

5. *Appeals* to Governments to provide the necessary information to the Secretary-General, as requested in paragraph 4 above.

104th plenary meeting
20 December 1983

38/198. International year for the mobilization of financial and technological resources to increase food and agricultural production in Africa

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 37/246 of 21 December 1982 on an international year for the mobilization of financial and technological resources for food and agriculture in Africa.

Noting with great alarm that, since the adoption of its resolutions 35/69 of 5 December 1980, 36/186 of 17 December 1981 and 37/246 of 21 December 1982, the situation of food and agriculture in Africa has worsened, as evidenced by a drastic decline in self-reliance in food,

Recognizing the critical financial gap which seriously hinders the growth of the agricultural sector in African countries,

Recognizing also that the technological gap in Africa has a direct relationship with declining agricultural productivity, which is aggravated by natural factors such as drought and desertification,

Recognizing further that all countries of Africa should implement, in accordance with their national development programmes and priorities, measures to increase substantially their national food and agriculture programmes through, *inter alia*, national, subregional and regional measures, including economic and technical co-operation among developing countries,

Recognizing the role of food-sector strategies, which emerged from the World Food Council as a means for interested developing countries to adopt an integrated approach for increasing food production, improving consumption and attracting the necessary additional international resources,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the implications of declaring an international year for the mobilization of financial and technological resources for food and agriculture in Africa,¹⁶⁵

1. Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General;
2. Notes that the year 1991 might be designated international year for the mobilization of financial and technological resources to increase food and agricultural production in Africa, bearing in mind the relevant criteria set forth in the annex to Economic and Social Council resolution 1980/67 of 25 July 1980;
3. Requests the Secretary-General, in consultation with the relevant organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, to elaborate action-oriented proposals in respect of the international year for the mobilization of financial and technological resources to increase food and agricultural production in Africa and to report on the implementation of the present resolution to the General Assembly at its fortieth session, through the Economic and Social Council.

104th plenary meeting
20 December 1983

38/199. Special measures for the social and economic development of Africa in the 1980s

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 3201 (S-VI) and 3202 (S-VI) of 1 May 1974, containing the Declaration and the Programme of Action on the Establishment of a New International Economic Order, 3281 (XXIX) of 12 December 1974, containing the Charter of Economic Rights and Duties of States, and 3362 (S-VII) of 16 September 1975 on development and international economic co-operation,

Recalling its resolution 35/56 of 5 December 1980, the annex to which contains the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade,

Recalling also its resolutions 35/64 of 5 December 1980 and 36/180 of 17 December 1981, concerning the adoption of a wide range of special measures for the social and economic development of Africa in the 1980s,

Recalling further section II of its resolution 36/182 of 17 December 1981 and section II of its resolution 37/212 of 20 December 1982, on the Industrial Development Decade for Africa, and its resolutions 37/140 of 17 December 1982 on the Transport and Communications Decade in Africa and 37/245 of 21 December 1982 on the situation of food and agriculture in Africa,

Recalling its resolution 37/139 of 17 December 1982, in which it, *inter alia*, urged donor countries to provide substantial and sustained levels of resources for promoting the accelerated development of African countries and the effective implementation of the Lagos Plan of Action for the Implementation of the Monrovia Strategy for the Economic Development of Africa,¹⁶⁶ and to contribute generously to the United Nations Trust Fund for African Development,

Deeply concerned at the negative effects of the current world economic crisis on the economies of African countries and at the scourges that ravage the African continent, which suffers mainly from structural problems, *inter alia* the lowest level of literacy and training and rudimentary structures in the field of health and housing, as well as the extremely precarious living conditions of the largest number of refugees in the world,

Expressing its deep concern at the extreme gravity of the food situation in Africa, which is aggravated by chronic droughts, the continued decrease in food self-reliance and the continued increase in volume of the imports of food products in Africa, particularly in the Sudano-Sahelian and southern regions, and noting that, among other factors, the rate of increase of food production in Africa continues to lag behind population growth,

Recognizing that Africa is the least industrialized region in the world, that this specific situation necessitates the full implementation of the objectives set out in the programme for the Industrial Development Decade for Africa and that, in order to reverse the existing situation, sustained efforts by the international community are required to achieve the effective implementation of the objectives of the Decade,

Recognizing also that Africa is confronted with exceptionally serious economic and social problems, highlighted, *inter alia*, by the fact that it contains three quarters of the least developed countries and half of the land-locked countries of the world,

Convinced of the need for increased and sustained external resources on a predictable and continuous basis in

¹⁶⁵ A/38/277-E/1983/96.

¹⁶⁶ A/S-11/14, annex I.

order to achieve in a co-ordinated manner the aims and objectives of the Lagos Plan of Action and the Final Act of Lagos,¹⁶⁷

Recalling that there is a need for a thorough evaluation of the implementation of special measures for the social and economic development of Africa during the mid-term review and appraisal of the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade,

Having considered the third report of the Secretary-General on special measures for the social and economic development of Africa in the 1980s,¹⁶⁸ which reviews special measures taken by the international community to that end,

1. *Takes note* of the third report of the Secretary-General on special measures for the social and economic development of Africa in the 1980s;

2. *Expresses its regret* that, despite efforts undertaken by the international community over the past three years, the resources thus far provided are not commensurate with African development requirements;

3. *Notes* the disappointing results of the Fourth Biennial Pledging Conference for the United Nations Trust Fund for African Development, held at Addis Ababa on 2 May 1983, particularly for projects aimed at assisting the least developed countries of Africa;¹⁶⁹

4. *Expresses its gratitude* to all countries which participated and made pledges during that conference;

5. *Strongly urges* all donor countries to implement their commitments, as contained in paragraphs 61 to 69 of the Substantial New Programme of Action for the 1980s for the Least Developed Countries, as adopted,¹⁷⁰ so as to achieve, in that regard, a substantial increase in resources for the development of the least developed countries, twenty-six of which are in Africa;

6. *Welcomes* the steps taken by a number of donor countries to increase their contributions to the United Nations Development Programme, expresses its concern at the decline in real terms in the United Nations Development Programme assistance given to the developing countries through the United Nations system, reflecting a general decrease in multilateral concessional assistance in real terms, which adversely affects the country and regional programmes for Africa of the Programme during the third programming cycle, 1982-1986, and urges all countries, particularly those that have not done so, to increase their annual contributions to the Programme;

7. *Also urges* donor countries to provide substantial and sustained levels of resources for promoting the accelerated development of African countries and the effective implementation of the Lagos Plan of Action for the Implementation of the Monrovia Strategy for the Economic Development of Africa and the Final Act of Lagos, and to contribute generously to the United Nations Trust Fund for African Development;

8. *Recognizes* the important contribution consultative groups and round-table meetings can make to African development by enhancing aid co-ordination and mobilizing additional resources and urges African and donor countries to continue to co-operate to that end;

9. *Invites* all international financial institutions, particularly the World Bank, the International Development Association and the International Fund for Agricultural Development, to continue actively to consider increasing substantially their development assistance to Africa and to

treat the matter of making a special effort in support of African economic and social development with the urgency it requires;

10. *Renews its call* to the organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system to examine measures to increase the resources for the execution of the programmes for the Industrial Development Decade for Africa and the Transport and Communications Decade in Africa and to apply the special measures in a comprehensive and co-ordinated manner;

11. *Stresses* its deep concern at the gravity of the food situation in Africa and the continuing decline in the food self-reliance ratio, urgently calls upon the African countries to accord due priority to food and agricultural production in their national and subregional plans and also urges donor countries and international agencies to increase their support for the implementation of the measures contained in the Lagos Plan of Action in the area of food and agriculture;

12. *Supports* the urgent appeal launched by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations in favour of the twenty-two African countries threatened by food shortages and urges the international community to respond generously to that appeal by providing the additional food aid and rehabilitation inputs required;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General to convene, in co-operation with the Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa, the Fifth Biennial Pledging Conference for the United Nations Trust Fund for African Development and to take the necessary measures to ensure its success and, in this regard, appeals to donor countries, relevant United Nations organs, international and regional financial institutions and other interested public and private bodies to participate fully and contribute generously to the Fund;

14. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to allocate the necessary resources to the Economic Commission for Africa, taking into account its role as the main economic and social development centre within the United Nations system for the African region, in accordance with General Assembly resolutions 32/197 of 20 December 1977 and 33/202 of 29 January 1979;

15. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its thirty-ninth session, through the Economic and Social Council at its second regular session of 1984, a comprehensive report, prepared on a uniform basis and including figures, on the activities throughout the United Nations system in relation to Africa and on the progress made in the implementation of the present resolution.

*104th plenary meeting
20 December 1983*

38/200. Immediate measures in favour of the developing countries

The General Assembly.

Recalling its resolutions 3201 (S-VI) and 3202 (S-VI) of 1 May 1974, containing the Declaration and the Programme of Action on the Establishment of a New International Economic Order, 3281 (XXIX) of 12 December 1974, containing the Charter of Economic Rights and Duties of States, and 3362 (S-VII) of 16 September 1975 on development and international economic co-operation,

¹⁶⁷ *Ibid.*, annex II.

¹⁶⁸ A/38/275-E/1983/88.

¹⁶⁹ *Ibid.*, para. 7.

¹⁷⁰ *Report of the United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, Paris, 1-14 September 1981* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.82.1.8), part one, sect. A.