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SECOND COMMITTEE  
Agenda item 12

REPORT OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

Proposed Economic Commission for Africa

Afghanistan, Brazil, Burma, Ceylon, Egypt, Ethiopia,  
Ghana, Haiti, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Lebanon,  
Liberia, Libya, Mexico, Morocco, Nepal, Pakistan,  
Philippines, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, Syria, Tunisia,  
Yemen and Yugoslavia: joint draft resolution

The General Assembly,

Recognizing the urgent need for international co-operation in the economic development of under-developed countries,

Reaffirming its responsibilities and obligations, under Articles 55 and 56 of the Charter, to foster the economic development of all under-developed areas,

Recognizing that the countries and territories of Africa are faced with serious economic problems affecting the welfare and progress of the peoples of the region,

Recognizing that co-operation among the African countries can be of assistance in raising both the level of economic activity and the standards of life in that continent and that such measures would be facilitated by close co-operation with the United Nations and its subsidiary organs,

Considering further that regional economic commissions of the United Nations have performed valuable functions within their respective areas and that their work is vitally important from the point of view of the United Nations, as expressed in General Assembly resolution 627 (VII),

Noting that the work of regional commissions has been extremely useful to the economies of under-developed countries in Asia and Latin America and, therefore, that Africa should benefit from the advantages of such a system,

Noting further that the group of experts appointed by the Secretary-General, at the request of the Economic and Social Council, to study measures for the economic development of under-developed countries, recommended<sup>1/</sup> in 1951 that "in order to assist the governments and peoples of Africa to analyse and keep under continuous survey the development problems of that continent, the United Nations should establish an Economic Commission for Africa and provide for it an international secretariat",

Recommends that, with the purpose of giving effective aid to the countries and territories of Africa, and in accordance with Article 68 of the Charter, the Economic and Social Council, at its next session, give prompt and favourable consideration to the establishment of an Economic Commission for Africa.

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<sup>1/</sup> Measures for the Economic Development of Under-Developed Countries,  
United Nations publication, sales No. 1951.II.B.2, document E/1986.