

UNITED NATIONS
GENERAL
ASSEMBLY



Distr.
GENERAL

A/36/3/Add.6*
28 August 1981

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH



Thirty-sixth session

REPORT OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

CHAPTER VI

TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS DECADE IN AFRICA

* The present document is a mimeographed version of chapter VI of the report of the Economic and Social Council for 1981. The full report will be issued as Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-sixth Session, Supplement No.3 (A/36/3/Rev.1).

81-22021 1424e (E)

1. The Economic and Social Council considered the Transport and Communications Decade in Africa at its second regular session of 1981 under agenda item 8.

2. For its consideration of the item, the Council had before it the following documents:

(a) Report of the Secretary-General on the Transport and Communications Decade in Africa (A/36/342);

(b) Supplementary information on the Transport and Communications Decade in Africa (DEC/TRANSCOM/ESC/R/81/Add.1).

3. At its 19th meeting, on 8 May 1981, the Council allocated the item to the First (Economic) Committee, which considered it at the 13th to 15th and 17th meetings, on 14, 15 and 21 July 1981. For the report of the Committee on this item, see document E/1981/106.

ACTION BY THE FIRST (ECONOMIC) COMMITTEE

Transport and Communications Decade in Africa

4. At its 15th meeting, the Committee considered a draft resolution entitled "Transport and Communications Decade in Africa", sponsored by States Members of the United Nations which are members of the Group of 77. 1/

5. At its 17th meeting, the Committee considered a draft resolution, submitted under the same title by the Chairman on the basis of informal consultations.

6. At the same meeting, the second draft resolution was orally amended. 2/ The Committee then adopted the draft resolution, as orally amended, and submitted it to the Council as draft resolution I. For action by the Council, see paragraph 10 below.

7. The first draft resolution was subsequently withdrawn.

Particular problems facing Zaire with regard to transport, transit and access to foreign markets

8. At its 17th meeting, the Committee considered a draft resolution entitled "Particular problems facing Zaire with regard to transport, transit and access to foreign markets", which was sponsored by Zaire and orally revised. 2/ Subsequently, Belgium, Burundi, China, 1/ Ethiopia, France, Ghana, Kenya, Morocco, Peru, Senegal, Somalia, 1/ the Sudan, the United Republic of Tanzania 1/ and Zambia joined in sponsoring the draft resolution, as orally revised.

1/ In accordance with rule 72 of the rules of procedure of the Economic and Social Council.

2/ For particulars of the amendment and/or the revision, see the report of the Committee on this item (E/1981/106).

9. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted the draft resolution, as orally revised, and submitted it to the Council as draft resolution II. For action by the Council, see paragraph 10 below.

ACTION BY THE COUNCIL

10. At its 41st meeting, on 24 July 1981, the Council considered the draft resolutions recommended by the Committee in its report (E/1981/106, para. 14) and adopted them. For the final texts, see the annex below, Council resolutions 1981/67 and 1981/68, respectively.

ANNEX

Resolutions adopted by the Economic and Social Council
under agenda item 8 a/

Resolution 1981/67. Transport and Communications Decade in Africa

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling its resolutions 1979/61 of 3 August 1979 and 1980/46 of 23 July 1980 on the Transport and Communications Decade in Africa,

Mindful of the decision of the Conference of African Ministers of Transport, Communications and Planning, at its meeting held at Addis Ababa from 9 to 12 May 1979, in which the Conference adopted the global strategy for the implementation of the programme for the Transport and Communications Decade in Africa and the programme of action for the first phase (1980/1983) of the Decade, b/

Conscious of the need, during the Decade, to implement fully national, regional and subregional projects geared towards the establishment of an integrated transport and communications network in Africa in support of the accelerated development of the African region,

Considering the need for sustained efforts to mobilize additional resources for the implementation of the programme for the Decade,

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

Mindful of the role of the Economic Commission for Africa as the lead agency in the implementation of the Transport and Communications Decade in Africa,

Bearing in mind resolution 422 (XVI) of 10 April 1981, adopted at the seventh meeting of the Conference of Ministers of the Economic Commission for Africa, held at Freetown from 6 to 11 April 1981, in which, inter alia, the Conference requested

a/ A compilation of the resolutions and decisions adopted by the Council in 1981 will be issued as Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1981, Supplements Nos. 1, 1A and 1B (E/1981/81 and Add.1 and 2).

b/ See E/1979/77, part VI, resolutions ECA/UNCTAD/Res.79/1 and 3.

c/ See E/CN.14/812.

the Executive Secretary of the Commission, in collaboration with the Secretary-General of the Organization of African Unity, to embark urgently on the preparation of the plan of action for the second phase of the Decade, d/

Recalling General Assembly resolution 35/108 of 5 December 1980, in which the Assembly requested that the above-mentioned technical consultative meetings be organized by the Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa, and further requested the Secretary-General to submit to the Council, at its second regular session of 1981, a progress report on the implementation of the programme for the Decade,

1. Notes the report of the Secretary-General on the Transport and Communications Decade in Africa; e/

2. Takes note of the technical consultative meeting on transport and communications for the West African subregion, held at Lomé from 8 to 11 June 1981, and the report on the meeting prepared by the Economic Commission for Africa; f/

3. Notes with appreciation the contribution made by some countries towards the implementation of the Transport and Communications Decade in Africa;

4. Expresses disappointment, however, at the over-all level of resources so far made available, which is far short of that required for financing the subregional programme, and appeals to donor countries, the funding agencies and the various financing institutions to step up their financial support for regional and subregional projects of the Decade;

5. Further notes with appreciation the steps taken by the Commission with regard to the scheduling of the remaining technical consultative meetings, which will be held, respectively, at Yaoundé (28 to 30 September 1981), Abidjan (27 to 30 November 1981) and Ouagadougou (20 to 23 January 1982);

6. Requests the Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa to make the report of the technical consultative meeting to be held at Yaoundé in September 1981 available to the General Assembly at its thirty-sixth session, and also to make available reports on the technical consultative meetings to be held at Abidjan and Ouagadougou to the Council at its second regular session of 1982;

7. Reiterates its appeal to States members of the Economic Commission for Africa to accord the highest priority in their development plans to transport and communication projects;

8. Urges the Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa to maintain close collaboration with member States, the Organization of African Unity the regional African development organizations, the development institutions and the specialized agencies concerned in updating, on a regular basis, the programme for the first phase of the Decade;

d/ For the text of the resolution, see A/36/342, annex IV.

e/ A/36/342.

f/ DEC/TRANSCOM/ESC/R/81/Add.1.

9. Calls upon member States of the Organization of African Unity to intensify efforts in exploring possible sources of finance to execute projects adopted for the Decade;

10. Requests the Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa to maintain co-ordination between funding agencies and African countries in ensuring the successful implementation of the programme for the first phase of the Decade;

11. Further requests the Executive Secretary in collaboration with the Secretary-General of the Organization of African Unity, to proceed as early as possible with the preparation of the plan of action for the second phase of the Decade;

12. Recommends that the General Assembly should give further consideration to measures that would enable the Economic Commission for Africa to carry out its role in initiating and accomplishing the preparation of the programme for the second phase of the Transport and Communications Decade in Africa.

41st plenary meeting
24 July 1981

Resolution 1981/68. Particular problems facing Zaire with regard to transport, transit and access to foreign markets

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling resolution 293 (XIII), adopted on 26 February 1977 by the Economic Commission for Africa at its thirteenth session (fourth meeting of the Conference of Ministers), g/ and Council decision 249 (LXIII) of 25 July 1977,

Recalling also General Assembly resolution 32/160 of 19 December 1977, in which the Assembly recalled Council resolution 2097 (LXIII) of 29 July 1977 and proclaimed the period 1978-1988 as the Transport and Communications Decade in Africa,

Recalling further resolution 110 (V) of 3 June 1979, adopted by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development at its fifth session, held at Manila from 7 May to 3 June 1979, h/

Recalling also General Assembly resolution 34/193 of 19 September 1979, requesting the Secretary-General to take the necessary steps to enable the Economic Commission for Africa to accelerate the implementation of Conference resolution 110 (V),

g/ See Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Sixty-third Session, Supplement No. 7 (E/5941 and Add.1), vol. I, part III.

h/ See Proceedings of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, Fifth Session, vol. I, Report and Annexes (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.79.II.D.14), part one, sect. A.

Aware of the particular difficulties confronting Zaire as a result of the problems encountered in its foreign trade with regard to transport, transit and access to foreign markets,

Convinced that this situation is prejudicial to the development of the Zairian economy,

1. Recommends that the Secretary-General and the General Assembly should give strong support to efforts by the appropriate organs of the United Nations to provide the necessary technical assistance as soon as possible, so that studies on the particular problems facing Zaire with regard to transport, transit and access to foreign markets can be undertaken and completed without delay;

2. Requests the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions to give urgent consideration to the question of financing the studies requested in General Assembly resolutions 34/193 of 19 December 1979 and 35/59 of 5 December 1980 and to report to the Assembly at its thirty-sixth session;

3. Invites the Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa to take all the measures necessary to ensure the full implementation of General Assembly resolution 34/193 and to submit the conclusions of his studies to the Economic and Social Council at its second regular session of 1982.

41st plenary meeting
24 July 1981
