UNITED NATIONS
ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR AFRICA

Sixth meeting of the Technical Preparatory Committee of the Whole
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
15 - 22 April 1985

Item 1.20 IV.1 (h) of the provisional agenda

REPORT OF THE SIXTH MEETING OF THE AFRICA REGIONAL CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE ON THE INTEGRATION OF WOMEN IN DEVELOPMENT

Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
15 - 17 April 1985
A. ORGANIZATION OF WORK AND ATTENDANCE

A. Organization of the meeting

1. The sixth meeting of the Africa Regional Co-ordinating Committee (ARCC) on the Integration of Women in Development was organized by the Economic Commission for Africa and held at its headquarters from 15 to 17 April 1985.

B. Attendance

2. The meeting was attended by the following member States of the Africa Regional Co-ordinating Committee: Algeria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Congo, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Gabon, Guinea, Morocco, Rwanda, Togo, United Republic of Tanzania, Zaire and Zimbabwe.

3. States not members of ARCC were present as observers: Botswana, Ethiopia, The Sudan and the United States of America.

4. The following inter-governmental organisations were represented:
   - The following United Nations bodies and agencies were represented: The United Nations Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs, the International Labour Organization (ILo), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and the World Health Organization (WHO).

5. The African National Congress (South Africa) was represented.

6. Non-governmental organizations attending as observers were: the Inter-African Committee on Traditional Practices Affecting the Health of Women and Children, the International Planned Parenthood Federation, the Pan-African Women's Organization (PANO) and the Women's International Democratic Federation (WIDF).

C. Opening of the meeting (agenda item 1)

8. The meeting was opened by Ms. Desta Bishav, alternate member of the Central Committee of the Workers Party of Ethiopia (WPE), Head of the Finance Department in the Council of Ministers with the rank of Vice Minister. Ms. Bishav spoke of the importance of the sixth meeting of ARCC which took place on the eve of the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace to be held in Nairobi from 15 to 26 July 1985. The meeting had a role to play in the process of reviewing the problems and applauding the successes of the Decade. Some of the obstacles that still remained in women's path in the Region included the exclusion of many of their productive labours from national accounts and their limited access to education and skill development. The Popular Revolution in Ethiopia had made strides in creating the necessary conditions for the full participation of women in development and the Head of State had given considerable importance to national preparations for the World Conference. She concluded by noting that while ARCC had experienced some problems, such as lack of resources, it should not be deterred from meeting its goals.
9. Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa said that governments of the region must recognize the need to devote resources to the operation of ARCC as funds from the United Nations Development Programme were likely to be phased out. It was important to draw attention to the plight of rural women especially those that were victims of drought. This was a major focus of the Five-Year Plan for the Implementation of the Arusha Strategies that was being presented to the meeting. Action programmes for integrating women farmers into ongoing agricultural schemes had to be developed as soon as possible. Recent studies showed that few technical co-operation projects over the decade had included women as beneficiaries. He stressed the importance of African women preparing a common front for the World Conference at Nairobi. Given the possibility of political disturbance there, African women had the potential to act as a bridge on which divergent views could meet. He urged participants to disseminate information regarding the Nairobi Conference upon their return home.

10. In her opening statement the President of ARCC, Mme Manenten Camara (Guinea) reviewed the history of ARCC from its founding in 1979 at Rabat. ARCC had seen to it that programmes for women in the Region took into account the priority needs of member States. Among its other accomplishments, ARCC had requested that member States ratify or accede to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women, that member States appoint women to significant positions, and that women's needs were included in development plans. The fact that women in Africa were the victims of neglect, economic and climatic crises made it imperative that they participate in formulating solutions to the crises. She thanked UNDP for its assistance to regional and subregional women's programmes and urged it and other donors to continue their assistance in the future.

Report of the outgoing President of ARCC (agenda item 2)

11. In her progress report as President of ARCC Mme Camara reviewed the activities undertaken since Guinea was elected President of ARCC in 1985. In the previous year, she had visited Kenya to confer on preparations for the World Conference and had participated in the Regional Intergovernmental Preparatory Meeting for the World Conference held in Arusha. She had also attended the Third Meeting in Vienna of the Commission on the Status of Women acting as the Preparatory Body for the World Conference and visited country and subregional programmes in the Kisenyi and Tangier U/LPCOs, notably in Morocco, Algeria, Rwanda and Burundi. African participants to the World Conference would meet in Nairobi on 12 July 1985 for pre-Conference consultations. In assessing progress made in the last two years she felt that while there were difficulties with the regional and subregional programmes, high-level decision makers in the Region had begun to pay attention to the problems of women. She suggested that ARCC and the subregional Committees on the Integration of Women in Development would become more operational if the increased communication within and between them. She expressed pleasure that the OAU Summit on Economic Matters meeting in Addis Ababa in July would examine closely progress made in the integration of women in development in the Region.

Election of the bureau (agenda item 3)

12. The following officers were elected by the Committee, to serve for a period of two years:

Chairperson: Burundi
First Vice-Chairperson: United Republic of Tanzania
Second Vice-Chairperson: Congo
First Rapporteur: Togo
Second Rapporteur: Morocco
Adoption of the agenda (agenda item 4)

13. The following agenda was adopted for the meeting:

1. Opening Ceremony
2. Report of the (outgoing) President of ARCC
3. Election of the bureau
4. Adoption of the agenda
5. Reports of the Subregional Committees on the Integration of Women in Development
6. Report on the activities of the African Training and Research Centre for Women (ATRCW), including the women's programmes of the ECA Multinational Programming and Operational Centres (MULPOCs), 1984-1985
7. Institutional framework governing relations between various organs established to promote the integration of women in development
8. Regional Intergovernmental Preparatory Meeting for the World Conference on the United Nations Decade for Women/Third Regional Conference on the Integration of Women in Development
   (a) Report on the Regional Intergovernmental Preparatory Meeting
   (b) Modalities of implementation of the Arusha Strategies for the Advancement of African women beyond the United Nations Decade for Women
10. Other business
11. Closing

II. ACCOUNT OF PROCEEDINGS

Reports of the Subregional Committees on the Integration of Women in Development (agenda item 5)

Lusaka-based Subregional Committee

14. The Vice-Chairperson (United Republic of Tanzania) of the Lusaka-based MULPOC Subregional Committee on the Integration of Women in Development reported on the activities of the women's programme in her subregion over the last year. The Subregional Committee had held its fourth meeting in Blantyre, Malawi from 25 February to 1 March 1985. She introduced the Report of the meeting (ECA/MULPOC/Lusaka/158/8, ECA/MULPOC/Lusaka/VII/7(1)) that had been attended by ten member States of the Subregion. The meeting had reviewed progress made in the women's programme, including the areas of training, research, promotion of national machineries, organization of missions and provision of advisory services to promote the integration of women in development. Resolutions had been passed and subsequently adopted by the Subregional Council of Ministers, inter alia, urging member States to contribute resources to the women's programme, donors to continue their assistance, and the ECA Executive Secretary to provide it with regular budget resources; promoting follow-up at national level to programme activities; and encouraging the exchange of experiences among the countries of the subregion.
15. According to the report of the Lusaka MULPOC representative, the subregion had been very concerned with the institutional framework of the subregional committees, urging that they should continue in their status as advisory and policy-making bodies on women's issues at subregional level, with the MULPOC acting as secretariat. Their meeting had also made proposals for the implementation of the Arusha Strategies for the Advancement of African Women Beyond the United Nations Decade for Women, taking particular note of the priorities of the subregion, including the situation of women-headed households in agriculture and the communication problems for industrial development of the island countries. The committee placed special emphasis on peace and apartheid as major concerns of the subregion. Further details on the women's programme activities over the last year were available in ECA/MULPOC/LUSAKA/15/9.

Niamey-based Subregional Committee

16. The Chairperson of the West Africa Subregional Committee (Gogo) presented the report of activities of the subregion over the past year, highlighted by the fourth Meeting of the Subregional Committee held in Lome from 5-8 February 1985. Central to the agenda was the discussion of the Arusha Strategies, from which the subregion placed emphasis on agriculture and food production, the impact of desertification, and industrial and human resources development. Recommendations made at the Committee meeting, including those on implementation of the Arusha Strategies, mobilization of human and financial resources for the women's programme, and dissemination of information were subsequently adopted by the Niamey MULPOC Council of Ministers meeting in Niamey (15-18February 1985).

17. Notable in the progress report from the subregion was that activities had taken place in the areas of organization of seminars and participation in meetings. Several national machineries had submitted project documents to donors, and several countries had benefited from training in project preparation and implementation. Some of the obstacles that had beset the women's programme included shortages of manpower and financial resources, lack of budget for the operations of the Subregional Committee, constraints to the exchange of information and the special problems of the Portuguese-speaking countries. With these in mind recommendations had been made for the 1985-1986 work programme which included emphasis on activities with concrete content, priority to subregional or multinational projects and implementation of the Arusha Strategies. She expressed the hope that necessary measures would be taken to allow the committees to continue beyond the Decade.

Tangiers-based Subregional Committee

18. The Chairperson of the North African Subregional Committee based in Tangiers (Morocco) stressed the need for the use of Arabic at meetings of ARCC, as well as in documents presented to the Subregional Committee. The Subregional Committee had held its meeting in Tangiers on 5 and 7 April 1985. The agenda had included discussions of the institutional framework under which the subregional committee operated, the Arusha Strategies and preparations for the World Conference. The meeting had rejected the idea of establishing a union of North African women for the present because possible duplication of efforts with existing women's organizations. It had also been concerned with the compilation of a directory of experts and consultants from the subregion. Featured in the 1985-1986 Women's Work Programme and Priorities adopted by the subregional Policy Organs were the strengthening of national machineries, establishment and strengthening of vocational training centres for women, exchange of experiences between countries of the subregion, income-generating projects and studies on different aspects of women's
in the subregion leading to the development of projects for women's integration. Regarding the Arusha Strategies, the member States of the subregion had felt that material needed to be added on the situation of Arab refugee women and women victims of armed struggle. It had commended the tri-lingual Bulletin on the activities of women in the subregion published by the women's programme, the first issue of which had been distributed in January 1985.

19. The North Africa HULPOC women's programme co-ordinator added details on activities that had been carried out by the women's programme since its inception in September 1983, including the strengthening and creation of national and subregional machineries, pilot projects for the improvement of income, strengthening and creation of documentation centres, vocational training, dissemination of information, and research on women in national machineries and in industrial development.

Yaounde-based Subregional Committee

20. The Chairperson (Gabon) of the Central Africa Subregion reported on the activities of the women's programme in that subregion for the period 1984-1985 based on document CEA/HULPOC/YAO/PIF. The programme had held a subregional seminar on problems of girls and juvenile delinquency, undertaken research on improving techniques of food production, preservation and marketing, given advisory services to national machineries for the integration of women in development and participated in statutory meetings of ECA. At the fourth meeting of the Subregional Committee held in Libreville (5-8 February 1985), particular attention had been given to the Arusha Strategies, with emphasis on the priority needs of the subregion; a new bureau had been elected and a work programme adopted for the 1985-1986 biennium which included a number of country-specific activities, as well as training of women in agriculture towards the goal of promoting food self-sufficiency in the subregion, research on school dropout girls, and on women traders, issuing an information bulletin, participation in ECA statutory meetings, and advisory services to national machineries. Among the resolutions passed at the meeting was one to enhance the role of women in the political forum at the national level with the assistance of member States and the United Nations system.

21. She expressed the hope that the World Conference to be held in Nairobi would be successful and stressed that more resources were needed for carrying out women's programmes after the end of the Decade.

Gisenyi-based Subregional Committee

22. According to the report of activities of the Gisenyi-based Subregional Committee presented by its Vice-Chairperson (Rwanda), the third meeting of the Subregional Committee had been held in Gisenyi on 14 and 15 March 1985. In the period since the last meeting of ARCC, women's programme activities in the subregion had included organization of and attendance at meetings, conferences, training seminars and undertaking of studies and
projects. The seminars had centered co-operative and administration and management and the effects of population growth on family planning. For several reasons, three others which had been planned did not take place. Projects had been mounted on three aspects of improving women's income and productivity. Further details on women's programme activities were available in documents ECA/MULPOC/GISENYI/VII/17 and ECA/MULPOC/GISENYI/VII/19.

23: The Eighth Meeting of the Great Lakes Subregion Council of Ministers had passed three resolutions regarding women, notably one calling for evaluation of the subregional women's programmes, another concerning the important role of women in alleviating the food crisis and a third informing member States of the Arusha Strategy. In adopting a work programme for the coming biennium, which would include organization of training seminars and the study and/or implementation of specific projects, activities which had been unable to be carried out in the previous biennium were to be carried over. Suggestions were made on measures to improve the implementation of the programme, including involving member States in seeking financial resources for the programme, increased communication between member States and decentralization of budget management. It was felt that despite major financial constraints, the conduct of the women's programme had been satisfactory.

24: It was agreed that all the subregions shared similar constraints and difficulties in implementing their respective women's programmes. Greater efforts needed to be made in the coming year in mobilizing of resources - human and monetary, and in dissemination of information. The efforts begun during the Decade should not be allowed to lapse with the conclusion of the Decade.

Report on the Activities of the African Training and Research Centre for Women (agenda item 6)

25: The ECA representative presented the Report of Activities of ATRCW (E/ECAM/ATRCW/ARCC/85/1) and called upon the women's programme co-ordinators to supplement it with reports from their respective subregions. The Centre had undertaken numerous activities to implement the resolutions of the fifth meeting of ARCC (Addis Ababa, 1984) on the strengthening of women's capabilities in the preparation, management and follow-up of women's programmes, mobilization of resources for regional and subregional women's programmes, promotion of African women within the United Nations system, strengthening of ARCC and the subregional committees, and preparing for the Regional Intergovernmental Preparatory Meeting for the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women. Particularly notable were the courses that had been mounted with ATRCW assistance and organization at the East and Southern Africa Management Institute on Women, management and development planning and at centres in Kenya and the Ivory Coast on training women in management and skills necessary for the running of small
businesses. The Centre had also been concerned with changing attitudes towards the full participation of women in development, particularly through the holding, with UNESCO, of a Subregional Seminar on Women and Decision Making in the Media.

26. In addition to those activities carried out in line with ARCC resolutions, the Centre had carried out a number of initiatives on how to alleviate the situation of women victims of famine in the region. The Centre had strengthened its capabilities to give technical assistance to Portuguese-speaking countries and had participated in a number of significant meetings. It continued to conduct numerous studies and disseminate information on women and development.

27. She also informed the meeting of the results of the ECA/UNDP/ARCC Tripartite Review of the four Sub-Saharan subregional women's programmes that had been held in Addis Ababa from 11 to 12 April 1985. It had concluded that the subregional women's programmes had made a significant impact on women in the region; they had particularly strengthened the capability of African women to perform creditably at international and other levels and had enhanced the technical capacities of national machineries for the integration of women in development. Several suggestions had been adopted for the improved implementation of the subregional programmes to the end of 1986, when the current UNDP funding cycle ended. These included revision of the programmes based on the Arusha Strategies, the need for more coherent programmes comprising fewer and more concentrated activities for maximum impact, increased efforts on the part of the Subregional Committees and their bureaux to mobilize funds, particularly from the UNDP IPF, utilization of the ECA/PADIS roster of African experts, and recruitment of an officer at ATWCW to backstop the subregional programmes. Another Tripartite Review of the programmes would be held in June 1986.

28. She read a message which had been sent to the meeting by the International Training and Research Institute for the Advancement of Women (INSTRAW). INSTRAW was anxious to receive the results of the meeting, with particular reference to the implementation of the Arusha Strategies and preparations for the World Conference. INSTRAW itself was a major result of the Decade for Women; it acted as a catalyst for the promotion of women through its network of co-operative institutions, including the regional commissions. It was presently preparing for a joint Seminar with ECA to be held in Harare from 29 April through 7 May 1985 on Improved Statistics and Indicators for Women in Development. ECA and INSTRAW were also collaborating on a study of national machineries for women in Africa. The Institute would continue to stress research and training as the key elements in improving women's abilities to deal with the multi-faceted problems they faced.
Institutional framework governing relations between the various organs established to promote the integration of women in development (agenda item 7)

29. The ECA representative introduced document E/ECA/ATRCW/ARCC/85/4, entitled Second Revised Note on the Institutional Framework Governing Relations between the Various Organs Established to Promote the Integration of Women in Development. The structural relationship chart was used to explain the relations between the various bodies, starting with national machineries which had been established in accordance with varied country rules and regulations. These national machineries were members of the subregional committees which were serviced by women's programme co-ordinators. Reports of Subregional Committees were submitted to MULPOC Policy Organs and thereafter to the Technical Preparatory Committee of the Whole, ARCC, and finally the ECA Conference of Ministers. Reports of the Conference of Ministers were ultimately submitted to the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC).

30. In the discussions that ensued, the question of the status of ARCC was raised. It was explained that ARCC was both an intergovernmental body, as it is composed of member States, and a subsidiary body of ECA which submits its resolutions to ECOSOC. Concerning observations on rules of procedure, it was explained that ARCC followed ECA rules of procedure and the Subregional Committees could use the rules of procedure set forth in the Second Revised Note adapted to the realities of each subregion. A proposal for proportional representation in the ARCC on the basis of MULPOC size was considered difficult to implement as it would involve changes in issues already settled. However, more countries from large subregions could attend ARCC meetings as observers. Strengthening of personnel by recruiting assistant co-ordinators for MULPOC women's programmes in the larger subregions was also considered crucial to ensure efficient implementation of the programme within the subregions. While considering the issue of representation, it was recommended that representation in the bureau of the ARCC, particularly, the chairmanship of ARCC, should rotate among MULPOCs. Likewise, Subregional Committees should attempt to rotate membership in their respective bureaux.

31. A proposal was made to reduce the quorum of meetings of Subregional Committees to 33% of member States but it was agreed that each MULPOC could adopt its own rules of procedure concerning quorums.

32. It was agreed that the chairperson of the Regional Conference on the Integration of Women in Development as well as PAWO should attend the ARCC Meetings as observers. The representative of PAWO supported the recommendation to grant her organization observer status at ARCC meetings and reiterated the need for collaboration between the two bodies on promoting action for the advancement of women.
Regional Intergovernmental Preparatory Meeting for the World Conference on
the United Nations Decade for Women/Third Regional Conference on the Integration
of Women in Development (agenda item 8)

33. The representative of the secretariat introduced part (a) of this item by
presenting the Report of the Regional Intergovernmental Preparatory Meeting
(E/ECA/CN.11/11) which had been held in Arusha from 8 to 12 October 1984. The
Arusha Strategies adopted by the Meeting constituted the first part of this document.
Since many members of ARCC had been at the Arusha meeting which had drafted the
Strategies, she concentrated her presentation on the Five-Year Plan for the implementa-
tion of the Arusha Strategies (document E/ECA/CM.11.20) which was part (b) of the
agenda item. The same sectors had been included in this document as in the Arusha
Strategies; however, the important role of women in development planning had been
highlighted. The document had been prepared to stimulate discussion and to alert member
States to the need to develop specific programmes and projects for the implementation
of the Arusha Strategies. It was not meant as a formula; rather it was only indicative
of some of the major areas which had to be addressed over the next five years in
order to accelerate the pace of the participation of women in development in spite
of the numerous crises in the region was facing. It was meant to be a guide for
action at the national and subregional levels. The secretariat was heartened to learn
that the subregional committee meetings had already discussed the implementation of the
Strategies and had outlined their own areas of priority.

34. Participants expressed their concern for the implementation of the Strategies
and requested that they be given assistance at the national level in drawing up
projects for its realization. They emphasized that all major regional forums should
consider the problems women faced. In this regard, the question of the inclusion
of an agenda item on women and development in the forthcoming OAU Summit on Economic
Matters was raised. It was explained that several documents being discussed at the
present meeting would be presented to the Technical Preparatory Committee of the Whole
and the Eleventh Meeting of the Conference of Ministers, which had been given a mandate
to assist the OAU in preparing for the Summit. These documents were the Report of
the Regional Intergovernmental Preparatory Meeting, the Five-Year Plan for the Implemen-
tation of the Arusha Strategies and the Report of the Sixth Meeting of ARCC. However,
it was not clear whether the agenda had been set for the Summit and whether it would
reflect the same content as the ECA meetings held preparatory to it.

35. Several explanations were given by representatives of the OAU regarding preparations
for the Summit. Participants felt strongly that they wanted the question of women
to be included as a separate agenda item at the Summit and discussed ways in which
this could be accomplished. It was agreed to adopt a multi-faceted approach.
The Chairperson of ARCC would make the position of ARCC clear in her presentations
to the Technical Preparatory Meeting. A delegation from the meeting, including the Pan African Women's Organization, would visit the Secretary General o.i. of the OAU and the ECA Executive Secretary to express their concern. In addition, individual members of ARCC would contact members of the Steering Committee preparing the summit. The secretariat would inform the meeting on the status of the Summit agenda. As part of this discussion, the importance of seeing that able women were included in national delegations to international meetings was stressed.

36. The question of OAU structures for women was also raised. It was explained by the OAU representative that two resolutions had been passed by African Heads of State calling for the establishment of a women's unit within OAU. However, budgetary constraints had not permitted the establishment of such a unit. The meeting felt that it should take whatever action it could to see that the resolutions were implemented. It felt that a women's unit at OAU would help ensure that more serious consideration would be given at the secretariat level to matters concerning women.

**World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace** (agenda item 9)

37. The secretariat introduced this item by making a report on the Third Meeting of the Commission of the Status of Women acting as the Preparatory Body for the World Conference on the United Nations Decade for Women held in Vienna from 4 to 11 March 1985. It had been attended by 30 member States, six of whom were from the Africa region. Seventeen African states had attended as observers. The purpose of the meeting had been to study the documentation prepared for the Conference, to solve organizational problems related to it, and to adopt rules of procedure for the Conference. Unfortunately, the Vienna meeting had ended inconclusively, without agreement being reached on either the documents on the review and appraisal of the achievements of the Decade and forward-looking strategies for the advancement of women beyond the end of the Decade nor on the rules of procedure. The meeting had been particularly divided over the documents presented on the forward-looking strategies, which had consisted of a set of strategies drafted by the Conference secretariat and a summary of the recommendations of the regional preparatory meetings. It was felt nearly universally that the secretariat strategies had not reflected the strategies adopted by the regional preparatory meetings. However, no agreement had been reached either on acceptance of the secretariat document or on proposed alternatives. Thus, the Conference documentation would go to Nairobi without alteration. The views on it expressed at the **Preparatory**
Body Meeting would be contained in the report of the Preparatory Body. It was explained that the Africa group that had constituted itself in Vienna had worked closely with the Group of 77 to write substantial amendments to the Strategies proposed by the Conference secretariat. The representative of the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs explained that the document on the global strategies presented by the Secretary General would be submitted to the next session of the Economic and Social Council and expressed the hope that the Council would devote sufficient time to its consideration so that a common platform could be arrived at bringing together diverse points of view. The ECA representative informed the meeting of the recent decision to hold a fourth meeting of the Preparatory Body for the World Conference in New York from 29 April to 6 May 1985, preceding the May Meeting of ECOSOC.

36. The meeting expressed its apprehension for the success of the Conference which was particularly important since it was being held in the Africa region. In Africa political and development issues were linked, thus participants were concerned that Africa member States would raise political issues of concern to the region, such as apartheid and the question of Palestine, at the World Conference. Ways and means were discussed so that African delegations would take a common stand there. The ECA Secretariat was preparing a day's training course in Nairobi on 11 July on Conference rules of procedure; on 12 July there would be a pre-Conference consultation among the African group. Member States were urged to send large and high-calibre Delegations to the Conference.

39. It was particularly hoped that African States would be heavily represented at the intergovernmental meeting, as well as at the non-governmental forum which would also be held in Nairobi from 10 to 19 July, in view of the reports of large numbers who would be attending from developed countries. The representative of CSDHA said that a special trust fund had been established for the World Conference and expressed the hope that many countries would contribute to it so that it could assist least developed countries (LDCs) in attending the Conference. However, participants urged that African member States should send strong delegations to the conference. There was also great concern over the matter of booking accommodation and the necessity of making advance deposits in hard currency. The meeting requested that the observer from Kenya Non-governmental Forum Organizing Committee make its views heard in Kenya; Kenya was urged to waive the advance registration fee for participants from African countries and make block bookings for them. It was suggested that the ARCC Chairperson should send letters to Ministries of Foreign Affairs and to national machineries for the integration of women in development to urge them to make realistic preparations for Nairobi.
40. In summing up the discussions on this agenda item, the Chairperson noted the meeting's wishes that ECOSOC as well as the Permanent Missions of African States to the United Nations know their concerns; that the Conference secretariat in Vienna should assist African States in ensuring their effective participation at the Conference, and that Kenya should take into account the difficulties that African states have in attending the Conference.

41. Two draft resolutions were introduced and discussed by the meeting. Their texts as amended and adopted appear in section IV of this report.

III CLOSING

42. The participants thanked the host country, ECA and all its staff. On behalf of the Executive Secretary, the ECA representative wished the Committee success in making its decisions known at the Technical Preparatory Committee and the Conference of Ministers. The Chairperson of ARCC expressed the wish that African States would be well represented at the World Conference on the Women's Decade and that the issue of women in the region would receive serious consideration at the Summit on Economic Matters. She urged participants to make maximum efforts to implement the decisions of the meeting upon their return home and declared the meeting closed.
IV. RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED BY THE MEETING

1. Women and Development in Africa

The African Regional Co-ordinating committee for the Integration of Women in Development,

Recalling resolutions 360 (XIV) and 363 (XIV) adopted on 27 March 1979 by the ECA Conference of Ministers on the creation of machineries for the promotion of women in development.

Recalling resolution 28 of the World Conference of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development, and Peace, held in Copenhagen from 14 to 30 July 1980, on the Convention of the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,

Bearing in mind resolution 512 (XIX) adopted on 26 May 1984 by the ECA Conference of Ministers on the mobilization of human and financial resources for ECA Women's programmes beyond the end of the United Nations Decade for Women,

Bearing in mind also resolution CM/Res.714 (XXXII) of the thirty-second ordinary session of the OAU Council of Ministers in the establishment of a unit responsible for the advancement of women (1979) and resolution CM/Res.576 (XXXVII) of the thirty-seventy ordinary session of the OAU Council of Ministers, endorsed at the eighteenth ordinary session of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of OAU (1981) on the World Conference of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace;

Noting with satisfaction the report of the regional intergovernmental preparatory meeting for the World Conference to Review and Appraise The Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace/Third Regional Conference on The Integration of Women in Development held in Arusha, United Republic of Tanzania from 3 to 12 October 1984 (resolution I),

1. Requests Governments and international organizations to sustain their assistance for national machineries concerned with the integration of women in development, to enable them in allia to formulate and execute national programmes for women's development in accordance with the Arusha Strategies.

2. Urgently requests States which have not yet done so to sign the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and States which have signed it to ratify it and do everything possible to ensure its application.

3. Calls upon African Governments and national machineries for the integration of women in development to include a proportion of women on the delegations to international and regional meetings especially those discussing development questions, and to ensure that a women's component is included in national development projects wherever necessary;

4. Adopts the report of the Third Regional Conference on The Integration of Women in Development and requests Governments and the institutions concerned to begin to apply The Arusha Forward-Looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women in Africa beyond the United Nations Decade for Women contained in that report.
5. Again requests African Governments to do everything possible to secure the funds and national expertise required for planning, carrying out and following up on projects for the integration of women in development.

6. Requests the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the Executive Secretary of ECA to spare more effort to procure regular budget posts and appropriations for ATWR and the MULPOCs in order to ensure the continuity of the United Nations regional and subregional women's programmes.

7. Urgently requests the Secretary General, e.a. of OAU should make all appropriate arrangements for establishing and strengthening the unit in the OAU secretariat responsible for the advancement of African women.

8. Requests the Chairperson of ARCC, the Executive Secretary of ECA and the members of ARCC to report on the implementation of this resolution to the meeting of ARCC.

The Africa Regional Co-ordinating Committee for the Integration of Women in Development,

Recalling resolution CM.Res/985 (XLI) on the Nairobi Conference adopted by the Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity at its forty-first ordinary session held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, from 25 February to 4 March,

Noting with satisfaction the conclusions of the third meeting, held in Vienna from 4 to 13 March 1985, of the Commission on the Status of Women acting as the preparatory body for the Nairobi Conference,

Recognizing the need to discuss fundamental African development issues in a forum as important as the Nairobi Conference,

Considering the efforts already made by African Governments to ensure the integration of women in national development,

Recalling resolution 511 (XIX) on African women and the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace (1976-1985), adopted on 26 May 1984 by the ECA Conference of Ministers,

1. Appeals to African Governments to make the necessary sacrifices to allow a satisfactory number of high-level delegate to attend the Nairobi Conference:
2. Requests African women to adopt and maintain a firm, united stand in order to ensure that the political, economic, social and cultural interest of the continent are taken into consideration and safeguarded.

3. Urges the Organization of African Unity and the Pan African Women's Organization to do their utmost to ensure that the Arusha Strategies, setting out the needs and decisions of the women of Africa are taken into consideration by the Nairobi Conference.

4. Appeals urgently to the OAU Steering Committee responsible for preparing the July 1985 African economic summit to place on the agenda for the summit an item on the economic role of women in development with due regard to the Arusha Strategies; and:

5. Congratulates the Kenyan Government on the efforts it has made in preparing the Nairobi Conference and expresses the hope that any special provisions needed will be made to secure the widest possible participation by the African region.