

37/140. 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 resolutions 35/108 of 5 December 1980 and 36/177 of 17 December 1981, 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 and Council resolution 1982/54 of 29 July 1982, in which the Council requested the organization of a fifth consultative technical meeting for the countries of North Africa, East Africa and the islands of the Indian Ocean,

Recalling also resolution 341 (XIV) adopted on 27 March 1979 by the Conference of Ministers of the Economic Commission for Africa,²⁰ in which the Conference urged member States to give high priority to the development of transport and communications in the region,

Noting resolution CM/Res.889 (XXXVII) on the Transport and Communications Decade in Africa, adopted by the Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity at its thirty-seventh ordinary session, held at Nairobi from 15 to 26 June 1981,²¹

Referring to resolution 422 (XVI) adopted on 10 April 1981 by the Conference of Ministers of the Economic Commission for Africa,²² in which the Conference, *inter alia*, requested the Executive Secretary of the Commission to continue to monitor the progress in the implementation of the programme for the first phase (1980-1983) of the Decade, to update the programme, to organize four consultative technical meetings and to undertake the preparation of the plan of action for the second phase (1984-1988) of the Decade,

Referring also to resolution 435 (XVII) adopted on 30 April 1982 by the Conference of Ministers of the Economic Commission for Africa,²³ in which the Conference requested the Executive Secretary of the Commission to monitor the follow-up to the first four consultative technical meetings and recommended that a fifth meeting should be organized for the countries of North Africa, East Africa and the islands of the Indian Ocean,

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

Aware of the role which the Economic Commission for Africa plays as the lead agency in the implementation of the programme for the Decade,

1. Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General on the Transport and Communications Decade in Africa;²⁴

2. Notes with satisfaction that a measure of progress has been made concerning the implementation of the first phase (1980-1983) of the Decade, including the encouraging results of the four consultative technical meetings, held at Lomé from 8 to 11 June 1981, Ouagadougou from 20 to 23 January 1982, Yaoundé from 15 to 17 March 1982 and Abidjan from 3 to 5 May 1982;

3. Notes with appreciation the contribution made by certain countries and financial institutions towards the implementation of the programme for the Decade;

4. Appeals to donor countries, financing organs and various financial institutions to increase their financial support to the programme for the Decade in view of the fact that the total volume of the resources thus far mobilized is well below the amount required to finance the whole of the programme for the first phase;

5. Requests the Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa to organize, during the second half of 1983, a fifth consultative technical meeting on roads, maritime transport and ports for the countries of North Africa, East Africa and the islands of the Indian Ocean;

6. Appeals once again to donor countries and financing institutions to participate fully and positively in the fifth consultative technical meeting;

7. Requests the Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa to maintain good co-ordination between the financing sources and the African countries in order to monitor the follow-up to the four consultative technical meetings by closely assisting the countries in their contacts with donors and in formulating and presenting their requests for financing;

8. Notes the measures taken by the Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa with regard to the preparation of the plan of action for the second phase (1984-1988) of the Decade and requests him to submit a report on its preparation, through the Economic and Social Council at its second regular session of 1983, to the General Assembly at its thirty-eighth session;

9. Further notes the establishment of the Inter-Agency Co-ordinating Committee, comprising the Organization of African Unity, the African Development Bank, the African Postal and Telecommunications Union, the Economic Commission for Africa, the International Telecommunication Union, the Pan-African Telecommunications Union, the Union of National Radio and Television Organizations of Africa and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, with a view to harmonizing and co-ordinating studies for the prompt implementation of the project on a regional satellite communication system for Africa;

10. Reiterates its request to the Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa to continue to intensify his efforts with a view to assisting the Inter-Agency Co-ordinating Committee in the study on the regional satellite communication system for Africa, and to give assistance to African States in the full implementation of the programme for the first phase of the Decade;

11. Requests the Secretary-General to provide the Economic Commission for Africa, as the lead agency for the implementation of the Decade, with financial and other resources using, *inter alia*, extrabudgetary funds and existing resources to the maximum extent possible, to enable it to hold the fifth consultative technical meeting, scheduled to be held in 1983, and to complete the preparation of the plan of action for the second phase of the Decade;

12. 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;

13. Requests the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its thirty-eighth session on the progress achieved in the implementation of the present resolution.

109th plenary meeting
17 December 1982

²⁰ See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1979, Supplement No. 15 (E/1979/50 and Corr. 1)*, part two, sect. D.

²¹ See A/36/534, annex I.

²² See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1981, Supplement No. 14 (E/1981/54)*, chap. IV.

²³ *Ibid.*, 1982, Supplement No. 11 (E/1982/21), chap. V.

²⁴ A/37/296.