

(a) To continue, in consultation with the Special Committee, to collect, prepare and disseminate basic material, studies and articles relating to the problems of decolonization and, in particular, to continue to publish the periodical *Objective: Justice* and other publications, special articles and studies, including the *Decolonization* series, and to select from them appropriate material for wider dissemination by means of reprints in various languages;

(b) To seek the full co-operation of the administering Powers concerned in the discharge of the tasks referred to above;

(c) To intensify the activities of all United Nations information centres;

(d) To maintain a close working relationship with the Organization of African Unity by holding periodic consultations and by systematically exchanging relevant information with that organization;

(e) To enlist, with the close co-operation of United Nations information centres, the support of non-governmental organizations having a special interest in decolonization in the dissemination of the relevant information;

(f) To continue to provide full press release coverage for all meetings of the Special Committee and its subsidiary bodies;

(g) To ensure the availability of the necessary facilities and services to that end;

(h) To report to the Special Committee on the measures taken in implementation of the present resolution;

4. *Requests* all States, in particular the administering Powers, the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system and non-governmental organizations having a special interest in decolonization to undertake or intensify, in co-operation with the Secretary-General and within their respective spheres of competence, the large-scale dissemination of the information referred to in paragraph 2 above;

5. *Requests* the Special Committee to follow the implementation of the present resolution and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its forty-third session.

*92nd plenary meeting
4 December 1987*

42/163. Critical economic situation in Africa: United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development 1986-1990

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 39/29 of 3 December 1984, 40/40 of 2 December 1985, S-13/2 of 1 June 1986 to which is annexed the United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development 1986-1990, and 41/29 of 31 October 1986,

Having considered the progress report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development 1986-1990,⁸⁹

Appreciating the considerable efforts and sacrifices made by African countries that have implemented their commitments as set forth in the Programme of Action, often at high social and political costs, and their will to continue these reform efforts,

Noting with appreciation the initiatives, proposals and efforts of those donor countries and multilateral financial and development institutions which are assisting African countries in implementing the Programme of Action and stressing the need for continued efforts and the urgent translation of such initiatives, proposals and efforts into concrete actions and measures,

Noting with concern that thus far the response of the international community has not been adequate to alleviate the severe constraints on the efforts of the African countries to implement the Programme of Action,

Concerned that the critical economic situation in Africa still persists,

Deeply concerned by the fact that the situation in southern Africa continues to be adversely affected by the policies of political and economic destabilization and acts of aggression pursued by the South African régime, thus undermining the implementation of the Programme of Action,

Emphasizing that a close relationship exists between development prospects and the availability of external resources to Africa, including increasing concessionality of external assistance, export earnings, especially from primary commodities, debt-servicing capability and a country's policies of mobilization and utilization of its resources,

Noting the continued commitment to the common points of reference outlined in paragraph 13 of the Programme of Action, and with reference to paragraph 113 of the report of the Secretary-General,⁸⁹

Aware that a large number of African countries are still being stricken by natural calamities, in particular drought, desertification, and grasshopper and locust infestations, which are serious obstacles to economic and social development,

Recognizing that the implementation of the Programme of Action is affected adversely by continuing unfavourable developments in the international economic environment,

Regretting the worsening external debt situation of most African countries in spite of the measures undertaken nationally and internationally and recognizing the need to continue efforts towards further innovative approaches, emphasizing the objectives of long-term, self-sustaining development and the joint responsibility of all parties concerned with a view to finding effective and durable solutions to the economic, financial and debt problems of African countries,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General, and in this regard recognizes the several initiatives he has taken in pursuance of the mandate entrusted to him under the United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development 1986-1990, including the establishment of the Advisory Group on Financial Flows to Africa;

2. *Takes note* of the endeavours of the donor community and the action taken by international financial and development institutions in the implementation of the Programme of Action, but notes with concern that the international community has not been able so far to provide sufficient resources to support and supplement African development efforts;

3. *Commends* African countries that have done their utmost to implement the Programme of Action, and stressing the need to continue its implementation, welcomes the continued determination of those countries to implement their commitments, including the reform efforts provided for in the Programme of Action;

⁸⁹ A/42/560 and Corr.1.

4. *Reaffirms* that the implementation of the Programme of Action based on mutual commitments and shared responsibility requires that all parties concerned respect their commitments and discharge their responsibilities accordingly, and in this regard reaffirms the determination of all parties to continue to honour their commitments under the Programme;

5. *Regrets* that overall net resource flows to African countries have declined, in real terms, while their terms of trade have worsened, export earnings from commodities have decreased substantially and debt-servicing obligations have risen significantly;

6. *Notes with concern* that some African countries are currently net transferors of resources to certain multilateral financial institutions;

7. *Calls upon* donor countries in this regard to continue their support to multilateral financial and development institutions to enable them to increase their resources to African countries and to improve the possibilities of adopting flexible and effective measures that will assist African countries in dealing with their financial obligations, giving due regard to the economic, social and development needs of each country, and, in this respect, notes that the International Monetary Fund is undertaking a thorough examination of adjustment programmes and their supporting arrangements, including a comprehensive review of conditionality;

8. *Calls upon* the international community to intensify its efforts to provide the necessary resource flows to African countries and underlines the importance of increasing urgently official development assistance to Africa, as well as the need for all countries to work to create the terms and conditions which would encourage the flow of non-concessional resources with a view to meeting the commitments under the Programme of Action as soon as possible, with the aim of making progress towards this end by the mid-term review of the Programme of Action in 1988;

9. *Welcomes* the use of existing subregional economic groupings in Africa in the implementation of the Programme of Action, and invites the donor community, multilateral institutions and the operational bodies of the United Nations system to provide resources for projects and programmes identified at the subregional level in the priority areas of the Programme;

10. *Urges* the international community, in particular the creditor countries, to take into consideration development and investment needs of African countries as well as the repayment capacity of each country, its export earnings, import requirements and external resource flows when considering terms and conditions of debt rescheduling, and to ensure that such terms and conditions do not preclude the flow of additional resources;

11. *Calls upon* the international community to continue its efforts, *inter alia* in the context of the Paris Club, to grant adequate terms of rescheduling and other effective debt-relief measures as appropriate to African countries undertaking growth-oriented adjustment and reform efforts, in particular for the poorest and the most indebted of them retroactive terms adjustment, including converting into grants the official development assistance loans or taking equivalent actions having the same impact, and also considering the possibility of applying lower interest rates to their existing debt;

12. *Appeals* to the international community, in order to deal effectively with problems in the commodity area, to seek lasting solutions aimed at:

(a) Improving the functioning of commodity markets and achieving stable and more predictable conditions in

commodity trade, including avoidance of excessive price fluctuations;

(b) Adequate expansion of resources for diversification and participation in the processing, marketing, distribution and transportation of the commodities of African countries;

(c) Improving market access conditions for commodities of export interest to African countries;

(d) Promoting diversification programmes in the context of growth-oriented structural adjustment, taking fully into account the developmental objectives of each country and long-term dynamic comparative advantage considerations of all countries;

13. *Calls upon* the international community to extend, as a matter of priority, humanitarian, economic and financial assistance to the countries of southern Africa;

14. *Decides* to establish an *Ad Hoc* Committee of the Whole of the General Assembly as the most appropriate mechanism to prepare the review and the appraisal of the Programme of Action to meet for a period of ten working days in September 1988 prior to the forty-third session;

15. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in close co-operation with the concerned organs and organizations of the United Nations system, to ensure the necessary preparation of this meeting;

16. *Also requests* the Secretary-General, in accordance with paragraph 24 (c) of the Programme of Action, to submit to the General Assembly at its forty-third session a report including concrete recommendations for a speedy and full implementation of the Programme of Action and taking into account provisions of this resolution, which should be made available to the *Ad Hoc* Committee of the Whole;

17. *Further requests* the Secretary-General of the United Nations to continue to ensure closer co-operation and co-ordination with the Secretary-General of the Organization of African Unity in the implementation and monitoring of the Programme of Action;

18. *Requests* the Economic and Social Council at its organizational session of 1988 to consider the appropriate contributions to be submitted to the *Ad Hoc* Committee of the Whole by all parties concerned and to make provisions for proper co-ordination of the contributions;

19. *Further requests* the Economic and Social Council at its first and second regular sessions of 1988 to consider, as appropriate, the adoption of the necessary arrangements for the meeting of the *Ad Hoc* Committee of the Whole.

95th plenary meeting
8 December 1987

42/209. The situation in the Middle East

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The General Assembly,

Having discussed the item entitled "The situation in the Middle East",

Recalling its relevant resolutions on the question of Palestine and the situation in the Middle East,

Recalling also the relevant resolutions of the Security Council,

Recalling the report of the Secretary-General of 13 November 1987,⁸³