



**TOGETHER**  
*for a sustainable future*

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Inaugural Meeting for the Establishment of  
an African Association of Industrial Technology  
Organisations

Lagos, Nigeria, 12-16 December 1977

WORK PROGRAMME<sup>1/</sup>  
of the  
ASSOCIATION OF AFRICAN INDUSTRIAL  
TECHNOLOGY ORGANIZATIONS (AAITO)

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## WORK PROGRAMME

Following the recommendations of the Working Group contained in document ID/WG.253/5 which took into consideration various comments received on the draft circulated to all countries, institutions and international organizations, a number of points, attached as Annex 1 to this document, were adopted by the Inaugural Meeting for consideration in the establishment of the work programme for the Association. These points are intended to assist the Executive Committee in the elaboration of the short- and long-term work programmes of the Association. In order to provide the Executive Committee with a general guideline for the elaboration of the short-term work programme of the Association, which should focus on a programme of action for 1978, the Inaugural Meeting drew special attention to the points outlined in paragraph 2 (ii) of Annex 1. These points deal with the administrative work for the establishment of the Association.

The meeting attached great importance to the need for the Association to initiate a number of technical programmes since its credibility and ability to attract support from various funding agencies would depend on the equality and professional level of its activities. On the basis of statements made by international organizations such as UNIDO, EEC-ACP/CID, UNDP, UNESCO, FAO and OAU/STRC, all declaring their genuine intention to collaborate with the Association in carrying out well defined technical projects, the Inaugural Meeting called on the Executive Committee to undertake a concrete plan of action for the implementation of some of the project ideas included in paragraphs 2(ii), 2(iii), 2(iv) and 2(v) of Annex 1. The Meeting also agreed that, for 1978, the implementation of the following projects should be initiated:

- (1) Preparation and circulation of a directory of members, personnel, consultancy organizations, and other institutions actively involved in industrial research and development work in Africa;
- (2) Organization of a meeting or seminar on a selected aspect of industrial research and development work relevant to Africa on a regional or sub-regional level.
- (3) Establishment of a documentation and reference unit in the Secretariat of the Association.
- (4) Organization of a workshop or a group in-plant training programme on a selected aspect of industrial research and development on an International sub-regional or regional level.
- (5) Collaboration with a national authority in establishing an industrial training centre.
- (6) Identification and definition of a joint project dealing with the commercialization of industrial research and development results in one country and assistance in locating financing.
- (7) Collection of information, on a world-wide basis, of successfully commercialized research work for circulation among members of the Association.

The Meeting requested the Executive Committee to take a decision on the projects identified above and to request the Secretariat to contact, directly or through one of its members, the relevant international organizations to define the projects and agree on the financing and implementation arrangements. In this connection the representatives of UNIDO and the REC-ACP/CID indicated the intentions

of their organizations to seriously consider collaborating with the Association in the implementation in 1978 of project numbers 1 to 2 and 4 to 7 respectively.

The Meeting called on the Executive Committee to consider the other project ideas listed in the attachment as a basis for the elaboration of the long-term programme of work of the Association. In this regard the Meeting also took note of various activities taking place in Africa such as the establishment of the Regional Centre for Transfer, Development and Adaptation of Technology and requested the Executive Committee to take these activities into account when elaborating the Association's work programme in order to ensure effective co-ordination and to avoid an undue duplication.

CONSIDERATIONS FOR THE PREPARATION  
OF A WORK PROGRAMME FOR THE ASSOCIATION

1. Concept, approach and priorities

The work programme of the Association is aimed at translating the functions of the Association into operational activities for the achievement of the aims and objectives of the Association. For such a work programme to produce effective results it needs to emphasize certain priority areas of activities to be established by the General Assembly. Each project included in the work programme needs to be clearly defined. This would enable the Association to negotiate more meaningfully with agencies which may be willing to finance such projects. This is essential since the Association would, in principle, seek the collaboration of other agencies, especially in the initial stages of its establishment, in the implementation of its activities, especially the work programme. The success of the Association to attract funds to finance its activities would, to a large extent, depend upon the work programme.

In the light of the above, the following priority areas have been identified:

- (a) Establishment of the Association;
- (b) Information;
- (c) Co-operation between the Association or its member institutions with other organizations;
- (d) Education and training;
- (e) Transfer of technology and commercialization of R and D results;
- (f) Industrial and technological policies.

A brief outline of the aspects to be considered under each of the above priority areas is presented below:

2. Points to be considered in establishing the priority area

(i) Establishment of the Association

- Registration of the Association
- Establishment of the administrative machinery of the Secretariat including the opening of a bank account
- Collection and circulation of information on members of the Association

- Membership drive
- Publicity of the Association
- Raising of funds to finance the Secretariat and its initial activities
- Other activities related with the establishment and operation of the Secretariat including the recruitment of staff, procurement of office equipment and facilities
- Organization and conduct of the First General Assembly Meeting.
- Establishment of an emblem and flag for the Association.

**(ii) Information**

- Preparation and circulation of a directory of members, personnel, consultancy organizations, and other institutions actively involved in industrial research and development work in Africa
- Publication of journals and bulletins containing information on industrial research and development work being carried out in Africa
- Preparation of studies and surveys on general and selected aspects on the present and future status of industrial research and development work in Africa
- Organization of meetings or seminars on general and selected aspects of industrial research and development work relevant in Africa on national and sub-regional levels
- Preparation and circulation to members of information on meetings taking place in Africa and other parts of the world on industrial and technological research and development
- Review of the activities of similar organizations and relevant international organizations to identify possible areas of co-operation
- Publication of periodic bulletins on the activities of the Association
- Establishment of a documentation and reference unit in the Secretariat.

The above activities are expected to be undertaken in collaboration with relevant interested international or funding agencies.

**(iii) Co-operation between the Association and its members or its member institutions with other organizations:**

- Identification of areas of co-operation between the



Association and similar associations and international organizations

- Linkage programmes between member institutions and other relevant organizations in and outside Africa
- Identification and definition of joint research projects including location of funds for the financing of such projects
- Exchange of staff and facilities, as appropriate, among member institutions and other organizations in and outside Africa
- Co-operation between research and development institutions in Africa and other organizations involved in promoting or financing research and development.

**(iv) Education and training**

- Identification of the needs of Africa on regional and sub-regional levels on manpower requirements for research and development work on global and sectorial levels
- Identification of deficiencies in existing educational systems for the development of skills and manpower for research and development as well as submission of and follow-up on proposals on ways and means to remedy the situation to relevant national, regional and international organizations
- Identification and preparation of a directory of institutions in Africa capable of providing training opportunities for various categories of personnel involved in research and development work in Africa
- Organization of training workshops, group in-plant training programmes and study tours on general or selected aspects of industrial research and development on international, sub-regional or regional level
- Identification of training opportunities outside Africa, for personnel engaged in industrial research and development for circulation to its members
- Collaboration with national authorities and relevant international organizations in establishing industrial training centres at the national, sub-regional or regional level.

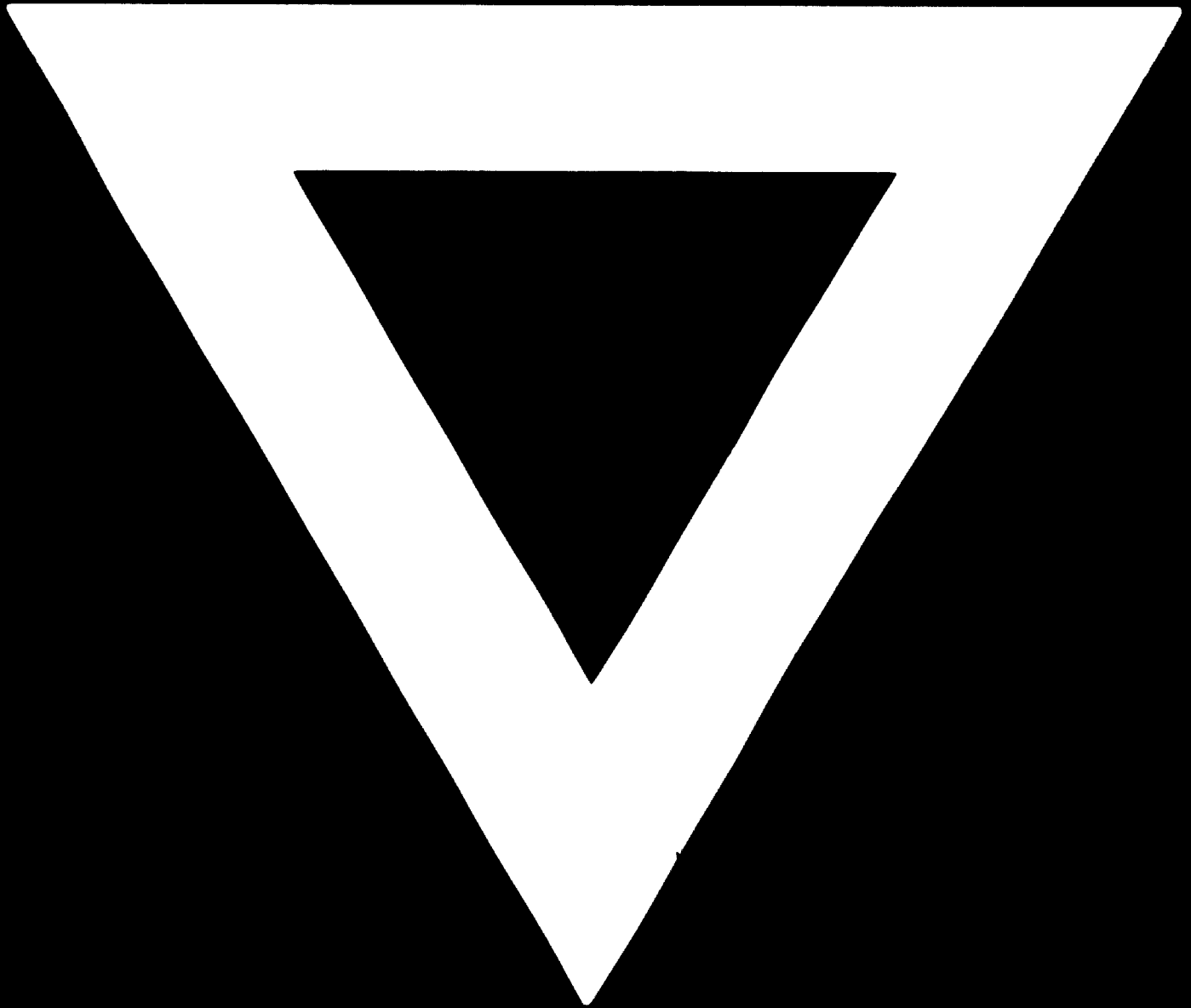
The activities are expected to be undertaken in collaboration with relevant interested international or funding agencies.

(v) Transfer of technology and commercialization of research results

- Collaboration with national authorities and relevant international organizations in the establishment of national machineries for the effective development and transfer of industrial technology
- Identification of common national policies for the transfer of industrial technology and follow-up with relevant international organizations, particularly in Africa, for their harmonization
- Identification and definition of joint projects dealing with the commercialization, in two or more countries, of industrial research and development results, and assistance in locating financing
- Collection, in collaboration with other international organizations, of information on a world-wide basis, of successfully commercialized research work for circulation among its members.



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