

Planning on its ninth meeting, held in Addis Ababa on 12 and 13 March 1993,¹⁷¹

Bearing in mind that the first mid-term evaluation and review of the programme for the Second Decade is scheduled to take place in 1994,

Noting that new projects are to be prepared for inclusion in the programme in 1995,

Recognizing the importance of resource mobilization and other promotional activities for the successful implementation of the programme for the Second Decade and the new projects at the national, subregional and regional levels,

Noting with appreciation the immense support that the United Nations Development Programme has provided for the preparation and launching of the programme for the Second Decade,

1. *Requests* the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme to consider favourably and to continue to finance activities in support of the implementation of the programme for the Second Transport and Communications Decade in Africa during the fifth programming cycle of the United Nations Development Programme;

2. *Appeals* to individual African and international financial institutions to increase their support for and facilitate the financing of projects and activities of the programme for the Second Decade;

3. *Appeals* to African member States to ensure and actively pursue the implementation of the new projects to be included in the programme for the Decade;

4. *Calls upon* the member institutions of the Resource Mobilization Committee for the Second Transport and Communications Decade in Africa, especially the African Development Bank as Chairman of the Committee, to carry out resource mobilization and promotional activities to enhance the successful implementation of the programme;

5. *Requests* the Economic Commission for Africa, in its capacity as lead agency, together with all the relevant mechanisms of the Second Transport and Communications Decade:

(a) To carry out in 1994 the first mid-term evaluation of the programme for the Second Decade, as stipulated in the implementation strategy;

(b) To revise the objectives and strategy of the programme for the Second Decade in the light of changed circumstances, if need be, in consultation with member States;

(c) To assist member States and African intergovernmental organizations to prepare and screen new projects for inclusion in the programme in 1995 as stipulated in the programme implementation plan,¹⁷² in consultation with member States;

(d) To organize two regional workshops on the Second Decade to disseminate the strategy and promote the objectives of the Second Decade in Africa;

6. *Requests* the General Assembly to provide the Economic Commission for Africa, in its capacity as lead agency for the Second Decade, with adequate resources, allocated within the regular budget, to enable it to carry out effectively and efficiently the activities listed in paragraphs 5 (a) to (d) above;

7. *Requests* the Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa to report to the Conference of Ministers at its twentieth meeting on the progress made in the implementation of the present resolution.

46th plenary meeting
30 July 1993

1993/67. Strengthening development information systems for regional cooperation and integration in Africa

The Economic and Social Council,

Concerned about the wide North-South gap in the flow of vital information and in the acquisition and utilization of information technology,

Conscious of the importance of information in fostering African regional cooperation and integration, in particular through the strengthening of existing regional groupings and the establishment of the African Economic Community,

Bearing in mind the need to establish data networks and databases as specified in the Treaty Establishing the African Economic Community,¹⁷³ as well as the emphasis on information technology delineated in the Fourth Lomé Convention, signed at Lomé on 15 December 1989,

Recalling resolutions 716 (XXVI) of 12 May 1991¹⁶⁹ and 726 (XXVII) and 732 (XXVII) of 22 April 1992¹⁶⁶ of the Conference of Ministers of the Economic Commission for Africa,

Appreciating the continuing support given by the International Development Research Centre to the Pan-African Development Information System in order to carry out activities to strengthen the information capabilities of member States,

Appreciating also the support given by eleven member States for the submission of the project on information technology for Africa for further consideration by the Commission of the European Communities in the framework of the Fourth Lomé Convention,

Noting with satisfaction the performance of the Pan-African Development Information System of the Economic Commission for Africa in the delivery of technical assistance to member States,

Also noting with satisfaction the proposal of the Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa to incorporate the activities of the System into the programme budget of the Commission,

Bearing in mind the need to strengthen the subregional development information centres of the Commission as information support for subregional economic cooperation and integration,

Noting with concern the decreasing availability of extra-budgetary resources for implementation and utilization of development information systems and technology,

Also noting with concern the precarious financial situation of the Pan-African Development Information System and the need to end its reliance on extrabudgetary sources of funding,

Welcoming the intention of the Secretary-General of the United Nations to provide adequate resources for mandated programmes in Africa, with special attention to those programmes in science and technology for development,

in the preparation of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1994-1995,

1. *Requests* the Pan-African Development Information System to build elements of cost recovery into its delivery of information services and products;

2. *Urges* member States, in order to receive further needed technical assistance in information systems development:

(a) To give priority to information systems development in the use of their United Nations Development Programme country indicative planning figures;

(b) To consider development information activities in their 1993 pledges to the United Nations Trust Fund for African Development;

(c) To use, where appropriate, the financial provision under the Fourth Lomé Convention for this purpose;

3. *Urgently appeals* to the donor community to support the activities of the Economic Commission for Africa to strengthen development information capabilities in the African region;

4. *Requests* the Commission to continue its leadership role in the coordination of development information and technology to respond to pressing development problems of Africa;

5. *Requests* the Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa to seek additional resources, through voluntary contributions, for the subregional development information centres of the Commission in the framework of the subprogramme on statistical and information systems development;

6. *Requests* the General Assembly to ensure the provision of adequate staffing and resources to permit the implementation of activities under the subprogramme of the Commission on information systems development, beginning with the programme budget for the biennium 1994-1995.

*46th plenary meeting
30 July 1993*

1993/68. African Institute for Economic Development and Planning

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling resolutions 285 (XII) of 28 February 1975,¹⁷⁴ 433 (XVII) of 30 April 1982,¹⁷⁵ 537 (XX) of 29 April 1985,¹⁷⁶ 574 (XXI) of 19 April 1986,¹⁷⁷ 612 (XXII) of 24 April 1987¹⁷⁸ and 622 (XXIII) of 15 April 1988¹⁷⁹ of the Conference of Ministers of the Economic Commission for Africa on the financing and future development of the African Institute for Economic Development and Planning,

Recalling also resolutions 669 (XXIV) of 7 April 1989¹⁸⁰ and 680 (XXV) of 19 May 1990¹⁸¹ of the Conference of Ministers of the Economic Commission for Africa, in which the Conference of Ministers appealed to the General Assembly, as a matter of urgency, to approve the incorporation of four core posts of the Institute into the regular budget,

Bearing in mind resolution 726 (XXVII) of 22 April 1992¹⁶⁶ of the Conference of Ministers of the Economic Commission for Africa on strengthening the Economic Commission for Africa to face Africa's development challenges in the 1990s, in which the Conference of Ministers

expressed gratitude to the General Assembly for providing the Institute with a grant to cover the costs of four Professional posts for the biennium 1992-1993, thus enabling the Institute to contribute to the process of strengthening the operational capacity of the Commission in meeting the challenges facing Africa in the 1990s,

Recalling its resolutions 1985/62 of 26 July 1985 and 1990/72 of 27 July 1990, in which the Council, *inter alia*, recommended the incorporation of four core Professional posts into the United Nations regular budget as a contribution to the long-term financing of the Institute and to enable it to carry out its approved work programme and functions on a continued and sustained basis,

Noting that the Joint Inspection Unit, after a thorough examination of the Institute's situation, had recommended in its 1990 report¹⁸² that eight permanent posts be created in the regular budget to erase annual uncertainty about the Institute's budget and to offset dependency on United Nations Development Programme funding,

Bearing in mind that United Nations Development Programme policy requires that funding of core posts in institutions such as the African Institute for Economic Development and Planning should be discouraged, and that the Programme is currently supporting a preparatory-phase project designed to improve operational capacities for research, short-term training and networking, advisory/consultancy services and management audit,

Commending the increasing efforts of member States to meet their obligations to the Institute on a regular basis by paying their annual assessed contributions,

Noting with appreciation that the resources put at the disposal of the Institute, in the form of a grant for the four Professional posts for the years 1991 to 1993, have been productively used and that recent achievements in revitalizing the Institute and in improving its delivery capacities would not have been realized without those resources,

Noting with interest the increasingly successful attempts to generate independent income by various means and to develop operational projects for possible funding from diversified bilateral and other donor agencies,

Convinced that, with the expansion in the fields of its activities to include subject areas related to development management in general, the Institute will, in future years, play an even more important role in the promotion of the sustained development of Africa,

Considering that the Institute is the only bilingual regional institution of its kind in Africa and that it has an outstanding record of providing training and research services to African countries in the area of economic development and planning,

Considering also that there are increasing demands being made by member States and their intergovernmental organizations for the services of the Institute, particularly for tailor-made training programmes,

Considering further that counterpart United Nations institutions in other regions have benefited from regular budget posts,

Conscious of the urgency of stabilizing the financing of the core posts in the Institute,

1. *Calls upon* the General Assembly, in considering the proposed programme budget for the Economic Commission for Africa for the biennium 1994-1995, to take adequate steps to ensure sufficient staffing at the Profes-