

gave a major boost to the future development of transport and communications by equipping Africa with a policy and strategy, as well as institutions and mechanisms for their implementation,

*Considering* resolution 84/44 of the fourth meeting of the Conference of African Ministers of Transport, Communications and Planning,<sup>35</sup> in which the Conference recommended that Governments of States members of the Economic Commission for Africa decide, in principle, to approve the launching of a second United Nations transport and communications decade in Africa,

*Noting* the report on progress in the implementation of the second phase of the programme of the Decade<sup>36</sup> and the report on the sixth meeting of the Conference of African Ministers of Transport, Communications and Planning,<sup>37</sup>

*Conscious* that air transport is one of the key factors in economic development and integration in Africa,

*Noting* the concern expressed by the Conference of African Ministers of Transport, Communications and Planning about the adverse consequences for African air transport of the new civil aeronautic policies emanating from outside the continent,

*Bearing in mind* resolution 86/55 of the fifth meeting of the Conference of African Ministers of Transport, Communications and Planning,<sup>38</sup> in which the Conference, *inter alia*, called upon the Economic Commission for Africa to provide support to the various African subregional organizations and to assist them in co-ordinating their transport and communications programmes,

*Mindful* of the heavy investments made by States members of the Economic Commission for Africa in the Pan-African Telecommunications Network and the substantial achievement made in establishing it,

*Noting* that the in-depth evaluation of the Decade has revealed great deficiencies in the inland water transport systems in Africa,

1. *Takes note* of resolution 88/73 of 24 March 1988 of the Conference of African Ministers of Transport, Communications and Planning,<sup>39</sup> in which the Conference recommended that:

(a) A second United Nations transport and communications decade in Africa should be declared for the period 1991-2000 in order to sustain the momentum of the activities begun during the first Decade;

(b) The expertise and experience acquired during the first Decade should be retained by continuing the institutional arrangements for the first Decade, namely, the Conference of African Ministers of Transport, Communications and Planning as the permanent policy-making body, the Economic Commission for Africa as

the lead agency responsible, in collaboration with other organizations of the United Nations system, for preparing the programme for the Decade and for harmonizing, co-ordinating and monitoring activities, and the Inter-Agency Co-ordinating Committee as the technical body accountable to the Conference of Ministers;

(c) There should be a two-year preparatory period between the end of the first Decade and the launching of the second;

2. *Recommends* that the General Assembly, in the light of the outcome of the preparations referred to in paragraph 1 (c) of the present resolution, consider declaring the period 1991-2000 the Second Transport and Communications Decade in Africa;

3. *Expresses its appreciation* for the generous support of the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme and those members of the international community that were able to provide financial and technical assistance for carrying out the activities of the first Decade;

4. *Appeals* to the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme to continue to provide support for activities related to the two-year preparatory period, 1989-1990;

5. *Requests* donor countries and international financial institutions to intensify their support for the accelerated development of transport and communications in Africa.

40th plenary meeting  
28 July 1988

#### 1988/68. International trade and co-operation in the field of coal

*The Economic and Social Council,*

*Aware* of the need to facilitate international trade and co-operation in the field of coal,

*Recalling* the adoption by the Economic Commission for Europe in 1956 of the International Classification of Hard Coals by Type,<sup>40</sup>

1. *Welcomes* the adoption by the Economic Commission for Europe<sup>41</sup> of the International Codification System for Medium- and High-rank Coals,<sup>42</sup> which was elaborated in close collaboration with States not members of the Commission and with international organizations;

2. *Invites* States Members of the United Nations, international organizations and the regional commissions to consider the possibility of taking appropriate measures for ensuring the world-wide application of the International Codification System.

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28 July 1988

<sup>35</sup> See E/ECA/CM.10/22.

<sup>36</sup> E/ECA/CM.14/15.

<sup>37</sup> E/ECA/CM.14/24.

<sup>38</sup> See E/ECA/CM.12/43.

<sup>39</sup> See E/ECA/CM.14/24.

<sup>40</sup> E/ECE/247.

<sup>41</sup> See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1988, Supplement No. 12 (E/1988/36)*, chap. IV, decision D (43).

<sup>42</sup> E/ECE/COAL/115.