

Recalling resolution 2 (VIII) of March 1985 of the Lusaka-based Multinational Programming and Operational Centre and similar resolutions of other such centres on the role that the centres have to play in the effective and speedy implementation of the Decade at the subregional level, particularly with respect to multinational projects,

1. *Recognizes*, and expresses appreciation for, measures taken or under way in Member States, intergovernmental organizations and the secretariats of the Organization of African Unity, the Economic Commission for Africa and the United Nations Industrial Development Organization to implement the programme for and the activities of the Industrial Development Decade for Africa, and urges all concerned to continue and intensify their efforts;

2. *Takes note* of the decision of the General Assembly to increase to an annual minimum of \$5 million the allocation from the regular budget of the United Nations to the United Nations Industrial Development Organization for the Decade;

3. *Calls upon* the General Assembly to consider the allocation to the Economic Commission for Africa of \$700,000, to be absorbed from the \$5 million already approved—in Assembly resolution 39/233—in the regular budget for the biennium 1986-1987, to enable the Commission and the Multinational Programming and Operational Centres to conduct consultations and negotiations on ways of implementing multinational projects, including investment promotion;

4. *Requests* the secretariats of the Organization of African Unity, the Economic Commission for Africa and the United Nations Industrial Development Organization to continue providing their services to enable Member States to implement the programme for the Decade effectively.

*52nd plenary meeting
26 July 1985*

1985/62. African Institute for Economic Development and Planning

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling resolutions 285 (XII) of 28 February 1975,²⁵ 350 (XIV) of 27 March 1979,²⁶ 399 (XV) of 12 April 1980²⁷ and, particularly, 433 (XVII) of 30 April 1982²⁸ of the Conference of Ministers of the Economic Commission for Africa, on the African Institute for Economic Development and Planning,

²⁵ See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Fifty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 10* (E/5657 and Corr.1 and 2).

²⁶ See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1979, Supplement No. 15* (E/1979/50 and Corr.1 and Add.1).

²⁷ *Ibid.*, 1980, Supplement No. 7 (E/1980/27), part two, sect. D.

²⁸ *Ibid.*, 1982, Supplement No. 11 (E/1982/21), chap. V.

Recalling also Conference of Ministers resolution 526 (XIX) of 26 May 1984,²⁹ in which the Conference expressed concern about the deepening economic and social crisis in Africa and its grave implications for the peoples and economies of the continent, and considering the role and contribution that the Institute can play in alleviating and managing the present economic crisis,

Considering that at its twenty-seventh meeting, held at Addis Ababa on 9 and 10 January 1985, the Governing Council of the Institute requested the Conference of Ministers of the Commission, at its eleventh meeting, to prepare and adopt a resolution urging Member States, the United Nations Development Programme and the General Assembly to assist in the future funding of the African Institute for Economic Development and Planning,

Noting that the Institute should expand its teaching and research activities in line with the objectives of the Lagos Plan of Action for the Implementation of the Monrovia Strategy for the Economic Development of Africa³⁰ and that the major obstacle to its doing so is the inadequacy of financial resources,

Conscious that there is a need to consolidate and strengthen the financial position of the Institute in the medium term,

1. *Recommends* that the United Nations Development Programme should continue its financial support to the African Institute for Economic Development and Planning in view of the fact that it can serve as a resource institution assisting the Secretary-General and the Programme in their intensified efforts to help Africa alleviate its economic and social crisis;

2. *Recommends* to the General Assembly the incorporation of four posts for core professional staff for the African Institute for Economic Development and Planning into the United Nations regular budget as a contribution to the long-term financing of the Institute, in the same spirit as it has done for other regional institutions in Africa, such as the Multinational Programming and Operational Centres, and, outside Africa, in the region of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean.

*52nd plenary meeting
26 July 1985*

1985/63. Measures to ensure the effective and accelerated implementation of the Substantial New Programme of Action in the African least developed countries during the second half of the 1980s

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling General Assembly resolutions 37/224 of 20 December 1982, 38/195 of 20 December 1983 and 39/174 of 17 December 1984 on the implementation of

²⁹ *Ibid.*, 1984, Supplement No. 11 (E/1984/21), chap. IV.

³⁰ A/S-11/14, annex 1.

the Substantial New Programme of Action for the 1980s for the Least Developed Countries.³¹

Recalling also resolution 397 (XV) of 12 April 1980 of the Conference of Ministers of the Economic Commission for Africa,³² by which the Conference of Ministers entrusted the Conference of Ministers of African Least Developed Countries with the responsibility for ensuring the co-ordination of efforts, establishing priorities, monitoring and evaluating progress under the Comprehensive New Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries³³ in African least developed countries, and Conference of Ministers resolution 503 (XIX) of 26 May 1984³⁴ on measures for the effective implementation of the Substantial New Programme of Action in African least developed countries,

Deeply concerned about the continued serious deterioration in the economic and social conditions of the African least developed countries, exacerbated by the severe drought which has spread across the African region, creating enormous imbalances in food supply and consequently widespread famine in many countries,

Recognizing that there is therefore a need to assist the African least developed countries to effect the necessary structural changes and that they will need increased aid from donors in order to achieve this objective,

Noting with satisfaction the results of the Conference on the Emergency Situation in Africa, convened at Geneva on 11 and 12 March 1985 by the Secretary-General, which was aimed at mobilizing the international community to provide the necessary financial and technical assistance in favour of African countries, especially the least developed among them,

Expressing deep concern and disappointment at the painfully slow pace in the implementation of the Substantial New Programme of Action in the least developed countries, twenty-six of which are located in Africa, since its adoption in September 1981, and at the negative results of the negotiations on the resolution concerning the implementation of the Substantial New Programme of Action at the sixth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, held at Belgrade from 6 June to 2 July 1983,

Recognizing that primary responsibility for their development rests with the least developed countries themselves,

Noting the tremendous efforts made by the African least developed countries in the organization of their

respective country review meetings, especially in devising strategies and policies aimed at ensuring the successful implementation of their national development plans and public investment programmes and projects,

1. *Strongly urges* the African least developed countries to prepare themselves adequately, with the assistance of the Economic Commission for Africa, for the mid-term global review of the implementation of the Substantial New Programme of Action for the 1980s for the Least Developed Countries, to be carried out in September/October 1985, in order to make practical proposals for the readjustment of the Substantial New Programme of Action, as appropriate, to take into consideration their special circumstances and expedite its implementation during the second half of the 1980s;

2. *Urges* all countries, multilateral financing institutions, United Nations organizations and other concerned intergovernmental, non-governmental and international organizations to be represented at a high level at the meeting on the mid-term global review and to take appropriate measures to put the Substantial New Programme of Action into its proper perspective in order to ensure its effective implementation during the second half of the 1980s;

3. *Urges* the African least developed countries to intensify their efforts towards increased agricultural production, especially of food, as a means of reducing their ever-increasing dependence on external sources for food, and calls upon the international community to provide the necessary technical and financial assistance for agricultural and rural development in the African least developed countries;

4. *Urges* :

(a) The developed countries to reaffirm the commitments they undertook under the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade³⁵ with respect to the target of 0.7 per cent of gross national product as official development assistance and to the achievement of that goal by 1985, and in any case not later than in the second half of the Decade;

(b) Donor countries, within the overall context of the Substantial New Programme of Action for the 1980s for the Least Developed Countries, as adopted, and of progress towards the 0.7 per cent target, to attain 0.15 per cent of their gross national product as official development assistance or to double their official development assistance to the least developed countries by 1985 or as soon as possible thereafter;

5. *Calls upon* the General Assembly to consider increasing the human and financial resources at the disposal of the programme for the African least developed countries of the Economic Commission for Africa so that those countries can be given more effective assistance.

*52nd plenary meeting
26 July 1985*

³¹ Report of the United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, Paris, 1-14 September 1981 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.82.I.8), part one, sect. A.

³² See Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1980, Supplement No. 7 (E/1980/27), part two, sect. D.

³³ Proceedings of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, Fifth Session, vol. 1, Report and Annexes (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.79.II.D.14), part one, sect. A, resolution 122 (V).

³⁴ See Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1984, Supplement No. 11 (E/1984/21), chap. IV.

³⁵ General Assembly resolution 35/56, annex.