

1. *Reaffirms* the right of land-locked developing countries to free access to and from the sea and their right to freedom of transit;

2. *Appeals* to all States, international organizations and financial institutions to implement, as a matter of urgency and priority, the specific actions related to the particular needs and problems of land-locked developing countries envisaged in resolutions 63 (III), 98 (IV) and 123 (V) of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, in the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade, in the Substantial New Programme of Action for the 1980s for the least developed countries⁷³ and in other relevant resolutions of the United Nations;

3. *Urges* all donor countries, as well as others in a position to do so, and the international organizations concerned, to provide land-locked developing countries with appropriate financial and technical assistance in the form of grants or concessional loans for the construction and improvement of their transport and transit infrastructures and facilities;

4. *Urges also* the international community and multi-lateral and bilateral financial institutions to intensify efforts in raising the net flow of resources to land-locked developing countries to help offset the adverse effects of their disadvantageous geographical situation on their economic development efforts, in keeping with the over-all development needs of each land-locked developing country;

5. *Invites* the transit countries to co-operate effectively with the land-locked developing countries in harmonizing transport planning and promoting other joint ventures in the field of transport at the regional, subregional and bilateral levels;

6. *Commends* the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and other United Nations agencies for their work and the assistance they have provided to the land-locked developing countries and invites them to continue to take appropriate and effective measures to respond to the specific needs of those countries;

7. *Invites* the international community to give financial support to interested transit and land-locked developing countries in the construction of alternative routes to the sea;

8. *Recommends* continued and intensified activities relating to the conducting of necessary studies and the implementation of special actions and action programmes for the land-locked developing countries, including those in the area of economic co-operation among developing countries, as well as those that have been envisaged in the programme of work of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the regional commissions and other programmes and activities at the regional and subregional levels.

*103rd plenary meeting
17 December 1981*

36/176. Expansion of the conference facilities of the Economic Commission for Africa

The General Assembly,

Recalling Economic and Social Council resolution 1981/65 of 24 July 1981,

Recalling also that the Economic Commission for Africa was established at Addis Ababa in 1958 and that its con-

ference facilities, which were donated to the United Nations by the Government of Ethiopia, were designed to service the limited number of African countries that were States Members of the United Nations in the late 1950s and early 1960s,

Noting with satisfaction the increase in the number of independent States in Africa as a result of decolonization,

Noting further that there are at present fifty African States Members of the United Nations and that there is the prospect that more will be admitted to membership in the United Nations,

Mindful of the heavy responsibilities entrusted in the present decade to the Economic Commission for Africa as the main centre for the promotion of the economic development of Africa, in general, and for the implementation of the Lagos Plan of Action for the Implementation of the Monrovia Strategy for the Economic Development of Africa, in particular, which the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity adopted at its second extraordinary session, held at Lagos on 28 and 29 April 1980.⁷⁴

Noting that the present conference facilities at the headquarters of the Economic Commission for Africa are believed to be inadequate in relation to the needs of the large number of African States that have become members of the Commission since its establishment and the growing number of international, intergovernmental and regional organizations participating in conferences there,

1. *Requests* the Secretary-General to undertake, as a matter of urgency, a study of the adequacy of the conference facilities at the headquarters of the Economic Commission for Africa to meet the demands thereon as a result of the enlarged membership and increased activities of the Commission;

2. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to report the findings of the study together with his suggestions, through the Economic Commission for Africa at its seventeenth session and the Economic and Social Council at its second regular session of 1982, to the General Assembly at its thirty-seventh session.

*103rd plenary meeting
17 December 1981*

36/177. Transport and Communications Decade in Africa

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 32/160 of 19 December 1977, 33/197 of 29 January 1979 and 34/15 of 9 November 1979 on the Transport and Communications Decade in Africa and, in particular, its resolution 35/108 of 5 December 1980, by which it approved the organization of consultative technical meetings for the various African subregions,

Recalling Economic and Social Council resolutions 1979/61 of 3 August 1979, 1980/46 of 23 July 1980 and 1981/67 of 24 July 1981 on the Transport and Communications Decade in Africa,

Recalling also resolution 341 (XIV) adopted on 27 March 1979 by the Conference of Ministers of the Economic Commission for Africa at its fifth meeting,⁷⁵ in which the Conference urged member States to give high priority to the development of transport and communications,

Recalling further resolution CM/Res.738 (XXXIII) adopted by the Council of Ministers of the Organization of African

⁷³ Report of the United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, Paris, 1-14 September 1981 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.82.I.8), part one, sect. A.

⁷⁴ A/S-11/14, annex I.

⁷⁵ See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1979, Supplement No. 15 (E/1979/50)*, part two, sect. D.

Unity at its thirty-third ordinary session, held at Monrovia from 6 to 20 July 1979,⁷⁶

Aware of the need to implement fully, during the Decade, national, subregional and regional projects aimed at establishing an integrated transport and communications network in Africa to support the accelerated development of the continent,

Noting with appreciation the considerable financial efforts made by the Governments of African States to enable a considerable part of the programme for the first phase (1980-1983) of the Decade to be financed and implemented,

Considering that sustained efforts must be exerted to mobilize additional resources in order to ensure the implementation of the programme for the Decade,

Recalling the decision by which the Conference of African Ministers of Transport, Communications and Planning, at its second session, held at Addis Ababa from 16 to 18 March 1981, authorized the Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa to organize four consultative technical meetings between member States, interested African intergovernmental organizations and donors,⁷⁷

Aware of the role played by the Economic Commission for Africa as the lead agency in the implementation of the programme for the Transport and Communications Decade in Africa,

Bearing in mind resolution 422 (XVI) adopted on 10 April 1981 by the Conference of Ministers of the Economic Commission for Africa at its seventh meeting,⁷⁸ in which the Conference, *inter alia*, requested the Executive Secretary of the Commission, in collaboration with the Secretary-General of the Organization of African Unity, to embark as early as possible on the preparation of the plan of action for the second phase (1984-1988) of the Decade,

1. *Takes note with satisfaction* of the report of the Secretary-General on the Transport and Communications Decade in Africa;⁷⁹

2. *Takes note* of the results of the consultative technical meeting on transport and communications for West Africa, which was held at Lomé from 8 to 11 June 1981, and of the report on the organization of three other meetings scheduled to be held in 1982;⁸⁰

3. *Notes with satisfaction* the contribution made by some countries to the implementation of the programme for the Transport and Communications Decade in Africa;

4. *Expresses its disappointment*, however, at the overall level of resources mobilized so far, which is far below the level required to finance the subregional programme, and appeals to donor countries, the funding agencies and the various financial institutions to increase their financial support to the regional and subregional projects for the Decade;

5. *Also notes with satisfaction* the measures taken by the Economic Commission for Africa with respect to the organization and scheduling of the three other consultative technical meetings, to be held at Ouagadougou from 20 to 23 January 1982, at Yaoundé from 15 to 18 March 1982 and at Abidjan from 3 to 5 May 1982;

6. *Reiterates* its appeal to States members of the Economic Commission for Africa to give the highest priority in their development plans to transport and communications projects;

7. *Appeals* to donor countries and funding agencies to participate constructively and in large numbers in the three consultative technical meetings to be held in 1982 and to consider, together with the Economic Commission for Africa, possible ways of financing those projects for the Decade that are not national in character;

8. *Urges* the Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa to maintain close co-operation with member States, the Organization of African Unity, regional African development organizations, development agencies and interested specialized agencies with a view to the updating, on a regular basis, of the programme for the first phase of the Decade and in order to relate better the projects to national and subregional plans;

9. *Calls upon* States members of the Economic Commission for Africa to step up their efforts in connection with the study of the possible sources of finance for the implementation of the projects adopted for the Decade;

10. *Requests* the Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa to maintain the necessary co-ordination between the sources of finance and the African countries to assure the success of the implementation of the programme for the first phase of the Decade;

11. *Also requests* the Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa to organize in 1982, with groups of donor countries and the financing institutions and with the participation of Governments, United Nations institutions and African intergovernmental organizations, the three consultative technical meetings scheduled with a view to finding additional financial resources for the implementation of the projects for the Decade;

12. *Further requests* the Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa to begin as soon as possible, in collaboration with the Secretary-General of the Organization of African Unity, the preparation of the plan of action for the second phase of the Decade;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide the Economic Commission for Africa with the financial means and resources necessary to enable it to organize the three consultative technical meetings scheduled to be held in 1982, *inter alia*, by using extrabudgetary funds and existing resources to the maximum extent possible, to complete the preparation of the plan of action for the second phase of the Transport and Communications Decade in Africa and to fulfil effectively its role as the lead agency for the Decade, and to submit to the Economic and Social Council, at its second regular session of 1982, a progress report on the implementation of the programme for the Decade;

14. *Requests* the Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa to continue to submit progress reports on the implementation of the programme for the Transport and Communications Decade in Africa;

15. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its thirty-seventh session a report on the progress achieved in the implementation of the present resolution.

103rd plenary meeting
17 December 1981

36/178. Multinational Programming and Operational Centres

The General Assembly.

Recalling its resolutions 32/197 of 20 December 1977 and 33/202 of 29 January 1979 on restructuring the economic and social sectors of the United Nations system so as to make it more fully capable of dealing with problems

⁷⁶ See A/34/552, annex I.

⁷⁷ See E/CN.14/812/Rev.1.

⁷⁸ See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1981, Supplement No. 14 (E/1981/54)*, chap. IV.

⁷⁹ A/36/342.

⁸⁰ *Ibid.*, sect. V.