHO)
International Bank for Reconstruction and
Development (IBRD)

and the following were represented by Observers:

Holy See
Israel
Swaziland
United States of America
African Development Bank (ADB)
East African Community (EAC)
International Federation of Agricultural Producers (IFAP)
Organization of African Unity (OAU)
Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD)

3. A full list of participants is contained in Appendix I of this report.

Inaugural Ceremony

4. In introducing H.E. the President of Uganda, Dr. Milton Obote, and inviting him to open the Fifth FAO Regional Conference for Africa, the Director-General expressed FAO's sincere gratitude for Uganda's past and continuing interest in the work of the Organization, a concrete proof of which was the President's presence at this inaugural session.

5. H.E. the President, in his inaugural speech, welcomed on behalf of the Government and people of Uganda all participants to this Regional Conference.

6. He underlined the importance of FAO whose objectives corresponded to the needs of each of the countries of the Region, the nature of whose economies had, over recent years, so greatly changed with accession to independence. He stressed that the central element of development of African countries was in the agricultural sector.

7. The President reminded delegations, in this context, that they were here not only to represent their countries, but also the millions of farmers whose activities gave the greatest hope for achievement of higher standards of living in Africa. He stressed that the purpose of their coming together was to discuss problems, to share knowledge and experience in advancing agricultural development, and to translate their findings into practical activities. He believed this end-result was the desire of FAO, the concern of Governments, and the prayer of Africa's farming population.

8. Noteworthy among the many forms of practical assistance which FAO was giving were its pioneering efforts in global planning through the Indicative World Plan for Agriculture whose potential value to Governments was clear. The President sounded a note of caution, however, against the dangers of planning and operating at a distance. He stressed the need for FAO to be in a position to understand local needs, motivations and aspirations, and to advise in context through permanent resident contacts in the countries.

9. The President then turned to the food problem, which he believed lay not so much in the lack of food, but in infrastructural weaknesses, high cost of inputs and insufficient international cooperation in the matter of technical know-how. He also raised the problem of over-production which led to depression of markets and prices, and acted as a disincentive to farmers to participate in diversification schemes and other corrective measures. Finally he touched upon competition from synthetics as a further element undermining agricultural activities.

10. The President concluded by stressing that agriculture was vital to human life and was the basic industry in the countries represented at the Conference. He therefore reaffirmed the paramount importance of FAO's role, to which Uganda gave its support unreservedly; and in wishing it every success in its deliberations, he declared the Fifth FAO Regional Conference for Africa open.

11. On behalf of FAO and of all participants, the Director-General expressed his sincere thanks to H.E. the President of Uganda for his address which contained so many challenging points to stimulate thought and discussion at this Conference, and for stressing the need for action programmes in the interest of social and economic development.

Election of Chairman and Vice-Chairmen

12. At its first working session, the Conference unanimously elected the leader of the Uganda delegation, H.E. the Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Cooperatives, Mr. J.B.T. Kakonge, as its Chairman.

13. In accepting his nomination, the Chairman expressed his thanks for the honour done to him, and through him to Uganda; - a culmination to the signal mark of consideration done some months ago to his country when FAO accepted Uganda's invitation to act as host to this Conference. The Chairman expressed the hope that participants would not be disappointed with the facilities placed at the Conference's disposal.

14. The Conference then elected the Heads of delegations of Cameroon, Mauritius and Algeria as its Vice-Chairmen.

Adoption of Agenda

15. The Conference then turned to consideration of its agenda and timetable. In this connection, the Director-General drew attention to the FAO Council's request that the matters of FAO strategy and reorganization be considered by the 1968 series of Regional Conferences, preferably at a time when he could participate in the discussions. The Agenda, as reproduced in Appendix IV, was adopted, with suitable modifications in the timetable to accommodate this suggestion.

II. SUMMARY OF PROCEEDINGS

The Work of FAO in Africa in relation to the Food and Agricultural Situation

Statement by the Director-General

16. The Chairman invited the Director-General to make his introductory statement. He began by reminding the Conference that, for historical reasons, Africa had been the last Region to participate fully in the work of the United Nations. He stressed that the programmes of FAO and its sister agencies therefore still fell short of what was needed; but he assured delegates that an ever-growing proportion of FAO's efforts were being concentrated here, and that, through World Bank and other channels, an intensification of action in Africa would continue.

17. Mr. Boerma stressed that FAO's role, although a major one, was but one element to be coordinated with that of the whole United Nations family team in furthering overall economic and social progress in Africa. Dissipation of energy in jurisdictional dispute or in meaningless competition and duplication would get no-one anywhere.

18. The same was true within the specific field of food and agriculture for which a single world policy was needed, rather than a whole series promoted by different organizations. Within the framework of coordinated thinking and action with United Nations agencies responsible for other sectors, the Director-General reminded the Conference that FAO was the world agency that had been given specific responsibility for food and agricultural development. He therefore urged governments to use its facilities for settling questions of agricultural policy; and to stick to resulting decisions when agricultural matters came up for discussion in other bodies. In this context, he reminded the Conference of the work under way at the world level for the United Nations Second Development Decade, and of FAO's own Indicative World Plan for Agricultural Development which would tie in closely with United Nations aims to improve the world political, social and economic situation through formulation of an overall development strategy.

19. Pending definition of such a strategy, FAO at the regional level was anxious to strengthen very considerably its links with the Regional Economic Commission and evolve a single policy, a single regional programme, for agricultural development in Africa, with Regional Conferences playing an increasing role as the forum for such matters. In furthering these objectives, the Director-General proposed concentrating FAO's efforts over the next few years, to achieve a maximum impact; and five areas of action orientation were submitted to the Conference for consideration:

- (i) Work on high-yielding varieties of basic food crops
- (ii) Filling the protein gap
- (iii) A war on waste
- (iv) The mobilization of human resources for rural development
- (v) Earning and saving foreign exchange.

20. The Director-General expressed the hope that, by refining and concentrating FAO's efforts in this matter, it would also help promote and appropriately channel a greater volume of external resources and assist a rapprochement between multi-lateral and bilateral endeavours in respect of the agricultural sector.

21. The Director-General went on to explain the particular significance of each of the five proposed areas of concentration to the Region; and he prefaced his comments with the recognition that priorities at national levels were of course set by the recipient governments themselves. Should required assistance be considered by some to fall outside the five areas proposed, FAO would naturally continue to do its very best to provide such help.

22. With regard to the first area, the impact of high-yielding varieties of the cereals so far involved had up to now been limited in Africa, except in the case of maize. The potential of work in this field was particularly significant for countries in which good agricultural land was scarce. Efforts would involve breeding work and research on adaptability and resistance to disease; extension of areas under such crops, calling for massive investments in land development and inputs; and attention to transport, storage, markets, price stabilization and other institutional and economic problems.

23. In overcoming protein deficiency and in meeting its social and economic implications, the solution lay in increasing total supplies, especially in low cost proteins. This implied attention to animal, including fish, and vegetable protein, and even to non-conventional sources; to improvement in palatability; and mass consumer education.

24. The third priority, war on waste, provided an area of tremendous potential. Effective food supplies could be increased rapidly by appropriate attention especially at village and town levels; and this applied also to other produce such as, for instance, Africa's timber production.

25. The fourth area, perhaps the most important of all in Africa, lay in promoting mobilization of human resources in rural areas by meaningful application of integrated institutional requirements. Manpower represented the richest asset of most developing countries; and the road to development ran, first and foremost, through the rural community. In this area, especially, action implied close cooperation with other agencies in respect, for instance, of training, cooperation and credit, and extension work.

26. The fifth and last of the special areas, the earning and saving of foreign exchange, was directed at Africa's adverse balance of trade in agricultural products. The Director-General cited the trend whereby, from being a substantial exporter of certain commodities, Africa was an increasingly heavy importer. He made reference to the price fluctuations for traditional export commodities which made development and investment planning difficult. He referred to competition from synthetics and stressed the value of activities aimed at import savings.

27. The Director-General then turned to the matter of reorganization of FAO's Headquarters and regional structure, the criteria for which was the achievement of a much sharper geographical focus in FAO's assessment of country needs, and in formulation of meaningful action programmes of assistance based on overall national situations and needs.

28. Enlarging on the regional aspect of structural reorganization, the Director-General outlined two alternative suggestions on which he would welcome the views of the Conference. The first was designed to bring about a greater impact by the United Nations family at the regional level by obtaining that the Executive Secretary of the United Nations Regional Economic Commission act in a dual capacity as the FAO Regional Representative. The second, whilst maintaining the FAO Regional Office, provided some modification designed to allow the Regional Representative to play an increased role in the Organization's overall policy formulation and to promote greater effectiveness in FAO's work.

29. In the second alternative which maintained the FAO Regional Office largely as presently constituted, regional office staff would be limited to generalists; and the Regional Representative would dispose of consultants funds for specific work and for the reinforcement of task forces or teams to visit individual member nations to draw up action programmes.

30. The basic question facing the Conference was the choice between joining forces with the Economic Commission for Africa, and maintaining a separate Office. If the latter was preferred, then consideration should be given to the desirability of generally having Regional Offices and Regional Economic Commissions located at the same site. Here again, guidance was sought of the Conference.

31. The Director-General went on to say that, in his opinion, sub-regional offices should be converted into country or group-country offices, reporting directly to Headquarters. He believed that the transfer of the Nairobi office from FAO's regional to its country structure would be both logical and advantageous. In the same context, he looked forward to the day when FAO, under some new arrangement with UNDP, was able to have full-time country representatives throughout the Region as a natural complement to the establishment of a strong Area Service Division at Headquarters, responsible for coordination and operation of FAO's field programme, and capable of relieving FAO's specialist staff of much of the burden of routine and administrative work.

32. In respect of the future of Regional Conferences, the Director-General underlined their importance as the main forum for indentifying the felt needs of member countries on a medium-term basis; and he raised the matter of their relationship with the Regional Economic Commission's sessions, re-emphasizing the need for coordination and the desirability of governments using the FAO meetings as the only forum for discussing agricultural policies at the regional level.

33. Administrative methods and techniques, as distinct from questions of structure, were also under review in the interests of the best possible use of FAO's staff resources. Traditional activities were being scrutinized for redundancy and the cooperation of member nations was sought in suspending activities that had outlived their usefulness.

34. In his statement, the Director-General also made a special plea to Governments to let FAO have really good people for its staff. He recognized the sacrifice that this involved; weighed such country loss against the continent's gain; and in stressing the need for full effective and dynamic participation of Africans in FAO, he outlined some immediate prospects.

35. In ending his statement with a brief review of the food situation in the Region, the Director-General welcomed the general increase in world food production in 1967, as compared with the previous year. He stressed that this increase had occurred primarily in the developing regions, including Africa, where an estimated 6 per cent rise had been recorded. Although this was in welcome contrast to the period 1964-1966 when food output had been at a standstill, this rise restored per caput production to only the inadequate average of the preceding decade.

36. Information available for 1968 suggested that the increase in food production was continuing, despite some set-back due to weather. But the Director-General warned against complacency. There was a real need to sustain the emphasis that Governments had, of late, put on agriculture in their planning and investment programmes. Among other reasons for recent improvement in production were the dividends that were now coming in from long years of work on agricultural research and extension; on training; on irrigation, infrastructural and other input

investments. FAO had also had a part to play in this by promoting real understanding of the gravity of the food problem, and thus arousing a willingness to tackle it. But there was need for continued sustained effort, and for government encouragement to agriculture. Hunger and malnutrition were still with us and no easy solution to the world food problem could be hoped for whilst populations continued to grow at current unprecedented rates. The means were at our disposal in the form of the combined effort of a multitude of efforts. But if there was any relaxation of such effort, if a place were given to complacency, the world would remain bogged down in the familiar quagmire of hunger, with the developing countries its first victims.

37. Mr. Boerma then closed his statement with a reminder that what FAO could accomplish in Africa depended on the governments of the Region, and on what their representatives at the Conference wished to make of the Organization.

Statement by the Executive Secretary of ECA

38. The Executive Secretary prefaced his own remarks with a message from U Thant, the Secretary-General of the United Nations, in which he underlined the crucial role of agriculture in advancing economic and social progress in Africa, and general recognition of this in present world determination to accelerate its development. He admitted the somewhat disappointing outcome of the first UN Development Decade but stressed that the lessons learned were being put to good use in formulating the goals of the Second Development Decade. Among the bold steps to ensure its success was the need for an integrated UN family approach.

39. The Secretary General had therefore welcomed the proposal of the Director-General of FAO that they explore together the advantages of combining in one person the dual role of FAO Regional Representative and Executive Secretary of the Regional Economic Commission. He urged the Regional Conference to give careful consideration to steps that might be taken to ensure close harmony and integrated action between the overall developmental orientation which the Regional Commission was well suited to provide, and the activities of FAO in one of the most basic sectors of such development, Africa's agriculture.

40. Mr. Gardiner then introduced his own statement by underlining the revolution in African agriculture that would have to take place if the Region was to keep ahead of the population explosion that was bound to occur within the next 20 years. Agriculture would continue to occupy a dominant place in the Continent's economy in terms of providing a livelihood for the majority of the population. Mr. Gardiner suggested that a quadrupling of efforts was necessary if African countries were to experience a real breakthrough and stressed that there was no room for complacency or diminution of attention as the result of recent improvements in the food and agriculture situation.

41. Turning to the impact that the various UN agencies could make in the development of agriculture, Mr. Gardiner emphasized the need for abandoning the piecemeal approach of the past and for now concentrating on an integrated programme, if African countries were to derive maximum benefits from integrated UN support. He stressed that in furthering such integrated efforts, it was impossible to dissociate the socio-economic aspects of agricultural development with which ECA concerned itself, and the planning, technical and implementation phases which were of FAO's competence.

42. In suggesting a single "UN programme of agricultural development for Africa", in which both FAO and ECA would be fully involved, he underlined the emphasis placed by H.E. the President of Uganda, in his inaugural address, on expanding and strengthening FAO country representation. He believed that this was a step in the right

direction and should allay any fears on reorganization of the regional structure, since such an approach would make fuller use of scarce resources and enable countries to involve themselves more closely with FAO action on a day-to-day basis. The shrinking of foreign aid made such a rapprochement all the more necessary.

43. Turning to one of the major problems confronting agricultural development, namely the shortage of trained African manpower knowledgeable in African agriculture and traditions, Mr. Gardiner stressed that the few who were available should not have to spend their valuable time in attending innumerable meetings to pass identical resolutions on agricultural development, but should concentrate on one agreed set of guidelines for practical work, which a single programme elaborated at a single meeting would afford. In addition, the opportunity thus given for a comprehensive pooling of knowledge was another step in promoting progress in the broad field of agriculture. Other measures aimed at planned coordinated and collective effort should also receive the fullest support.

44. Mr. Gardiner also spoke of the value of development plans which, if realistically conceived, could indeed bring order and coordination into government programmes. This was largely an African responsibility insofar as Africa was concerned; and in this context he referred to the five areas of concentration of action in the field of overall agricultural development proposed by the Director-General, and to the concordance of views between FAO and ECA on the matter. In obtaining UN support for such agricultural development policy and planning, he therefore queried the value of holding two meetings, one by ECA and the other by FAO, to discuss identical aims.

45. He submitted these ideas for the consideration of the Conference in relating progress in the African agricultural situation during the next few years to what the countries themselves, in cooperation with the United Nations family and other donors might do to assist in extending to the Region the agricultural revolution that was now taking place in other parts of the developing world.

Country Statements

46. Taking up and enlarging at national levels the general review of the state of food and agriculture in the African Region, one conclusion which emerged from country statements was that, generally, African countries could now see the way forward, although prospects appeared brighter for some than for others. For example, in Kenya, Uganda, the Ivory Coast, Nigeria and Cameroon, production was expanding very satisfactorily: while at the other end of the scale in Botswana, Lesotho, Mauritius and Senegal, more exacting climatic conditions or lack of diversification still imposed serious handicaps to development.

47. Perhaps the major advance which was brought out by all countries was the general awareness of the basic importance of agriculture and of the principal obstacles that inhibited increased production in the Region. This was being reflected in current development planning, through increased allocation of resources to agriculture and greater efforts to train manpower at all levels for agriculture.

48. Most countries were dependent, to a large degree, on export earnings of agricultural products and were suffering from the adverse terms of trade between primary produce and imported manufactures. If there appeared to be only limited prospects for encouraging export earnings, attention should be given to developing both the internal economy and trade with neighbouring countries. Governments were, in consequence, looking to FAO in cooperation with UNCTAD to continue work on negotiating commodity agreements to stabilize the prices of agricultural products and improve the trade position of the developing countries; and through the Indicative World Plan studies to provide guidance on policies for expansion.

49. The Conference expressed concern about the prevalence of unjustifiable trade and tariff barriers as well as fiscal and other charges levied on imports from the developing countries by the industrialized world and that inhibited consumption and therefore trade in commodities of the developing nations. It accordingly urged FAO, in collaboration with other international agencies concerned with the problem, to bring pressure to bear on the developed nations to minimize obstacles to expansion of exports from the developing areas.

50. Several countries, led by the Eastern African group, also expressed strong concern about the continual arbitrary increases in ocean freight rates, and the adverse effects these had on exports from the developing countries. It urged FAO to use its best endeavours to minimize such trends.

51. Countries endorsed the Director-General's action-oriented approach to agricultural development, and reaffirmed that the results of surveys and research should now be applied to specific development projects. While the new high-yielding varieties of cereals were still a comparative novelty in most countries, the enormous potential was appreciated. Already hybrid maize had clearly demonstrated its superiority in Kenya and several other countries; IRRI.8 rice had given promising results in the Ivory Coast; and Mexican wheat hybrids had been tested with good results in Tunisia. Sierra Leone mentioned the work being carried out in rice research by the West African Rice Research Station and indicated that results were available to the Region. A comprehensive programme to make high-yielding variety seed generally available was now required, and the role that the International Institute for Tropical Agriculture at Ibadan could play was stressed. Attention would however need to be given, in country programmes using high-yielding variety seed, to the major changes required in infrastructure, the supply of the accompanying package of inputs - and in particular to fertilizers, credit and extension service - and the complementary storage and marketing facilities to cope with the enlarged output.

52. Africa's improved prospects for providing adequate quantities of food for her peoples should also enable regional stocks of food to be established as elements in local price stabilization and as reserves to help meet emergencies. It was noted that the OAU was promoting such a programme, in which the World Food Programme would cooperate. The scheme was receiving attention among the Governments of East Africa, and on the other side of the Continent it was being advocated by Senegal.

53. In the drive toward national self-sufficiency in food, a note of caution was sounded on the need to examine carefully the price structure of such efforts. This was particularly true of countries whose non-agricultural resources were strong; but several speakers also advocated an integrated approach to resource-use and agricultural production patterns within a group of countries, rather than on an individual self-sufficiency basis, with the same objectives of avoiding uneconomic, inefficient, or unduly competitive expansion, and of promoting intra-regional trade.

54. The need for diversification in agriculture was underlined both to lessen dependence on a limited number of export products and, equally important, to provide for the wide variety of domestic requirements. Closely related to diversification was the need to develop modern and more intensive farming systems, where Burundi and Mauritius had special problems of growing populations and limited land suitable for growing more food crops. Such changes and expansion in agricultural production would call for very substantial investments and FAO was urged to give this important matter full attention. The valuable work being done by the FAO/IBRD Cooperative Programme in assisting governments to formulate projects in a form to attract external financing, and the new policy of the IBRD to greatly step up loans for agricultural development were particularly welcome. Attention was drawn to the role agriculture must play in generating the capital for the development of the whole

economy in most African countries. Also in this context many countries emphasized the problem of financing the rapidly growing use of fertilizers and several suggested that FAO should establish a scheme through which fertilizers could be provided at reduced costs, due attention being given, where possible, to sources of supply in developing areas.

55. Another very important aspect of the progressive change from subsistence to a market economy which was stressed by most countries was the need to strengthen the whole marketing system. This applied particularly to the internal marketing of food crops. Here again additional storage and transport facilities would call for considerable investment.

56. Several countries indicated that they were now in a position to give greater attention to improving the quality of their peoples' diets through production of more protein foods. In general livestock production had tended to be rather neglected in the past but surplus maize production in Kenya and Uganda, for example, would enable schemes for beef and dairy production to be expanded. In most African countries measures to improve animal health were aimed at reducing livestock losses; several countries were undertaking breed improvement and better feeding management programmes. Success with poultry schemes to provide self-sufficiency in poultry meat and eggs was reported by a number of countries. Fuller assessment and utilization of fisheries resources to provide better food was the aim of many African countries. Stress was given to the importance of widespread inland fishery programmes in countries where communications and markets to inland rural populations were difficult. Several delegates drew attention also to the need for appropriate bodies geared to develop the resources of multi-national lakes and the oceans.

57. The forestry situation in the Region was understandably diverse. In several countries the utilization of natural forests in the humid zones was being generally intensified by attention to the fuller use of hitherto non-commercial species. In addition, afforestation was seen as a necessary and desirable investment. In countries like Zambia, Uganda, Kenya, the savannah areas of Nigeria, Madagascar and even Gabon, these man-made forests would supply domestic needs and, in a few cases, provide the raw material base for pulp and paper production. Several delegates spoke of the major obstacles to progress in forest development, among which they listed lack of resource appraisal, infra-structure, trained personnel and the problems of dealing with the lesser known species. Kenya also raised the special problem of integrated forestry policy and development planning on a group-country basis in the interests of efficient land use and cost reduction.

FAO Strategy and Reorganization

FAO Strategy

58. Referring back to the Director-General's opening statement and the five areas of concentration he had proposed for focussing integrated action of the various departments and divisions of FAO, the Conference gave its general approval to this strategy for the Region.

59. There was support also for the hope expressed by the Director-General that these five proposed areas of concentration would serve as catalysts to thinking and discussion within all bodies at international levels in the Region that were giving attention to agricultural development; and might thus contribute in channelling dispersed efforts toward an integrated and coherent work programme.

60. The Conference was concerned also to ensure integration of efforts within the UN family itself in dealing with agricultural problems. It felt that the five areas of concentration proposed constituted a valid set of guidelines for coordinated work and action among all concerned.

61. The Conference, in consequence, adopted the following resolution:

RESOLUTION I - FAO Strategy

The Conference,

Considering the relevance to the Region of the five areas of concentration put forward by the Director-General as providing meaningful guidelines for coordinated action in promoting Africa's agricultural development;

Approves the five-point strategy proposed;

Requests the Director-General to bring these elements of policy strategy and programme recommendations of this African Regional Conference to the attention of all bodies concerned with the development of African agriculture;

Further requests that, through the Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa, the same be brought particularly to the notice of the next session of that Commission in furthering the elaboration of a single integrated UN Programme for Agriculture for Africa.

62. The Conference endorsed that the order of priority and the choice of priorities within these broad objectives was to be decided in each country itself in the light of local situations and needs. The degree of interlocking among these proposed areas of concentration was recognized, however; and the view was expressed that this in itself constituted a healthy start for action programmes at both national and regional levels.

63. Many delegates, for instance, emphasized the overriding importance of mobilization of the Region's human resources. This implied involvement of leaders, farmers and youth in particular, together with attention to training, appropriate inputs and extension in the interests of higher yields, attention to protein-rich produce, war on waste and the saving of foreign exchange.

64. There was a plea for more regional cooperation in research, seed production, marketing and other matters which could not easily be solved at an individual country basis.

65. Among other areas of action also raised were closer involvement of FAO with bilateral and other international aid in planning coordinated and balanced programmes of agricultural development at country levels; in group-country planning for the elaboration of interlocking production patterns; in promoting and coordinating availability of agricultural inputs at reasonable cost for viable priority programmes; and in furthering establishment of local processing plants in preventing waste and promoting the earning and saving of foreign exchange.

66. The Conference welcomed the assurance of the Director-General that, having obtained the Region's broad acceptance of his proposals, he would now develop these in greater depth and ask the Regional Office to follow up, refine and translate their detailed implications, through discussion with Governments, into viable action programmes. In this context, the Conference noted, and has reflected in its report under the review of activities and orientation of FAO's short-term action (paragraphs 70 to 154), the many observations on priority reorientation and on proposals for additional elements to be grouped within the broad areas of concentration at individual country levels.

Regional Structure

67. The Conference then turned to consideration of the matter of FAO's regional structure, including the role and location of the FAO Regional Office for Africa, the functions and responsibilities of the Regional Representative, the question of sub-regional offices and of country representatives. In this context, the Conference adopted the following resolution:

RESOLUTION II -- Regional Structure

The Conference,

Considering the importance of the agricultural sector in the economic development of the countries of the African continent;

Considering the eminent role which FAO should play in the promotion of agriculture in Africa;

Considering the need for FAO to adopt organizational structures capable of stimulating an accelerated development of agriculture;

Conscious of the necessity for preparing a coordinated and harmonious agricultural policy for the whole of the African continent;

Anxious to intensify field activities by all appropriate means;

Makes the following recommendations to the Director-General:

1. Regional Office

- (a) The means at the disposal of the Regional Office should be strengthened, particularly by making available to the Regional Representative a sufficient number of qualified staff;
- (b) Taking into account the deliberations and recommendations of the Regional Conference, responsibilities in the field of planning and preparation of programmes should be delegated to the Regional Office;
- (c) Recognizing the benefits which would result from having the Regional Office of FAO and the Headquarters of ECA located in the same place, requests that, for the immediate future and without prejudice to subsequent decisions, the FAO Regional Office remain at its present location;
- (d) Close cooperation should be maintained between the Regional Office and ECA as well as with the other organizations and agencies participating in the development of the Region;
- (e) The proposals contained in paras. 107 and 108 of document CL 51/9 of 22 June 1968 entitled "FAO Reorganization Plan - Joint Report by the Director-General and the Ad Hoc Committee on Organization", regarding the functions and responsibilities of the Regional Representative, should be implemented including the creation under the immediate authority of the Regional Representative of task forces to support FAO's action in the Region, and the establishment for the Regional Representative of a special fund for the recruitment of consultants.

2. Sub-Regional Offices

In view of the need to speed up channels of contact, it was unanimously agreed that sub-regional offices be suppressed.

3. Country Representatives

Considering the necessity for strong individual FAO country offices so as to ensure better understanding of local needs, motivations and aspirations, and to advise in context,

- (a) continued attention be urgently given to the establishment of FAO country representation in each member country of the Region individually;
- (b) separate country representation be, in time, established in countries at present served by a group-country representative.

Taking into account the views of the Ad Hoc Committee on Organization that the country representative was the principal representative of the Director-General and the head of the FAO Mission in the country, his functions and prerogatives, in addition to those assigned to him by the Director-General, should be defined as follows:

- (a) be responsible for the cohesion of the mission and for its good relations with the ministries and the concerned governmental authorities;
- (b) fully participate in the preparation, coordination and execution of agricultural development projects, under FAO's aegis in the country;
- (c) have sufficient authority over the whole staff of the mission and over staff assigned to specific projects sponsored by FAO enjoying a sufficient degree of administrative autonomy;
- (d) since most projects are financed by the United Nations Development Programme, he should act as adviser to the UNDP Resident Representative, maintaining the closest possible collaboration with him without his being dependent upon him;
- (e) report to the Development Department which, in turn, shall facilitate his relations with other Headquarters Departments.

Reorientation of Regional Conferences

68. Under this item, the Conference discussed the role, authority and reorientation of FAO Regional Conferences for Africa, and adopted the following resolution:

RESOLUTION III - Regional Conferences

The Conference,

Considering the influence that regional conferences have on the orientation and work of FAO;

Considering the increasingly important role they should play in the formulation of coordinated policies and sound programmes for the development of agriculture in the Region;

Recommends that Regional Conferences should be given constitutional status in view of the contributions and active support which they bring to FAO; and

Requests the Director-General to bring this important matter to the attention of the Programme Committee and the Committee on Constitutional and Legal Matters with a view to prepare proposals for concrete action by the 15th Session of the FAO Conference.

The Conference, also

Wishes to reaffirm the position taken by the Fourth FAO Regional Conference for Africa (Abidjan 1966) in relation to the organization of the work of the Regional Conference, and

Requests that full account be taken of this in the organization of future sessions.

69. The Conference noted also a request that, for future Regional Conferences, the Regional Representative's review of FAO's activities and short-term proposals be set out under the five areas of concentration; that a note be submitted specifically on the follow-up given by the Director-General to past recommendations; and that a list of participating FAO staff, together with their broad responsibilities, be circulated during the first few days of the Conference so as to enable delegates to establish early contact.

Review of Activities and Orientation of FAO's Short-term Work

70. In the light of the food and agricultural situation and trends for the immediate future, the Conference then turned to consideration of the Regional Representative's Review (ARC/68/2). The current activities and proposals for short-term action outlined therein were compared with country and regional situations and needs; and proposals, where necessary, were made for rearrangement of priorities or for additional action in promoting agricultural development. Shortage of time made it impossible, however, to give attention individually and in depth, to each subject matter chapter.

71. The general feeling of the Conference was that, emerging from the recent stagnancy of African agriculture due to lack of any framework of planning in the past owing to absence of reliable statistics, and of trained staff both at higher and extension worker levels, shortage of capital for inputs and development, and inadequacy of infrastructural elements, communications and markets, the proposed UN Programme for Agricultural Development in Africa now offered grounds for hope, and an opportunity for concerted and accelerated action.

Cooperative Programme with Bank

72. The Conference noted that since its Fourth Session, FAO had taken steps to further develop and intensify its cooperative activities with international financing institutions. As part of the general reorganization of FAO, an Investment Centre had been established within the new Development Department covering both the FAO/IBRD Cooperative Programme and also collaboration with the regional development banks; and an agreement with the African Development Bank had recently been concluded.

73. The Conference welcomed this trend, as well as the assurance recently given by the new President of the World Bank that he would give greatly increased assistance to African agriculture in the years to come. To meet this challenge, FAO would step up its cooperation, which took the form of teams of specialist officers engaged on the identification and preparation of agricultural projects for investment. Technical experts from the various divisions of FAO were also being made available to participate in missions organized by the regional development bank.

74. The Conference urged that increasing recognition be given to the difficulties that most developing countries in Africa found in meeting the conventional terms of financing. More flexibility was requested in respect of counterpart funds for investment projects, both in regard to amount and delays of payment, and in the matter of rates of interest of Bank loans. It was glad to learn that the Bank's criteria for the financing of projects were not restrictive in terms of the rate of economic return, but were based rather upon a case by case appreciation of the soundness of the project.

75. The Programme was urged to ensure that prior to inception of preparation missions fullest consideration be given to the adequacy of finance available to carry a project through to completion and full operational status. In case of complementary studies required to finalize a project the Programme stated that such studies could be financed either by UNDP, the Bank, or bilateral aid, depending upon the cost and time involved.

Freedom from Hunger Campaign

76. The Conference noted that the FFHC was principally concerned with the mobilization of additional resources, through national FFHC Committees where these existed, in support of government development plans. The Second Regional FFHC Conference, held in Kampala immediately prior to the FAO Regional Conference, had discussed liaison and participation in national endeavour under three aspects:

- (a) planning and implementation of national campaign programmes
- (b) Young World Appeal
- (c) development information and development education programmes.

77. The Conference recognized FFHC's particular role in the mobilization of human resources for rural development and welcomed the proposal of the Director-General to continue a Campaign-type of activity over the period of the UN Second Development Decade (1971-1980), and to bring it in line with his five priority areas of action.

78. The Campaign could most profitably give special emphasis to encouraging FFHC Committees in developed countries to do more to influence public opinion in favour of better trade terms for developing areas. It should also aim at engaging the energies of young people everywhere in development and present them with a challenge to action. In developing areas, the greater involvement of young people should be obtained through youth clubs, through arousing awareness of the background and reasons for policy decisions, and by close association in planning processes so as to promote interest and active participation by an increasingly important and potentially explosive element of the nation's population.

79. It was stressed that the degree of response from developed countries was largely determined by the flow of information from developing countries on conditions and needs of rural areas, and on the efforts being made by developing countries with their own resources. Greater awareness locally, among educated people and town dwellers, of situations in their own country's rural areas was equally important, and here were two vital elements of action to be pursued by national FFHC Committees in Africa.

80. Another aspect of their work should be oriented to problems of malnutrition in linking agriculture, nutrition and health in the elaboration of action programmes.

81. Some delegations also urged that attention be given to schemes for rodent control and research on simple effective storage at farm and community levels.

Animal Production, Animal Health and Dairying

82. The Conference gave approval to the current activities on animal production and health and to the lines proposed for future action. It was noted that most countries of the Region were making strenuous efforts toward reducing the wastage due to disease losses and that they were also taking steps to close the protein gap through increasing their production of animal products. The achievement of these objectives would be facilitated by an expansion of FAO's technical assistance programme in the livestock sector.

83. Particular emphasis was laid on giving more priority to disease control programmes, to training of field workers and to enhancing the status of the livestock breeder. The need to control bovine pleuro-pneumonia, especially in West Africa, was stressed and FAO was requested to convene an international conference of interested countries, in cooperation with OAU (STRC) to discuss the possibility of joint campaigns against such disease. The importance of tsetse and trypanosomiasis as an obstacle to livestock development in Africa was not reflected in the activities of FAO and a request was made for more emphasis to this problem in the future work of the Organization.

84. In considering activities in disease control it was recommended that, in the case of the more important epizootic diseases, FAO should give consideration to assisting zonal and regional schemes of control, eradication and research, whose overall impact could far exceed that of national schemes.

85. The Conference expressed its satisfaction with the results which had been achieved by the OAU sponsored JP15 Rinderpest Control Project and noted that FAO was now participating in training staff in certain countries for the extension of this programme to Eastern Africa.

86. A major problem confronting those countries of the Region which have extensive livestock resources and which are interested in increasing their foreign exchange earnings by exporting livestock and their products was the difficulty of access to overseas markets. It was recommended that FAO should not only assist member countries in overcoming this problem by increasing its animal health activities at both the national and the regional level but that it should also play an active role in helping member countries in other ways in order to gain entry of their livestock products, particularly meat, to overseas markets.

87. The importance of integrating animal husbandry more closely with crop husbandry was recognized especially in countries where there was pressure on land. A number of countries drew attention to the efforts that were being made to promote ranch development. In many cases this was being carried out initially by the public sector. The interest of the International Banks in ranch development was welcomed in view of the need for substantial capital for this purpose. Several countries drew attention to the methods that they were adopting to overcome problems of land tenure which could otherwise act as a constraint on the development of grazing lands.

88. The Conference noted that a number of countries were giving emphasis to increasing their production of poultry meat and eggs and suggested that FAO could play an important role in providing assistance for improving the feeding, breeding and management of poultry particularly on family farms.

Forestry

89. The Conference recognized the potential, in many countries of the Region, of Africa's forest resources in saving imports and increasing export earnings. The Conference therefore stressed the need for concentration on checking destruction of forest areas and on wasteful exploitation of timber stands.

90. The Conference noted the high and growing costs of imports of processed forest products and the fact that the bulk of exports was still in unprocessed form. It consequently urged that continued attention be given to forest inventories and pre-investment surveys as preliminaries to the development of forest industries designed to make fuller use of lesser known as well as the traditionally used species. Conversion should, in this context, aim at import substitution as well as the encouragement of marketing of a greater proportion of processed produce both within and outside the Region.

91. Several countries underlined the need for integrated forest policy formulation and development planning on a group-country basis in evolving land use patterns, extending forest areas by appropriate afforestation, and establishing related industry.

92. The Conference urged continued attention to enrichment of the natural forest, and to research aimed at fuller utilization of lesser known species.

93. The emphasis to be given to availability of capital, and to training and adaptation of research results was stressed if greater technical advances were to be successfully applied. The Conference noted the present low level of intervention of the IBRD in forest development, and expressed the hope that greater attention would be given to various aspects of such work in relation to the particular needs of individual countries. A plea was also made for more coordination of research on a regional basis, and FAO was requested to assist in setting up Regional Logging and Harvesting Training Centres in cooperation with national centres in promoting improved techniques.

94. The Conference also underlined the indirect and multiple use benefits to be derived from forest lands, particularly those sub-marginal for high-grade or quick growing commercial timber crops, in regard to watershed management, erosion control, windbreaks and shelterbelts for agricultural crops, and for wildlife, recreation and tourism. FAO was requested to conduct studies on such indirect benefits, particularly in respect of the effects of forest cover and windbreaks on water retention and storage in tropical soils, and the consequent effect on agricultural production. The multiple use of appropriate categories of forest land under sylvo-pastoral development, and for wildlife and recreation was also urged.

Land and Water Development

95. The Conference confirmed that attention to adapting tried soil and water management techniques to different conditions obtaining in the African Region was one of the important elements of FAO's continuing activities. It urged that increased attention in this context be given to the problems of soil erosion by wind and water; and that training in the field of operation and management of water development schemes should receive high priority.

96. FAO was urged to give further attention also to assessment of national resource potential in the matter of agricultural production as one of the elements for elaborating the Indicative World Plan. In the same context, the Conference underlined the need for study of inter-related production patterns on a group-country and ecological zones basis, together with land use planning related to any necessary diversification of crop production.

97. In the field of soil conservation and soil fertility, emphasis was laid on expanding the FFHC Fertilizer Programme and on studies of fertilizer use and on organization of fertilizer supply and trade. The need for assistance and extension work in the many and complex aspects of increased use of fertilizers in association with other inputs and with farm mechanization was stressed. Attention was also drawn to inter-relationship between agriculture and meteorology, and to the indirect benefits of tree-planting and forest cover in improving crop production.

98. The Conference noted the growing importance, in some regions especially, of developing surface and underground water to increase the percentage of arable land and multiple cropping. It requested FAO's assistance in promoting water conservation, water use ground-water development and other allied problems in areas of water shortage.

99. Although there was support for FAO's policy on pre-investment studies for land and water development projects, some reservations were raised about extended, time-consuming resource surveys, particularly where urgent action was needed in areas under heavy population pressure and in connection with certain settlement schemes.

It was generally felt that pilot schemes should not find their justification as extensive research and study areas, but should form part of the actual execution of the major project. The Conference noted, however, the need to carry out preliminary studies commensurate with the requisites for planning and implementation of a major project; and urged that any approach involving "calculated risk" be the subject of agreement between FAO and the government concerned on a step-by-step basis. The need to relate local ability to put development schemes to good productive, long-term use was urged, in considering any major projects.

100. The eventual effect of higher production, through use of high yielding varieties and the application of irrigation, on overall land use patterns, was raised, as was the consequent need for land surveys and the assessment of soil suitability to changes in production patterns in the interests of avoiding erosion or other forms of soil depletion.

101. Recognizing the importance of optimum land and water resource use in furthering agricultural development in the Region, the Conference recommended the establishment of a Regional Land and Water Use Commission for Africa, whose terms of reference should include attention to:

- Soil Surveys and Classification
- Soil Fertility and Fertilizer Needs
- Land Use Capability Classification
- Planning, Management and Conservation of Soil and Water Resources
- Swamp Reclamation
- Farm Irrigation and Drainage
- Economic Appraisals

The Commission should also, through Working Groups established on a sub-regional basis, carry out the following:

- (i) Review the current situation with regard to land and water use in the Region;
- (ii) Determine possible impact of land and water use practices on the five priority areas of FAO;
- (iii) Initiate and guide research, especially in adaptation of known techniques in land and water use practices to the conditions of the Region, and ensure that results be communicated to those countries concerned.
- (iv) Establish methods to ensure that results of research, surveys and studies be put to good use in the country immediately concerned and be also communicated to other countries of the Region;
- (v) Facilitate exchange of information by providing a documentary service;
- (vi) Provide guidance on, and assist in, training programmes and management of land and water development projects.

Nutrition

102. The Conference noted, in regard to improvement of the protein content of diets, that several countries had made considerable progress in this field. It urged that there be more exchange of information on the matter and that research and analysis work on foods derived from protein-rich indigenous plant and livestock resources of Africa be continued and intensified, with a view to making such foods available, especially to lower-income consumers.

103. The need was expressed for assisting countries in establishing a more realistic nutritional statistics base, taking into account current food consumption levels and requirements for development planning related to food and agriculture. Consumption and family budgets surveys, related if possible to other socio-economic and agricultural surveys should be prepared and implemented, with a view to integrating the findings in the planning of agricultural development at national and regional levels.

104. The importance of the role of women in rural development required emphasis. The part that home economics played in economic and social development was raised, as was the woman's role in teaching, community development, activities related to planning for better family living, and in contributing to the family budget by her work in the field, in the production of food crops and in managing the family's budget. All these aspects should be given increased attention through FAO assistance. It was urged that special attention be given to the recommendations formulated by the Ad Hoc Consultation on Home Economics held from 20 October to 2 November 1968 in Accra, under the aegis of FAO.

105. The Conference noted the advantages of including nutrition education in community development training and extension programmes. In this connection a suggestion was made that governments set up special national committees on malnutrition problems, and that further assistance be given them in training local staff and in finding appropriate solutions. It stressed also the importance of giving a locally meaningful rural bias to primary education in countries whose economy was largely agricultural; and urged a stepping up of organized school feeding programmes assisted by FFHC and the World Food Programme. The latter was of special significance where nutritional insufficiency was due to lack of purchasing power, and its usefulness was noted in connection with assessment and adaptation of local acceptability of various forms of food.

106. A proposal was also made that FAO and WHO study the effects of certain stimulants used by farmers in some countries as palliatives to inadequate diets and levels of cultural and social life.

Plant Production and Protection

107. In the context of future economic development of the Region, the Conference recognized the importance of promoting the collection and exchange of research information on an ecological zone basis. The need to intensify selection of plant material in the interests of new high-yielding varieties was stressed, as was the development of improved varieties of basic food crops, and especially cereals and legumes, destined for the processing industry.

108. A request was made to FAO by several countries for more assistance in crop diversification programmes, especially where high-yielding varieties of some crops were now leading to self-sufficiency in those commodities, and in the interest of producing protein-rich plant foods. Several delegates drew attention to the ever-present danger of the locust and they expressed their thanks for action taken by FAO and the United Nations in meeting this threat. The creation of an emergency fund for locust control was felt to have been a determining factor in the success achieved so far, and developed countries and international organizations were urged to increase their contributions to the fund in order to strengthen available means of action. The Conference also underlined the need for FAO to undertake diffusion of information and documentation on crop pests.

109. The Conference urged that immediate steps be taken to elaborate simple, inexpensive measures, at all levels from the individual farm up, to reduce avoidable losses caused by predators during crop storage.

110. Support was given to FAO's proposals in regard to pasture and fodder improvement. In view of the limited areas under pasture in some countries owing to the tsetse fly on the one hand, and to the constant expansion of land under cultivation on the other, special attention to enhancing rangeland productivity was urged. Other suggestions included research on cover-crops and grazing in perennial cash crop plantations and more attention to integration of livestock breeding with agricultural production.

111. The Conference noted that, whereas facilities for education and training in agricultural sciences were now generally available in a number of countries of the Region, more facilities were required in training African specialists in agronomic research and in agricultural production, so that research work could be carried out by them in the context of local situations and needs. At the same time attention to establishing or strengthening appropriate research institutes in order to arrive at a comprehensive network that would allow for regional cooperation geared to the wide range of conditions of the continent was urged.

112. The inter-relationship between agriculture and meteorology was also raised, particularly in respect of hail-suppression and rain stimulation; and FAO was requested to assist in these two fields.

Fisheries

113. The Conference noted the establishment of the FAO Fisheries Committee for the Eastern/Central Atlantic and the Indian Ocean Fisheries Commission, which would concern themselves with the conservation and management of the fishery resources in their respective areas.

114. Attention was drawn to the need for integrated and synchronized planning for fisheries development, based on adequate evaluation of resource potential, covering such aspects as modernization and mechanization of craft and gear, provision of harbour and shore handling facilities, establishment of adequate storage and marketing facilities and improvement in distribution methods, in the interests of reducing costs and avoiding waste.

115. The Conference noted with appreciation that Kenya would host a FAO Fish Marketing Seminar during the next biennium.

116. The Conference further stressed the need for international cooperation in respect of management of inland waters which bordered on several countries, and FAO was requested to take immediate action to assist in establishing appropriate coordinating committees to study the inter-territorial problems of resource management and suggest procedures for regulating their fisheries.

117. It noted the importance of increasing attention to inland fish culture, especially in relation to inaccessible rural areas, perishability, increase of individual farm incomes, and the improvement of diets.

118. The Conference urged that greater attention be given also to development of the fisheries potential in brackish waters and lagoons.

119. The Conference regretted the generally slow progress made in fisheries development in Africa due largely to lack of capital, adequate infrastructure and skills. It called on FAO, in cooperation with IBRD, to increase its assistance in these matters, with special emphasis to equipment and to training. In this connection, it emphasized the need for regional training centres to enable local fishermen to produce more valuable protein for local consumption and for export.

Commodities and Trade

120. Many delegations emphasized the vital importance of exports of agricultural products for the economic wellbeing and development of their countries. In this connection they noted the adverse effects which their economies had suffered in recent years as a result of inadequate market outlets, unstable prices, increased competition from synthetics and the continued move of the terms of trade in their disfavour.

121. They therefore underlined the activities of the Committee on Commodity Problems and the commodity study groups, and endorsed the efforts which these bodies were making in cooperation with other international organizations, especially UNCTAD and GATT, in finding solutions to the pressing problems of international commodity trade. In this connection, some delegations expressed particular satisfaction with the promising beginning made under the informal international arrangements for some hard fibres which were of importance to the countries of the Region.

122. In order to provide governments with the best available information, the need for continued and specialized assessment of the international commodity situation was also stressed. This was considered of particular importance for countries faced with problems of diversification in an attempt to find new and viable export outlets.

Economic Analysis

123. The importance of several aspects of agricultural development planning was emphasized including the assessment of agricultural development priorities and the identification of action projects in these priority areas in the context of prospective export and domestic demands and nutritional needs. In view of the shortage of capital and its high cost, special attention to the economics of the use of capital was urged. It was pointed out that it was of critical importance for the effective use of capital to know the relation between various investments, the consequent increased production and the time required for obtaining such increases in production.

124. The proposed approach, in cooperation with ECA and the Joint Division, to assist countries to: (1) determine short-term national or group country strategy for agricultural development; (2) make field investigations of specific problems and (3) formulate effective policies and action programmes, was commended as a first step toward a single UN programme for agricultural development for Africa. It was felt that the close working relations with the countries would lead to realistic and practical results.

125. The importance of prices as incentives for translating plans into action was stressed and the need was expressed for better information on production expansion possibilities in the context of the outlook for farm products grown in the various countries. Studies were also suggested to determine the extent to which policies of diversification or specialization should be pursued in the production of agricultural commodities and agricultural requisites.

Rural Institutions

126. The Conference was informed that, under reorganization of FAO, marketing had been transferred from the Economic Analysis to the Rural Institutions Division because of the close link of this work with that in cooperatives and credit. The Conference laid special emphasis on the need for careful attention to market outlets and marketing structures as a prerequisite for success in production development. It constituted an integral element of each of the five strategic areas of concentration endorsed for FAO programme development. The most positive approach for example to the avoidance of waste between producer and consumer lay in more efficient marketing and storage.

127. More substantial assistance from FAO was required both in developing new markets for crop and livestock products and in the improvement of marketing methods and organization. Internal and intra-regional marketing, in particular, were relatively neglected elements in the FAO programme. The Conference took note of the terms of reference for the African Agricultural Marketing Commission drawn up at the Ad Hoc Consultation held in Nairobi in September 1968, and recommended to the FAO Council for formal establishment. It gave its general approval and looked to the Commission to bring to bear on African marketing problems more specific market information, research guidance and advice, and to stimulate the establishment of the training facilities needed to produce qualified staff for marketing enterprises and services.

128. Closely linked with effective organization for marketing was the establishment of credit institutions adapted to agricultural requirements. Lack of access to credit was holding back many production improvements for which other requirements had already been met. This was particularly important as regards timely use of fertilizer and other cash inputs. Problems relating to the credit worthiness of the farmer had to be overcome, but the shortage of funds to finance credit programmes would still remain. International financing was essential and greater help in this direction was expected of the IBRD and the African Development Bank. Cooperative structures could make an important contribution in furnishing credit and supervision at the level of the individual farmer, and in the distribution of fertilizers and other supplies.

129. The specific studies of an international guaranty fund for cooperative financing and of the scope for intra-African trade between cooperatives to be carried out under IFAP, ICA, FAO and, if possible, ILO collaboration were welcomed by the Conference.

130. Insecurity of tenure and communal land tenure patterns continued to slow down the rate of agricultural development in a number of African countries. The Conference noted that several countries were engaged in the preparation of land tenure legislation and looked to FAO for assistance in its formulation and implementation.

131. The FAO programme in rural sociology was generally welcomed.

132. The need to strengthen agricultural extension efforts, and in some cases even double present staffs, was widely indicated. Continuing assistance would be required in training extension officers and in expanding the cadres of qualified personnel available for both farm production and for related services. The Conference noted that governments were still handicapped by shortages of competent staff to implement their programmes and welcomed the FAO activities proposed in cooperation, where appropriate, with ILO and Unesco.

133. The Conference laid great stress on promoting the dissemination of the results of research and the training of research workers. It gave support to the regionalization of research on a basis of ecological zones, and sought encouragement for the establishment of research institutes on a regional level, the establishment of experimental stations and the training of intermediate level staff.

134. Most delegates gave priority among the strategic areas to the mobilization of human resources, and felt that FAO should propose concrete means of dealing with the problem, with due regard to the adaptations which would be necessary in the light of individual country circumstances. It was felt by some that the strategy should contain a large training component, and that special emphasis should be put on the maximum participation of youth in the strategy as well as their resettlement after training.

135. The Conference gave its approval to the programmes proposed in the above areas, and to those envisaged for rural youth under the Freedom from Hunger Campaign. It welcomed in particular the efforts now being made by FAO to implement integrated approaches to development in limited areas which would cover the whole range of factors which affect development - technical, economic and institutional.

Agricultural Services

136. Another outcome of reorganization of FAO's Headquarters structure was the creation of an Agricultural Services Division within the Agriculture Department, which brought together as an effective unit some important elements in the broad field of agriculture which were formerly dispersed over different segments of the Organization. It consisted of the following services:

- (i) production economics and farm management service.
- (ii) agricultural engineering service, including farm machinery, and farm and storage buildings.
- (iii) food and agricultural industries service, including processing of food and industrial crops.

137. The work of this new division to a great extent provided supplementary and complementary services to other divisions in the Agriculture Department. Its multi-disciplinary approach fitted it also for responsibility in the operation of multi-disciplinary field projects.

138. The Conference gave special attention to war on waste, and in this context urged FAO to intensify its cooperation with the UK Tropical Stored Products Centre and extended the services of this institution to French-speaking countries of the Region. It further suggested that, rather than spend time on assessing the extent of waste, a study on storage methods for agricultural products under tropical conditions be undertaken, covering all aspects of storage and structures ranging from simple, small-scale measures at the family level to large-scale bulk storage. A proposal was made also for establishing regional training bases for the storage of agricultural products, and that attention be given to studies of comparative costs of storage and the value of losses thereby avoided in the establishment of storage methods at the farm and cooperative levels.

139. The Conference generally urged for greater efforts in respect of processing of agricultural produce. It stressed the importance of a pattern of processing industries related to production within a single or a group of countries, and requested FAO to give more attention to assisting in establishing agro-allied industries. The need for adapting processing equipment to local conditions, particularly where changing production situations would occur in connection with diversification of agricultural production, was underlined. In this regard, the suggestion was made for posting a specialist on agro-allied industry and processing to the FAO Regional Office.

140. Concerning farm machinery, it was necessary to adapt existing types to local situations, including soil conditions and local ability to handle and maintain the equipment. At the same time, a plea was made for standardization in the interests of training, maintenance, and the availability of spare parts. The hope was expressed that the results of a study on standardization of farm equipment would be made available to member countries, and the Conference noted the need for a new handbook on hand tools and animal drawn equipment.

Statistics

141. The Conference was fully aware of the importance of improvement in the matter of national statistics in general, and of agricultural statistics in particular, and welcomed the continuing attention being given by FAO to training, in preparation for the 1970 Agricultural Census.

142. There was a plea for assistance in coordinating agricultural statistics with general statistics in the interests of overall planning of national development, and in strengthening the statistical foundation for use in agricultural planning and in the Indicative World Plan.

143. The need for further guidance and help in the planning of census work, in training of agricultural statisticians, and in data processing was stressed.

World Food Programme

144. The Conference was appreciative of the assistance given by the World Food Programme in the Region; and it welcomed the Director-General's assurance, in his introductory statement, that the Programme's aim and objectives remained very close to his heart.

145. There was general support from the countries of the Region for including agricultural inputs and production requisites as an integral part of the aid which the World Food Programme could afford, since the availability of such inputs was an essential precondition to promoting a breakthrough in agricultural production in the Region, pending local manufacture of such requisites.

146. In the meantime, the role of the WFP in improving the diets of vulnerable or low income categories of the population, the value of school-feeding programmes in educating food tastes and changing food habits, and the importance of food aid in mobilizing youth and generally promoting rural development, was stressed.

147. The Conference acknowledged the assistance given by WFP in meeting a variety of emergency situations in the Region, and welcomed the cooperation offered to OAU in promoting establishment of strategic food stocks in Africa.

148. In conclusion, therefore, the Conference urged all Governments to assist in attaining the Programme's 1969-70 target of US\$200 million.

Information

149. The Conference welcomed the increasing emphasis being given by FAO to gathering information on agricultural development projects and on the impact they were making on a country's economy. Such data were not only of value in providing appropriate raw material for the preparation of local broadcasting programmes; they were also an important means of stimulating or sustaining the flow of bilateral aid and interest and assisted in arousing public opinion in the agricultural sector of a country's activities.

150. The Conference agreed that farm radio programmes were generally the most suitable means of mass communication, especially in rural areas to which access was often difficult, where illiteracy was in some cases still a limiting factor, and where other factors made such an approach the most suitable method for disseminating and assimilating simple technical information. The Conference noted with interest the use of radio broadcasts in improving nutrition by giving advice on the preparation of a variety of easily prepared menus made up of locally available foods.

151. The pertinence of suitable agricultural information applied at school levels to raise appreciation of rural life and of agricultural work was also stressed; and particular emphasis was given to efforts directed at the potentially explosive masses of rural youth in introducing modern agricultural techniques to help them raise their standards of living and take pride in agricultural pursuits.

FAO Documentation Centre

152. The Conference noted the objectives and achievements of the FAO Documentation Centre whose action lay within the framework of war against waste, in terms of loss or inaccessibility of knowledge, and which corresponded to the expressed need for greater exchange of technical information.

153. The methodology evolved for collecting, indexing and presenting in readily accessible form the bulk of some 25 000 technical documents produced by FAO since its creation was now available to developing countries in the form of technical assistance projects aimed at creating modern documentation centres in these countries. These centres would render easily available the sum of unpublished knowledge on the subject of agricultural development, accumulated as a result of studies carried out in these countries.

154. Similarly, exchange of information on the results of agricultural research would be promoted by the publication of "Indexed Directories of Agricultural Research Projects" which would progressively include all research carried out in developing areas, beginning in 1969 with the African Region.

Indicative World Plan

Policy Problems in Agricultural Development in the Period to 1985

155. The Conference generally accepted the broad trends of agricultural policy outlined in the summary presentation of the regional study on Africa south of the Sahara for the Indicative World Plan. The Conference welcomed the proposal to move as rapidly as possible toward action in this matter.
156. The Conference stressed the need to further develop as quickly as possible close links between national planners and the FAO staff responsible for the IWP. Many delegations welcomed the idea of concentrating, at country levels, on agricultural development programmes and projects over the coming three to five year period. Such concentration would imply cooperation between a national inter-ministerial team, an FAO team comprising members of the Organization's Development Department, its Economic and Social Department and its Policy Advisory Bureau, and finally the representatives of any other aid-giving body which should properly be associated with such a task for the country under consideration. Certain delegates stressed in particular the need for the closest integration of such action at country levels within the framework of a single UN Programme in Africa, and the FAO strategy approved by the Conference.
157. The Conference noted that the work presently being carried out by the IWP constituted, in effect, the first step in elaborating a single UN Programme for Africa; and that the concept of the Programme was framed within the above context at the regional level. Cooperation with ECA in the study on the relationships of agriculture with the other sectors, and on the possibilities of economic cooperation and intra-regional exchanges, should be pursued and developed along the lines of what is now being done for the studies undertaken by inter-disciplinary teams, from ECA and the Centre for Development Planning, Projections and Policies (CDPPP), with FAO participation, in the West and East African sub-regions.
158. Certain delegations expressed the hope that work on the IWP would bear upon future decisions at the international level in regard to regional agricultural exports and possibilities for financial and technical assistance. The Conference noted that these questions would be dealt with in the world study to be submitted to the next FAO Conference. It was also stressed that the necessary level of information on programmes of expansion of products for export could only be ensured by as effective a liaison as possible with the countries concerned on a continuing basis.
159. In so far as the present stage of preparation was concerned, the Conference noted that work was in hand on the North African sub-region, and an improved methodology was being applied together with consideration of both medium and long term objectives. Several delegations urged that the geographical coverage be completed as quickly as possible. Moreover, the desire was generally expressed that the regional study be published as soon as possible and that priority in future be given to action orientation rather than to revision and improvement of the regional document. It was agreed, however, that any up-dating and revision of country information, particularly on the occasion of contact and conflation missions, should be continued on a country file basis.
160. Certain delegations expressed their reservation in regard to the possibility of implementing any conclusions on agricultural policy affected by the IWP, in view of the questionable value of statistical data and the methodology adopted for the regional study. It was however generally recognized that a better appreciation would be possible when the provisional report was published, sometime before the end of this year. The importance of a document outlining the methodology employed was also

underlined. Most of the delegations, whilst recognizing the shortcomings in statistics and methodology - some of which were necessarily inherent to such work, whilst others could in due course be corrected - expressed the view that this work would be of value both to national planners and to international circles, and particularly to FAO for the programming of its action in the field.

161. Among elements of policy which attracted most attention, the insufficiency and delays in outside financing were particularly noted. The need for a training and technical assistance policy specially adapted to the very varied conditions of the Region emerged from the discussion. Similarly, the political will to further and promote national and intra-regional agricultural policy was often brought up; and some delegations also raised the question of the willingness of the industrialized countries themselves to contribute sufficiently to the success of such policies.

162. In regard to priorities for action, many delegations stressed that the diversity of intertropical conditions in Africa were such that the document submitted to the Conference, with its inevitable generalizations, did not allow for identification of such priorities with sufficient accuracy. If there was general agreement on priorities in the field of research and statistics on a national and intra-regional basis, it was stressed that many elements of policy in respect of the main sectors of production could best be assessed at country levels. For example, the choice between a drive toward self-sufficiency and an attempt at inter-dependant specialization within a group of countries depended, in large measure, on political considerations. However, many delegations wished to stress the importance that their countries attached to a regional approach in respect of certain aspects of agricultural production and of agro-allied industry.

163. Attention was drawn to the restrictions imposed upon a policy of intensification in respect of many of the plant crops owing to unfavourable relationship between production costs and export or local consumer prices. The trends in such cost/price relationships deserved detailed consideration at all levels, both national and international.

164. The conditions required in the field of marketing, extension services and in respect of infra-structure were frequently discussed. In this respect, a closer integration of investment costs and certain recurrent expenditure on these aspects within proposals for financing of projects was suggested.

Food Industries Development Planning

165. The Conference agreed that rapid growth of the food processing industries, and of agro-allied industries in general, would continue to remain a corollary of the agricultural development prospects, as outlined in national plans and in the Indicative World Plan. It was repeatedly emphasized that food processing industries could make a direct and significant contribution to all of the Director-General's five areas of concentration of action.

166. Several delegates pointed out the difficulties of developing processing industries which were completely integrated with the production and marketing entities. The necessity of processing industries being designed and planned to serve specifically defined markets was emphasized.

167. The cost of importing processing equipment was undelined. It was suggested that a greater degree of intra-regional planning should take place, and that opportunities for inter-country trade in processed foods be fully explored. Eventually processing equipment might be manufactured within Africa to serve the whole Region.

168. It was suggested also that FAO give greater attention to what was termed primary processing: the grading, cleaning and partial preservation of commodities at the farm level. FAO's belief that 'prevention is better than cure' was emphasized.

169. Particular interest was shown in the development and utilization of composite flours in bread-making and other cereal foods. The difficulty of persuading commercial flour millers to accept composites of indigenous grains as a means of reducing wheat imports from overseas suppliers was emphasized. It was suggested that while composite flour utilization could be, and indeed had been, in some countries enforced by legislation, a preferable means of introduction was by demonstration of the economic and nutritional advantages of such flours.

170. The need for FAO's assistance in training managers, technologists and marketing experts was emphasized.

Food Crops in Agricultural Planning

171. The Conference stressed the importance of food crops in the Region. It was generally recognized that, following population explosion and rapid urbanization, food production would play an increasingly essential role in the Continent's economic and social development. The vital place given by the IWP to food planning was recognized as necessary, and delegates agreed that this aspect would require special emphasis in national programmes.

172. It was noted that in the past, food crop production, of which only some 20 per cent entered the market economy, suffered from lack of proper attention both in respect of research and of improved production techniques. The main obstacles to production of food crops, as stressed by the IWP and confirmed by several delegations, could be considered as follows: difficulties of marketing of food crops (directly related to the prevalence of a subsistence economy); lack of markets, and lack of adequate storage facilities for produce much of which was perishable. These obstacles resulted in little attention being given to research, to adequacy of inputs, credit availability and extension services, and the resultant inattention to modernization of production.

173. In order to develop production so as to reach the targets proposed by the IWP, and thus modify present trends of increasing food imports, the Conference stressed the need for urgent action, generally at a regional or sub-regional level. Such a programme should aim at a rapid increase especially in protein-rich products such as cereals and legumes.

174. The Conference noted the need for coordinated research based on ecological zones. In addition to agronomic research, high-yielding varieties, with attention to high protein content, and on improved cultural practices - such programmes should include studies on storage, marketing and processing. Priority should be given to production, multiplication and distribution of high-yielding varieties of seed of commodities that contribute most to national diets. The Conference urged FAO to promote such programmes, especially through the creation of regional seed production centres, the urgency for which was stressed by several delegations.

175. Many delegations underlined the importance of creating "green belts" around major cities whose population growth was rapid. Attention was drawn to the need to set aside areas necessary for such intensive production through comprehensive land use planning schemes.

176. The integration of food production with cash crop production was stressed as one of the objectives of such planning, and was of special significance in savannah areas with annual export crops. To achieve this objective it would be necessary to initiate programmes comprising a series of measures for intensifying cultural practices: improved maintenance, use of good quality seed, and insecticides, improved tools and equipment and introduction of draft-animals. Included also were the application of fertilizers and the gradual introduction of motorized equipment. In view of the negative experience acquired in regard to the latter in certain countries, motorization would need to be applied with caution. It was however probable that it would take some time before motorization was applied generally.

177. There was general agreement regarding the urgent need for production planning in terms of actual market requirements, whose identification required prolonged study of consumer trends, and the needs in matters of transportation, processing and marketing. It was stressed that the establishment of production programmes should aim at favouring exchange of food products both within and between countries with complementary ecological conditions. Certain industrial processing procedures gave rise to hopes for attention to specialization in food crop production, even in countries presently ill-favoured in this respect.

Cash Inputs and Modern Agriculture

178. The Conference expressed some misgivings about the coverage and level of treatment of the question of cash inputs, and noted the need to deal with the matter at country or project levels, rather than at the regional level, in subsequent phases of the IWP.

179. It emphasized the following criteria for determining the optimum package of cash material inputs necessary to agricultural production. In the first place there was a need for correct identification of the combination of inputs in relation to local conditions and needs, and to the degree of effective receptivity by the farmer. The second consideration was the correct adaptation to individual ecological and economic situations.

180. Considering that the main constraint in applying these inputs was of an economic rather than of a technical nature, the Conference urged that, in the preparation of the world study, full attention be given to measures for reducing, at international and regional levels, the cost of such inputs in order to promote their wider use in support of modern agriculture.

181. The Conference then turned to consideration of individual cash material inputs and their promotion.

182. In respect of seed production, the role of regional centres in providing high-yielding crop varieties was stressed.

183. Similarly, the establishment of a network of quarantine stations constituted a key factor, in promoting exchange of seed and plant material and thus enhancing the value of long-term investment policy. Plant protection and seed dressing in particular constituted yet another key element in raising production.

184. In respect of optimum location and capacity of fertilizer production in the Region, the Conference agreed on the need for further work on determining country requirements and organization of sub-regional markets. As an immediate measure, the Conference also requested FAO to pursue the matter of establishing a fund for the supply of fertilizer as well as of other cash material inputs.

185. The Conference recognized that investments in high-cost irrigation schemes have, in some instances, not been fully used due to lack of complementary inputs for which foreign exchange was required.

186. The Conference considered that a progressive introduction of animal power and simple farm equipment should be given preference over general motorization, which would only be justified in particular conditions.

187. Finally, the Conference noted that land tenure problems in the Region presented serious obstacles to full utilization of cash inputs, and requested that this point be well noted in the IWP.

Some Aspects of Livestock Development

188. The Conference noted with concern the low productivity of livestock in the Region and discussed the efforts that were being made to bring about a change in this situation. It was generally recognized that urgent measures needed to be taken to stimulate increased meat production, and limit the expected gap between demand and supply, as outlined in the IWP.

189. Particular importance was attached to disease control as the first stage in livestock development, both to reduce the wastage caused by disease losses, and to enable African meat production to gain access to overseas markets. The success of the JP 15 rinderpest programme in West Africa showed that neither political borders nor language difficulties were insurmountable barriers when facing the problem of disease control. Considerable interest was aroused in the joint rinderpest/CBPP programme proposed for Eastern Africa and FAO was requested to play an active role in aiding member countries to control CBPP in West Africa. The Conference recognized the need for a regional approach, and that priority be given to the control of CBPP. It recommended that member governments cooperate fully with FAO and other agencies in programmes of this nature.

190. Attention was drawn to the fact that vast areas of good potential grazing land were rendered unproductive due to the presence of tsetse fly. In certain countries progress had been made in fly clearance but there appeared to be scope for a much more determined eradication campaign. The IWP had outlined the problems and the potential benefits associated with such a campaign and it was recommended that FAO should give priority attention to this subject. In doing so, the work should be closely related to land use planning and to wildlife policy.

191. From the standpoint of land use, the Conference discussed the relationship of land settlement and land ownership to livestock development programmes. A number of countries described encouraging progress in changing their land tenure structure to enable land titles to be given to groups, cooperatives and companies, and also to individual farmers. This increased the credit worthiness of the rural community and facilitated the granting of loans for ranch-type development.

192. This type of change involved the active participation of governments, and the Conference recognized that they would have to play a key role in developing the livestock industry. This would be of paramount importance in the fields mentioned above as well as in developing both internal and external markets, education and research. Because of the size of the Continent and the number of countries involved, the role of governments would differ widely from country to country. This was apparent, for instance, in the field of education, where some countries were equipped to train livestock specialists at all levels at home, whereas the small size of the livestock industry in other countries necessitated training their graduates abroad. It was

generally felt that such training should, nevertheless, whenever possible, be carried out within the Continent of Africa. The Conference considered that the provision of water supplies and the application of scientific research on an ecological basis required investments which were beyond the means of the governments concerned. It therefore requested FAO's assistance in helping solve the problems thus raised.

193. The importance of marketing as a generator of development and as a means of bringing people into a monetary economy was recognized. It was necessary to establish satisfactory disease control programmes in order to make exports a practical proposition. In this respect there appeared to be good opportunities for countries which were able both to control the major epizootics and intensify livestock production, and to supply meat not only to overseas markets but also to other countries within the African continent. As in the case of disease control, there appeared to be a place for a regional approach to meat marketing and it was recommended that FAO should convene a meeting to discuss this subject.

194. Although the Conference gave primary attention to beef as the most important livestock product in the Region, a number of countries drew attention to the magnitude of imports of dairy products and to the need for developing the dairy industry. This was a particularly difficult proposition in large parts of West Africa where trypanosomiasis prevented the introduction of improved dairy cattle. Apart from the problem of eradicating the tsetse fly, there also appeared to be a need to determine which were the most suitable livestock breeds for dairy production in the African intertropical environment.

195. Because of the biological constraint on a rapid expansion in ruminant numbers, several countries were giving priority to expanding their production of mutton, pork, poultry meat and eggs as measures towards closing the protein gap. It was suggested that FAO should not overlook these aspects, particularly since the promise shown by high-yielding cereal varieties indicated that more feed grains might be available in the near future for use in pig and poultry rations.

Forest Policy in Tropical Africa

196. The Conference considered the major policy and programme implications emerging from the findings of the forestry and forest industry sector of the IWP. Discussion covered much the same ground as that on short-term proposals under the previous item. This is perhaps understandable in view of the inherently long-term aspects of forestry.

197. The Conference noted the strong growth prospects for consumption and for export trade of forest products, and the desirability of developing domestic industry to supply these requirements. It also noted the importance of the environmental role of the forest in providing numerous indirect benefits, particularly in areas where soil erosion and watershed protection problems were critical. The close inter-relationship between forestry and agriculture, and the numerous benefits which forests could confer on livestock and agricultural pursuits were stressed. The Conference therefore underlined the need to preserve adequate areas under forest cover in the interests of sustained and stable agriculture.

198. Concern was expressed therefore over agricultural expansion into forest or lands reserved for forest plantations. It was proposed that review of land-use patterns be considered after adequate land capability surveys supplemented by appraisals of economic and social needs had been made, particularly in view of the recognition that use of land for forests and especially for intensive plantations might be economically preferable to some agricultural uses.

199. It was recognized that fuller utilization of existing natural forests in supplying domestic and export requirements was hampered by the inherent problems of the numerous species, often of unproved commercial value, in the tropical high forest and in the lower production levels of the savannah woodlands. Possible solutions of the former problem depended on further utilization research and development and on market intelligence and promotion. In this connection the usefulness was recognized of tropical timber bureaux which may be established in Europe and North America to provide technical market intelligence and joint promotion especially of the lesser known species, as proposed by joint UNCTAD/FAO expert meetings. There were hopeful indications that trial and selection of appropriate quick-growing species might solve the difficulties of dealing with some of the savannah areas. It was also recognized that enrichment plantings were often desirable in cutover high forests and that in some instances large reforestation programmes were necessary.

200. The Conference noted that forest resource inventory was basic to greater forest and forest industry development and several countries pointed out the need for international agency assistance with this task. Several countries also drew attention to their wishes for advice on forest management. The need for advice on timber supply concessions was underlined.

201. The Conference considered the benefits of afforestation for environmental effects, supply of local needs for fuelwood, poles and especially for industrial wood supplies. Plantations of exotic softwoods were well advanced and expanding in eastern Africa; in western Africa new plantations, both of broadleaved species such as okume and eucalyptus, and also of tropical pines, were being increasingly established. A number of countries in each sub-region were considering the creation of pulp and paper industries based on the raw material from these plantations as well as from natural forests.

202. Attention was directed to the need to establish well-defined pricing policy on wood sold from public plantations so that industrial planning could be based on likely levels of raw material costs. Wood might be supplied at cost, on a profit-making basis, or even at less than cost with the aim of bringing about industrialization and complementing wood sales income with revenue from the broadened taxation base.

203. Many countries were faced with difficulties in financing the plantations needed for their development programmes and were concerned that international banking agencies had not tended to consider favourably loans requested for this purpose.

204. Various aspects of regional planning and programming were considered with respect to the establishment of plantations and industries taking optimum advantage of ecological conditions as well as market location and size. The economies of scale in pulp and paper manufacture and in the wood-based panel industry were particularly important in these considerations. It was, however, stressed that firm negotiations among adjacent countries on the distribution of several shared establishments could result in accepting less than optimum individual locations, in the interests of serving total community interests.

205. War on waste must be waged throughout forestry activities - forest management, processing and application to use. But care must be taken to distinguish between actual waste and raw material residues the use of which would be uneconomic. In this context, mobile sawmills were proposed as frequently appropriate in avoiding unnecessary waste in harvesting.

206. The problems of lack of trained personnel at both technical and professional levels received special attention. The need for university level training of Africans to staff forest services and to provide specialists in research, forest economics and marketing was stressed. This should be established on a sub-regional and language basis.

The Fisheries Potential in Africa

207. The Conference noted the limitations of the IWP Regional Study first in respect of the country coverage, and secondly, with regard to omission of the additional resources available from distant-water fisheries which would be handled in the world study.

208. The Conference recognized that the upper limits of potential of Africa's inland fisheries, excluding fish-ponds, were likely to be reached by 1985 if the supply targets proposed by the Study were attained. In order to achieve this, the present programmes envisaged for short-term action would need to be considerably accelerated. Within this inland fisheries context, the scope for further development of intra-regional trade was considered greater in Central and Eastern Africa than for the western sub-region.

209. The main potential for expansion lay in the marine and coastal fisheries of the Continent, the full assessment of which would require further resource surveys. The Conference noted that the detailed planning of an expanded marine fisheries industry would necessarily depend upon the results of accurate resource assessment and the implementation of the necessary infrastructure would necessitate considerable inflow of capital, of technical assistance and skills, and adequate training programmes.

210. Some delegates urged that increasing attention be given to the crustacean resources for which there existed promising prospects for both a short and long-term overseas demand. The Conference therefore urged that much greater emphasis be given to research and stock assessment of these invertebrates.

211. The Conference underlined the importance of fish protein as a more immediate means than livestock production of filling the protein gap over the period covered by the IWP.

Increasing Agricultural Trade among African Countries

212. The Conference welcomed the fact that, within the overall treatment of trade problems in the IWP regional study, particular attention had been focussed on the additional opportunities offered through increased trade among African countries. It recognized, however, that exports outside the Region would necessarily continue to constitute the main outlet for African produce for some time to come.

213. Despite similarity of production and trade patterns throughout wide areas of the Region, the Conference felt that variations in ecological conditions offered sufficient diversity to allow for complementary or specialized production. In this connection, the Conference recommended that FAO should attempt to guide and co-ordinate the development policies of member nations with a view to helping the latter develop and diversify their economies on the principle of comparative costs of production, and thereby promote further intra-regional trade.

214. On the other hand, the Conference was fully aware of the manifold difficulties in promoting intra-regional exchange. Delegates referred in particular to the inadequacy of data as a basis for analyzing existing trade flows; lack of sufficient

knowledge of existing trade opportunities, the existence of substantial trade barriers in the form of tariffs, taxes and administrative regulations; to monetary and payment problems which constituted a severe hindrance to trade and to the drastic shortcomings in commercial infrastructure such as the inadequacy of transport and communication links and the absence in many cases of the necessary supporting services and institutions.

215. It was recognized that the difference in the orientation of trading patterns and facilities was largely the result of links with former metropolitan powers and that it needed both time and considerable investment to overcome these shortcomings.

216. The Conference emphasized, however, that the initiative lay with governments in overcoming many of the existing obstacles by their preparedness to enter into negotiations and accept commitments with neighbouring countries. Delegates referred to action already taken in establishing politico-economic groupings such as EAC, UDEAC, UEAC, Etats de l'Entente, etc.; and it was felt that these smaller groups provided a sound basis for initiating cooperation on a broader basis. The Conference noted that, in this respect, the CCP at its 43rd Session, had reached similar conclusions on the usefulness of regional economic groupings and common market schemes.

217. The Conference therefore fully endorsed the views of the IWP study on this aspect and noted with particular satisfaction the four areas where FAO was prepared to put its experience and expertise at the disposal of the countries of the African Region:

- (i) The preparation of more complete data on existing trade flows;
- (ii) The further analysis of prospective trading opportunities;
- (iii) The provision of specific assistance to countries wishing to promote agricultural trade amongst themselves;
- (iv) The undertaking of comparative studies examining the experiences of various multi-national groups in increasing agricultural trade between them.

218. It was felt that the action and studies proposed under the four headings above would be of immediate benefit to all African countries and could be of considerable assistance in sponsoring new intra-regional trade flows. The Conference recommended therefore that the DG should take the necessary steps so that a programme of action, where appropriate in collaboration with other interested organizations, could immediately be implemented.

219. The role of a Produce Marketing Organization for the Region in promoting trade was also raised by one delegation, and FAO was requested to explore and follow up this suggestion.

Economic Incentives and Marketing with special reference to the Domestic Market

220. The Conference fully endorsed the policy issues identified in the IWP study on the importance of providing adequate production incentives to farmers together with an effective marketing system through which to dispose of their produce at remunerative prices. The IWP estimated that an overall increase of 3.3 per cent annually for export and 6 per cent for the domestic market would be needed.

221. Through such incentive policies, national plans would be translated into action programmes.

222. Price policies were particularly important in influencing adjustments in production and delegates emphasized the different factors which must be considered in the determination of appropriate price levels. It was agreed that even small peasant producers were fully receptive to economic stimulus and price changes. Prices must be made effective at the farm gate. Here again price stabilization arrangements must set price levels which were remunerative to the farmer. Where official prices were set, these should be announced before the planting season commenced. Setting of support prices was a highly skilled exercise requiring sound analysis and in line with countries' resources.

223. Of increasing significance as agriculture was progressively modernised, was the cost of farm inputs. As an encouragement, particularly in stages of a development programme, it might be desirable to subsidize the price of inputs, more likely of fertilizers. However, several delegates drew attention to other methods of reducing these costs through state or cooperative organizations, to deliver the inputs to the farm, often under a credit arrangement.

224. In a number of African countries cooperatives were designed to play a central role in the whole circuit of promoting production, providing fertilizers and other inputs on credit, giving technical instruction to farmers, and finally undertaking the marketing of their products. Government intervention to assist in the supply of inputs credit and marketing could normally be applied through cooperatives.

225. It was recognized that in addition to creating favourable conditions for promoting change in farm output, it was also necessary to persuade the farmer, who was usually rather conservative, to make the desired change. Delegates drew attention to the use of the radio and mass media to stimulate awareness; local development bodies would provide leadership and rural youth could be trained and were receptive to modern methods.

226. Although remunerative prices were a primary consideration, other essential incentive measures must not be overlooked. In some countries outdated land tenure systems needed to be modernized to ensure equitable earnings to farmers. In some situations, provision of feeder roads might be an essential prerequisite.

227. While short-term considerations tended to receive greater attention, some longer term issues were also of considerable importance in establishing policy strategy. The IWP showed that with a growth rate of 6 per cent annually for domestic marketed products, as compared to only 3.3 per cent for export products, the internal market would become increasingly important. Price and other policy measures over which governments had much more control could therefore be formulated to influence production of output intended for the domestic market. Similarly, as intra-regional trade developed, the dependence on extra-regional markets would lessen which, again, would give African countries more freedom to shape their own policies.

228. Another longer term factor was the change in input/output relationship which the IWP was seeking. Increasing production for domestic and intra-regional markets would lessen dependence on extra-regional markets where price prospects were generally not favourable. On the inputs side, cooperation between African countries would lead to increased supplies of fertilizers, pesticides and other manufactured supplies and equipment to be provided from African sources together with the economies of scale from expanding use of inputs. In the longer term this relationship could move favourably for African countries.

229. Some delegates referred to the financing aspects of the production and related marketing, storage, transport and processing facilities. This was clearly recognized as a constraint on development of the agricultural sector, as limits were

set by the availability and charges for external investment. This vitally important factor was treated in the full IWP study which would be available to governments and would assist the developing countries in presenting to international and bilateral financing agencies their needs for investment to develop agriculture.

230. In establishing both price policies and with a view to expanding market outlets, attention was drawn to the need for group country analyses of production potential and possibilities of specialization. In this connection appreciation was expressed of FAO's prompt response in offering to undertake a preliminary appraisal of cereal supply and demand prospects in eastern African countries. The newly created Regional Analysis and Appraisal Service in the Economic Analysis Division, with collaboration from the ECA/FAO Joint Agricultural Division, expected to be able to provide assistance relating to specific planning issues basic to effective price and incentive policies.

231. Marketing had been recognized in the IWP as being basic to development of agriculture in African countries. The provision of market outlets which would ensure producers receive fair prices was an essential incentive. Complete support was expressed for the need for FAO to play a positive and active role in assisting to improve marketing services.

232. The Conference recognized the growing role of cooperatives in the marketing process over the period covered by the IWP. It stressed that lack of the quality and continuity of management was the inhibiting factor in their efficiency. The advantages of systematic training of cadres of managers for marketing, supply and credit cooperatives in preparation for the introduction of expanded cooperative programmes was recognized. FAO was equipped to assist countries in establishing practical projects to this end. The advantages of FAO's collaborating with ILO in handling the agricultural marketing and related elements in overall cooperative development projects were indicated and welcomed by the Conference. Therefore the Conference urged collaboration between FAO and ILO in promoting cooperation management training.

233. The need for more initiative in developing new internal and export markets for agricultural products was manifest. A marked expansion policy would entail market intelligence, sales techniques and training. The Conference therefore urged the establishment by governments of marketing development centres within their ministries responsible for agriculture and cooperatives. To this end, the assistance of UNDP could be sought.

234. As an immediate measure, the Conference recommended the establishment, under the African Marketing Commission, of a Panel of Experts to advise FAO on promotion of tropical and sub-tropical agricultural products. The advice of this Panel would be sought in relation to FAO's work on international agreements concerning production and trade of products of special importance to African countries. In proceeding with this recommendation, account would be taken of work already underway through the FAO Committee on Commodity Problems, the GATT/UNCTAD Centre for International Trade, and the existing commodity agreements.

The Integrated Rural Institutional Development Approach to providing Government Services to Agriculture

235. The Conference noted the emphasis given by the IWP study to an integrated institutional approach to rural development. Attention was necessary in respect of mobilization of human resources, implying the full involvement of the farmer and his family, with special regard to youth. In this manner, the extension services available would be rendered more effective.

236. The Conference emphasized that this integrated approach would also include non-agricultural aspects such as transport, health, nutritional education and home economics. This latter point was given special emphasis during discussion as a vital element in development.

237. The key point in promoting such action was the establishment of agricultural development centres acting as a two-way channel between the government and the farmer in respect of policy guidance on one hand, and the submission of requests for the wide range of services and inputs necessary to local development and welfare on the other.

238. The Conference accepted the principle of this approach, and it was suggested that, initially, pilot projects be established in countries of the Region where, in line with IWP criteria, a change in production techniques or market opportunities promised a high return on the investment involved.

239. A number of countries where rural development based on similar concepts were being carried out urged, however, that the strategy should be further elaborated after a comparative analysis had been made of such schemes.

III. CONCLUDING ITEMS

Invitations to the Sixth FAO Regional Conference for Africa

240. The Conference noted with gratitude the invitations extended, through their Heads of Delegations, by the Governments of Algeria and Cameroon to hold the Sixth FAO Regional Conference for Africa in their respective capitals. In requesting the representatives of these countries to convey to their Governments the appreciation of the Conference and of the Director-General of FAO for their generous offer, the Assistant Director-General, Development Department, confirmed that the Director-General would give very careful thought to the choice of location and would convey his decision to all member countries of the Region in good time.

Closing Ceremony

241. The closing ceremony began in the late afternoon of Friday 29 November 1968, when the Assistant Director-General, Development Department, introduced to the Conference H.E. J. Babiha, Vice-President of Uganda, and invited him to address the gathering.

242. His Excellency the Vice-President qualified the Fifth Regional Conference as a land-mark in the history of such meetings because it came at a time when Africa was approaching the threshold of a break-through in food and agricultural production. At this crucial stage the Conference had taken cognisance of the many new factors which would enable Africa to promote the agricultural revolution which was already taking effect in other parts of the developing world: the full awareness by governments of the vital role of agriculture in the Region's economic and social development; the greater willingness of outside financing to invest in agriculture; dividends now accruing from research and training; and prospects of pragmatic, meaningful and coordinated international effort in the form of a single action-oriented UN programme for agricultural development for Africa whose guidelines would be geared, in the short term, to the long-term objectives of the Indicative World Plan.

243. H.E. the Vice-President stressed that the tools, know-how, and orientation were therefore at hand; and that it was for Africa, at national, sub-regional and continental levels, to set its own house in order. He felt that this was the first and necessary step in obtaining that Africa be integrated in the world family of agricultural producers.

244. The acting Regional Representative of the Director-General replied by first expressing, on behalf of FAO, his gratitude to the Government of Uganda for the innumerable ways in which it had prepared for, and welcomed, the Conference. He paid special tribute to H.E. the President and H.E. the Vice-President, for honouring the meeting by their presence at the inaugural and closing sessions. After tracing the broad lines of reorientation given by the Conference to the work of FAO, he promised to reflect in the Regional Office's efforts all the enthusiasm, understanding and concern for the Region's agricultural future which had been the keynote of all discussions throughout the Fifth FAO Regional Conference for Africa.

245. On behalf of all participants in the Conference, the Head of the delegation of the Republic of Cameroon spoke of the spirit of sincerity which had pervaded the deliberations of the meeting, the level of which had been matched only by the thoughtfulness and generosity with which the Host Government had acquitted itself of its responsibilities. His thanks went to the Chairman and his colleagues who had assisted him in so ably conducting the sessions. He also expressed the Conference's

appreciation to the Director-General, his staff, the Host Government's preparatory committee, and all those whose work lay behind the scenes, for their contribution to the success of the Conference.

246. The Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Cooperatives of Uganda, as Chairman, then declared the Fifth FAO Regional Conference for Africa officially closed.

APPENDIX I

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

A. DELEGATES

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Conference Affairs Officer	N.C. de Caprona
Documents Officer	Miss D. Moro
Information Officer	M. Benaisa
Translators	J. Curtis
	Mrs. N. Vittorelli
Secretaries	Miss M.F. Brossard
	Miss A.M. Giorgi
	Mrs. M. Navarro
	Mrs. S. Unwin
	Miss A. Zampieri
	Miss Zincke

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Miss H. Lawrie	Personal Assistant to the Director-General
E. Hartmans	Special Assistant to the Director-General

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St. G.C. Cooper	Regional Rural Institutions Officer, Addis Ababa
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J.C. Proust	Regional Nutrition Officer, Accra
E.A. Quist-Arcton	Regional Forestry Officer, Nairobi
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APPENDIX II

LIST OF DOCUMENTS

Working Papers

ARC/68/1	Provisional Agenda
ARC/68/1a	Proposed Annotated Agenda
ARC/68/2	Review of FAO's Activities in the Region
ARC/68/2-Add.1	Agricultural Marketing Commission for Africa
ARC/68/3	Policy Problems in Agricultural Development in the Period to 1985
ARC/68/3-Add.1	Possibilities of Fishery Development in Africa South of the Sahara
ARC/68/4	The Food Industries Development Programme in Africa
ARC/68/5	Food Crops in Agricultural Planning
ARC/68/6	Cash Inputs and Modern Agriculture
ARC/68/7	Some Aspects of Livestock Development in Africa
ARC/68/8	Forestry Policy in Tropical Africa
ARC/68/9	Increasing Agricultural Trade among African Countries
ARC/68/10	Economic Incentives and Marketing with special reference to the Domestic Market
ARC/68/11	The Integrated Rural Institutional Development Approach for providing Government Services to Agriculture
ARC/68/12	Regional Structure and Reorientation of Regional Conferences

Background Papers

ARC/68/CONF/1	Statement by the Director-General
ARC/68/CONF/2	Statement by R.K.A. Gardiner, Executive Secretary, ECA
ARC/68/CONF/3	Message from His Excellency U Thant
ARC/68/CONF/4	Opening Statement by President Obote
ARC/68/CONF/5	Draft Resolutions (on general structure and on regional conferences)
ARC/68/CONF/6	Proposed draft on FAO strategy
ARC/68/CONF/6-Add.1	Resolution on FAO strategy
ARC/68/CONF/7	Introduction to the IWP
ARC/68/CONF/8	Introduction to ARC/68/2 by Regional Representative
ARC/68/CONF/9	Draft Resolution presented by the Delegation of Kenya
ARC/68/CONF/10	Summary of Points on Short-Term Action
ARC/68/REP/1	Introduction
ARC/68/REP/2	Review of Activities and Orientation of FAO's Short-Term Work
ARC/68/REP/3	Indicative World Plan

APPENDIX III

SUMMARY OF POINTS ON SHORT-TERM ACTION

For attention by Governments

For attention by the Director-General

General

Bring elements of FAO's five-point strategy and programme recommendations to the attention of all bodies concerned with African agricultural development. (61)

Strengthen the resources and authority of the Regional Office. (67)

Establish closer cooperation with all bodies participating in Africa's agricultural development. (67)

Create "task forces" in support of FAO's action in the Region. (67)

Suppress sub-regional offices. (67)

Establish FAO Country Representatives in each member country. (67)

Bring to the attention of appropriate FAO bodies and the 15th Session of the FAO Conference the need to give constitutional status to Regional Conferences. (67)

Reorganize Regional Conferences to allow for the meeting at policy level to be immediately preceded by discussions at technical committees level. (67)

Provide Regional Conferences with a review of action and future proposals along the lines of FAO's five-point strategy; with information on follow-up to previous Regional Conference requests; and with a list of FAO participants. (67)

Agricultural Production

(a) Animal Production and Health

Greater priority to be given to disease control programmes, to training and to enhancing the status of the livestock breeder. (83,192)

Convene an international conference on bovine pleuro-pneumonia. (83,189)

Give more attention to tsetse and trypanosomiasis control. (83,190)

For attention by Governments

For attention by the Director-General

Assist in zonal and regional disease control, eradication, research and training. (84,85)

Provide assistance in promoting poultry breeding, feeding and management. (88,195)

(b) Fisheries

Attention to inland fishery programmes. (56,117,208)

Attention to inland fisheries programmes. (56,117,208)

Establishment of bodies geared to develop multinational waters. (56)

Establishment of bodies geared to develop multinational waters. (56,116)

More attention to fisheries potential in brackish waters and lagoons. (118)

More attention to fisheries potential in brackish waters and lagoons. (118)

More attention to crustacean resources. (210)

Assist in promoting research and stock assessment of the crustacean resources. (210)

(c) Forestry

Promote work on forest resource appraisal. (57,90)

Promote work on forest resource appraisal. (57,90,200)

Continued attention to enrichment and regeneration of natural forest. (92)

Establish Regional Logging and Harvesting Training Centres in cooperation with national centres. (93)

Greater emphasis to research on fuller utilization of lesser-known species. (92)

Conduct studies on indirect benefits of forest and tree cover. (94)

Attention to training of forestry staff at technical and professional levels, established on a sub-regional and language basis. (206)

Advice on forest management and timber supply concessions. (200)

(d) Plant Production and Protection

Emphasis to regional cooperation in research and in seed production (64)

Emphasis to regional cooperation in research and seed production. (64)

Intensify selection of a wider range of plant material for improved strains and promote exchange of information on an ecological zone basis. (107)

Intensify selection of a wider range of plant material for improved strains, and promote exchange of information on an ecological zone basis through the creation of regional seed production centres. (107,174)

Creation of "green belts" for intensive food crop production around major cities. (175)

Assist further in crop diversification programmes. (108,125)

Urge greater contributions to locust control funds. (108)

For attention by Governments

For attention by the Director-General

(d) Plant Production and Protection (cont.)

- | | |
|---|--|
| | Diffuse information and documentation on crop pests. (108) |
| | Attention to improved rangeland productivity and to research on cover-crops and grazing under perennial cash crop plantations. (110) |
| | Assistance in respect of studies on hail suppression and rain stimulation. (112) |
| Promote establishment of a regional network of research institutes, experimental and quarantine stations and training centres at intermediate levels. (133,183) | Assist in establishing an adequate regional network of research experimental and quarantine stations, with incidental training at intermediate levels. (133,183) |
| | Attention to standardization and adaptation of existing types of farm machinery to differing conditions. (140) |
| | Publication of a new handbook on hand tools and animal drawn equipment. (140) |

Filling the Protein Gap

- | | |
|--|---|
| Increase exchange of information on improving protein content of diets, and on foods derived from local protein-rich plant and animal resources. (102) | Set up organized school feeding programmes under FFHC and WFP. (105,146) |
| Set up special national committees on malnutrition problems. (105) | Assist in training staff for national committees on malnutrition problems, and in helping them find solutions to such problems. (105) |
| | Consider the need for regional training centres for local fishermen to produce more valuable protein. (119,211) |

War on Waste

- | | |
|--|---|
| National FFHC Committees to give attention to rodent control and to effective storage at farm and community levels. (81,109) | Attention to control of crop losses by predators during storage. (109,138) |
| Establish regional training bases on storage of agricultural products. (138) | Intensify cooperation with the UK Tropical Stored Products Centre and extend the benefits to French-speaking countries of the Region. (138) |
| More attention to primary processing in reducing waste during harvesting of forest produce. (205) | Assist in establishing regional training bases on storage of agricultural products. (138) |

For attention by Governments

For attention by the Director-General

Human Resources Mobilization

Special attention to mobilization of human resources. (63)

Special attention to mobilization of human resources. (63,146)

National FFHC Committees to do more to promote national awareness to local rural area conditions and needs. (79)

Emphasis on youth training and involvement. (78,134)

Establish two-way agricultural development centres for policy guidance to the farmer community and for channelling requests for services and inputs for development to the Government. (237-239)

Attention to the multiple role of women in rural development, and to follow-up the recommendations of the ad hoc Consultation on Home Economics held in Accra from 20 October to 2 November 1968. (104)

Undertake with WHO a study on the effects of certain stimulants used as palliatives by farmers. (106)

Assist further in formulation and implementation of land tenure legislation. (130)

Further emphasis to creation and strengthening of appropriate extension services. (132)

Further emphasis to strengthening and training of extension services. (132)

Earning and Saving Foreign Exchange

Attention to internal and intra-regional trade. (48,53,64,126,213,216)

Provide guidance on policies for expansion of trade. (48,53,126,127,213,218)

Establish marketing development centres within national ministries responsible for agriculture and cooperatives. (233)

Continued and expanded attention to commodity agreements. (48)

Assist in minimizing obstacles to expansion of overseas exports. (49,50)

FFHC to be used in influencing public opinion in favour of better trade terms. (78)

Play an active role in promoting overseas trade in livestock products. (86,193)

Help in improving marketing methods and organization. (127)

FAO Council to approve formal establishment of an African Agricultural Marketing Commission. (127)

Establish, under the African Agricultural Marketing Commission, an Expert Advisory Panel to DG on production and trade of products of special importance. (234)

For attention by Governments

For attention by the Director-General

Financial and Material Inputs

National FFHC Committees to promote greater flow of information to developed countries on local conditions and needs of rural areas.	Attention to investments in relation to diversification.	(54)
(79)	Provision of fertilizers.	(54,97,184)
	Integration of other sources of aid in promoting availability of inputs.	(65)
	Obtain that more recognition be given to difficulties in meeting conventional terms of financing.	(74)
	Ensure that adequacy of finance for carrying through a project is available prior to inception of preparation missions.	(75)
	Assist in promoting greater interest in providing financing for various aspects of forestry development.	(93,203)
	Study fertilizer use in relation to other inputs.	(97)
	Increased assistance in respect of capital, equipment and training in fisheries development.	(119)
	Urge greater outside assistance in financing credit programmes.	(128)
	WFP to include agricultural inputs and production requisites in its aid programme.	(145)
	Help in solving cost problem of provision of water supplies and application of scientific research on an ecological basis, necessary to livestock development.	(192)
	Request Executive Director to contact governments asking them to assist in attaining 1970/71 WFP targets.	(148)

Resource Use Planning and Development

Group-country approach to production patterns.	Group-country approach to production patterns.	(53,57,91)	(53,57,91,96)
Attention to diversification.	Involvement of other sources of aid in coordinated planning and development.	(54,96)	(65)

For attention by Governments

For attention by the Director-General

Resource Use Planning and Development (cont.)

Attention to checking wasteful and undesirable depletion of forest resources. (89,197)

Increased attention to problems of soil erosion by wind and water, including training in operation and management of water development schemes. (95)

Consideration to multiple use of forest land under sylvo-pastoral management and for wildlife and recreation. (94)

Assistance in promoting improved water availability and use. (98)

Attention to integration of livestock breeding and agricultural crop production. (110)

Establish a Regional Land and Water Use Commission. (101)

Assist in establishing more realistic national nutritional statistics bases in planning food and agricultural policy and action. (103)

Attention to integration of livestock breeding and agricultural crop production. (110)

Industrial Development

Special attention to development of forest industries to make fuller use of lesser known as well as traditionally used species. (90)

Involvement of other sources of aid in furthering agricultural processing. (65)

Emphasis to group-country approach to agro-allied industrial development. (91,139)

More attention in general to the processing of agricultural produce, and especially to adaptation of processing equipment to changing local conditions. (159)

Posting of a specialist on agro-allied industry and processing to the Regional Office. (139)

Indicative World Plan

Establish national inter-ministerial teams as contact points with FAO/IWP staff. (156)

Provide guidance on policies for expansion of trade. (48,53,64)

Assessment of national resources potential in respect of agricultural production in elaboration of Plan. (96)

Need for further guidance and help in establishing improved statistical bases for development planning. (142,143)

Publication as soon as possible of the Regional Study for the IWP, followed by action-oriented efforts. (159,173)

For attention by Governments

For attention by the Director-General

Indicative World Plan (cont.)

Publication of a document outlining the methodology used in drawing up the IWP.
(160)

Consideration to measures for reducing cost of cash material inputs so as to promote their wider use in support of modern agriculture. (180)

APPENDIX IV

FIFTH FAO REGIONAL CONFERENCE FOR AFRICA

Kampala, Uganda - 18-29 November 1968

Agenda

A. INTRODUCTORY ITEMS

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

B. THE FOOD AND AGRICULTURAL SITUATION IN AFRICA

4. Director-General's Introductory Statement
5. Statement by the Executive Secretary of ECA
6. Country Statements
7. Review of FAO's activities in the Region

C. MAJOR POLICY QUESTIONS OF ACTUAL CONCERN TO THE REGION
Indicative World Plan

8. Policy Problems in Agricultural Development in Period to 1985
9. The Food Industries Development Programme in Africa
10. Food Crops in Agricultural Planning
11. Cash Inputs and Modern Agriculture
12. Some Aspects of Livestock Development in Africa
13. Forestry Policy in Tropical Africa
14. Increasing Agricultural Trade among African Countries
15. Economic Incentives and Marketing with special reference to the Domestic Market
16. The Integrated Rural Institutional Development Approach to providing Government Services to Agriculture

D. CONCLUDING ITEMS

17. Orientation of FAO's Work during the Next Biennium (adoption of report)
18. FAO Strategy, Reorganization and Reorientation of Regional Conferences
19. Date and Place of the Sixth Regional Conference
20. Closing of the Conference

