

nical assistance and/or additional financial resources to that mechanism, urges other Governments in a position to do so to take similar steps, and calls upon potential donors and recipients to co-operate fully with the Programme to ensure the successful implementation of Governing Council decision 10/26;

4. *Welcomes* the adoption by the Governing Council, in its decision 10/21 of 31 May 1982,⁵¹ of the programme for the development and periodic review of environmental law,⁵² expresses the hope that the programme will be implemented in a manner commensurate with the importance attached to it by the Governing Council, and calls upon Governments, United Nations organizations and bodies and intergovernmental organizations outside the United Nations system, as well as non-governmental organizations active in the field of the environment, to co-operate fully with the United Nations Environment Programme in the implementation of the programme;

5. *Takes note* of the progress report on co-operation in the field of the environment concerning natural resources shared by two or more States,⁵³ and transmits it to the General Assembly, pursuant to Assembly resolution 34/186 of 18 December 1979, and in this context endorses section VI of decision 10/14 of 31 May 1982 of the Governing Council;⁵¹

6. *Considers* that the System-wide Medium-term Environment Programme for 1984-1989⁵⁴ could be a useful means to ensure better co-ordination within the United Nations system in the field of the environment, welcomes decision 10/13 of 31 May 1982 of the Governing Council,⁵¹ in which it approved the structure and objectives of the System-wide Medium-term Environment Programme and endorsed the environmental trends and proposed priorities for action by the United Nations system, urges other organizations of the United Nations system to continue their close co-operation with the United Nations Environment Programme in the further refinement and implementation of the System-wide Programme, and appeals to Governments to continue to give support to the development and implementation of that Programme and to take the necessary decisions in this regard in the appropriate governing bodies of organizations in the United Nations system;

7. *Stresses* the importance it attaches to the development of the Environmental Perspective to the year 2000 and beyond, and notes that the Executive Director will submit a report thereon to the Governing Council at its eleventh session;

8. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Governing Council on the implementation of the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification⁵⁵ and transmits it to the General Assembly for consideration;

9. *Expresses its serious concern* at, on the one hand, the persistence and aggravation of the desertification process and, on the other, the rate at which the Plan

of Action to Combat Desertification⁵⁶ is being implemented, urges all Governments, organizations of the United Nations system, other intergovernmental bodies and non-governmental and all other organizations to increase their efforts to prevent and combat desertification in order to accelerate progress in implementing the recommendations of the Plan of Action, and calls upon all Governments to consider seriously the urgent need for additional resources to finance its implementation;

10. *Recommends* that the General Assembly should invite the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme to present its views on the implementation in the Eastern and Southern African Subregion of the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification and to advise on the necessity or the possibility of the establishment of institutional machinery responsible for combating drought and desertification in that sub-region;

11. *Requests* the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme to include the pertinent financial implications in his report to the Governing Council at its eleventh session on the progress in the implementation of Governing Council decision 10/2 of 31 May 1982⁵¹ on the regional presence of the Programme;

12. *Expresses its appreciation* to Governments that have contributed to the Fund of the United Nations Environment Programme for the first time and to those that continue to contribute generously to it, particularly those that have maintained or increased the real value of their contributions;

13. *Reiterates* its appeals and those of the General Assembly at different sessions to Governments to increase their contributions to the Fund and appeals to all Governments that have not yet pledged contributions thereto for the years 1982 and 1983 to do so as soon as possible.

*50th plenary meeting
29 July 1982*

1982/57. Europe-Africa permanent link through the Strait of Gibraltar

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling its resolution 2097 (LXIII) of 29 July 1977 and General Assembly resolution 32/160 of 19 December 1977, proclaiming the Transport and Communications Decade in Africa during the years 1978-1988,

Bearing in mind 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,⁵⁷

⁵² See UNEP/GC.10/5/Add.2 and Corr.1 and 2.

⁵³ UNEP/GC.10/8 and Corr.1 and 2 and UNEP/GC.10/8/Add.1.

⁵⁴ UNEP/GC.9/7.

⁵⁵ UNEP/GC.10/9 and Corr.1 and UNEP/GC.10/9/Add.1

⁵⁶ A/CONF.74/36, chap. I.

⁵⁷ See E/1979/77, part VI, resolutions ECA/UNTACDA/Res.79/1 and 3

Also bearing in mind the decision adopted by the Conference of African Ministers of Transport, Communications and Planning at its second session, held at Addis Ababa from 16 to 18 March 1981, with regard to the updating of the programme for the first phase and the preparation of the plan of action for the second phase (1984-1988) of the Decade,⁵⁸

Noting that the Conference of African Ministers of Transport, Communications and Planning, at its second session, retained the feasibility study on the crossing of the Strait of Gibraltar,

Conscious of the role of the Economic Commission for Africa in the implementation of the programme for the Decade,

Taking into account the favourable decisions on the permanent link through the Strait of Gibraltar taken respectively by the Third Conference on African Roads, held at Abidjan in October 1976, the Thirteenth Permanent Transport Conference of Arab Countries, held at Cairo in February 1977, and the Fourth Conference on African Roads, held at Nairobi in January 1980,

Convinced of the importance of the permanent link through the Strait of Gibraltar for the political, cultural, economic and social relations between Africa and Europe,

Taking note of the existence of a co-ordinating committee for the monitoring of the construction of the permanent link project,

Noting further that the Economic Commission for Europe is following with interest the work regarding the establishment of a permanent link between Europe and Africa and that it has not yet taken a final decision on the matter,

1. Requests the Executive Secretaries of the Economic Commission for Africa and the Economic Commission for Europe:

(a) To prepare a synthesis and an evaluation of the various studies and reports currently available throughout the world regarding such links, particularly studies on the proposed link through the Strait of Gibraltar;

(b) To identify, on that basis, the problems related to ensuring a permanent link between the European road network and that of the region of the Economic Commission for Africa, with a view to submitting proposals and recommendations to the regional commissions and Governments concerned for possible further action, and to report to the Economic and Social Council at its second regular session of 1983;

2. Requests the Secretary-General, within existing resources, to support the Economic Commission for Africa and the Economic Commission for Europe in the most appropriate manner in the implementation of this task.

51st plenary meeting
30 July 1982

1982/58. Caribbean Development and Co-operation Committee of the Economic Commission for Latin America

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling that the Caribbean Development and Co-operation Committee was established in 1975 by the Economic Commission for Latin America to act as a co-ordinating body for activities relating to development and co-operation and as a consultative organ of the Commission,

Noting that the Committee drew up at its annual sessions a work programme, which was subsequently endorsed by the Commission at its biennial sessions, in particular its seventeenth session, held at Guatemala City from 25 April to 5 May 1977,⁵⁹ its eighteenth session, held at La Paz from 18 to 26 April 1979,⁶⁰ and its nineteenth session, held at Montevideo from 4 to 15 May 1981,⁶¹

Considering that the Committee, at its fifth session, held at Kingston, Jamaica, from 4 to 10 June 1980, approved a series of urgent projects within the framework of that work programme,⁶²

Recalling that the Committee of the Whole of the Commission, at its fourteenth special session, held in New York on 20 November 1980, endorsed that work programme, including the supplementary resources required for 1981, and the additional resources which would be required for the biennium 1982-1983 in order to ensure its implementation,⁶³

Bearing in mind Council resolution 1980/56 of 24 July 1980, by which the Council requested the Secretary-General to make appropriate provision for the implementation of those priority projects and for the strengthening of the secretariat of the Caribbean Development and Co-operation Committee in his supplementary budget estimates for 1981 for consideration by the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions and the Fifth Committee of the General Assembly in the course of the thirty-fifth session of the Assembly, bearing in mind that the implementation of such projects constituted an urgent need,

Noting with appreciation that an additional appropriation for the Caribbean Development and Co-operation Committee of \$128,100⁶⁴ was approved by the General Assembly at its thirty-fifth session, thus providing the necessary resources to implement the work programme for the biennium 1980-1981,

Conscious of the fact that the additional resources required for the implementation of that work programme in the biennium 1982-1983 were not included in the presentation of the Secretary-General to the

⁵⁹ See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Sixty-third Session, Supplement No. 11* (E/5945).

⁶⁰ See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1979, Supplement No. 16* (E/1979/51), vol. I.

⁶¹ *Ibid.*, 1981, Supplement No. 16 (E/1981/56).

⁶² See E/CEPAL/G.1133.

⁶³ See E/CEPAL/G.1142.

⁶⁴ See A/C.5/35/23/Add.1 and Corr.1.

⁵⁸ See E/CN.14/812.