

its decisions 80/30 of 26 June 1980³¹ and 81/16 of 27 June 1981,³² including, in particular, those provisions relating to the indicative planning figures, the assumed overall average annual rate of growth of voluntary contributions and the level of resources envisaged for the third programming cycle for the purposes of forward planning;

4. *Welcomes* the establishment of an intersessional committee of the whole to study options and recommendations for the longer-term financing of the United Nations Development Programme and for strengthening the effectiveness of the work of the Governing Council;³³

5. *Appeals* to all Governments, in particular those whose previous contributions may have been below their capacity to pledge, to increase their voluntary contributions, starting with the 1982 United Nations Pledging Conference for Development Activities, so as to achieve an overall average annual rate of growth of 14 per cent for the third programming cycle, as envisaged by the Governing Council in its decision 80/30;

6. *Urges* all States, particularly donor countries, international financial institutions in a position to do so and other multilateral financial institutions to make all possible efforts with a view to contributing substantially and effectively to the Special Measures Fund for the Least Developed Countries of the United Nations Development Programme and to the United Nations Capital Development Fund, as well as through other suitable channels for the benefit of the least developed countries, in order to assist in ensuring the timely and full implementation of the Substantial New Programme of Action;

7. *Endorses* the invitation of the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme to the General Assembly to consider, during its thirty-seventh session, the financial situation of the Programme and the need to sustain technical assistance to developing countries through the Programme in the light of the outcome of the 1982 United Nations Pledging Conference for Development Activities;³⁴

8. *Welcomes* decision 82/8 of 18 June 1982 of the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme,³⁵ designed to promote government execution of projects assisted by the Programme;

9. *Invites* Governments of recipient countries and urges all organizations of the United Nations system to facilitate the role of the resident co-ordinator in strengthening the co-ordination of all United Nations technical assistance activities in accordance with the consensus of 1970³⁵ and in carrying out the tasks assigned to him or her by the General Assembly in its resolutions

32/197 of 20 December 1977, 33/202 of 29 January 1979 and 34/213 of 19 December 1979;

10. *Reaffirms* the need for the United Nations Development Programme and its executing agencies to review their operational support systems, working methods, arrangements and staffing, with a view to bringing about significant reductions in overall support costs, in order to make more resources available to meet the assistance requirements of developing countries.

*50th plenary meeting
29 July 1982*

1982/54. Transport and Communications Decade in Africa

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling its 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,

Noting the decision by which the Conference of African Ministers of Transport, Communications and Planning, at its first session, held at Addis Ababa from 9 to 12 May 1979, 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,³⁶

Noting further 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 1981,³⁷

Recalling the decision by which the Conference of African Ministers of Transport, Communications and Planning, at its second session, held at Addis Ababa from 16 to 18 March 1981, authorized the Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa to organize four consultative technical meetings between member States, interested African intergovernmental organizations and donors,³⁸

Recalling also General Assembly resolutions 35/108 of 5 December 1980 and 36/177 of 17 December 1981 concerning the organization of consultative technical meetings with a view to mobilizing additional financial resources for the financing of the programme for the Decade.

Referring to resolution 422 (XVI) of 10 April 1981 of the Conference of Ministers of the Economic Commission for Africa,³⁹ in which the Conference in the main requested the Commission to continue to monitor the progress in the implementation of the programme for the first phase

³¹ See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1980, Supplement No. 12 (E/1980/42/Rev.1)*, chap. XI.

³² *Ibid.*, 1981, *Supplement No. 11 (E/1981/61/Rev.1)*, annex I.

³³ See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1982, Supplement No. 6 (E/1982/16/Rev.1)*, annex I, decision 82/5, sect. II.

³⁴ *Ibid.*, sect. I.

³⁵ General Assembly resolution 2688 (XXV), annex.

³⁶ See E/1979/77, part VI, resolutions ECA/UNTACDA/Res.79/1 and 3.

³⁷ See A/36/534, annex I.

³⁸ See E/CN.14/812.

³⁹ See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1981, Supplement No. 14 (E/1981/54)*, chap. IV.

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) of 30 April 1982 of the Conference of Ministers of the Economic Commission for Africa,⁴⁰ in which the Conference requested the Executive Secretary 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,

Conscious 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;⁴¹

2. *Notes with satisfaction* the progress thus far made concerning the implementation of the first phase (1980-1983) of the Decade and 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. *Further notes with appreciation* the contribution made by certain countries 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 Commission 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 to the Economic and Social Council at its second regular session of 1983;

9. *Further notes* the establishment of the Inter-Agency Co-ordinating Committee, comprising the African Development Bank, the African Postal and Telecommunications Union, the Economic Commission for Africa, the International Telecommunication Union, the Organization of African Unity, 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 General Assembly at its thirty-seventh session to provide the Economic Commission for Africa with financial and other resources, using, *inter alia*, extra-budgetary funds and existing resources to the maximum extent possible, to enable it to hold the fifth consultative technical meeting scheduled for 1983, to complete the preparation of the plan of action for the second phase of the Decade and to fulfil efficiently its role as the lead agency for the implementation of the programme for the Decade.

*50th plenary meeting
29 July 1982*

1982/55. Implementation in the Sudano-Sahelian region of the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council, particularly resolutions 34/187 of 18 December 1979, 35/72 of 5 December 1980 and 36/190 of 17 December 1981 and Council resolution 1981/72 of 24 July 1981,

Recalling also decision 10/18 of 31 May 1982 of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme⁴² and decision 82/26 of 18 June 1982 of the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme,⁴³

Reiterating its concern about the seriousness of desertification in the Sudano-Sahelian region and the persistent critical situations resulting from it which hamper the economic and social development of the countries of the region,

⁴² See E/1982/L.42, annex.

⁴³ See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1982, Supplement No. 6 (E/1982/16/Rev.1), annex I.*

⁴⁰ *Ibid.*, 1982, *Supplement No. 11 (E/1982/21)*, chap. V.

⁴¹ A/37/296.