

Noting with great distress that the persistent and substantial shortfall in the contributions of member States to the Institute will inevitably force its closure in 1990 if no remedial action is taken,

1. *Urgently appeals* to States members of the African Institute for Economic Development and Planning:

(a) To pay immediately to the Institute their contributions for 1990 and their arrears for 1989;

(b) To pay back to the Institute all their remaining arrears according to a schedule to be arranged with the management of the Institute;

(c) To pay their regular annual contribution to the Institute in a timely manner under arrangements to be determined with the management of the Institute;

2. *Calls upon* the General Assembly, as a matter of urgency, to approve the inclusion of four key posts for the Institute in the United Nations regular budget, namely, the Director, the Chief of Administration and Finance and two senior lecturers, in line with the recommendation contained in Economic and Social Council resolution 1985/62 of 26 July 1985, to enable the Institute to carry out its approved work programme and functions on a continued and sustained basis as stipulated in its Statute;

3. *Appeals* to the United Nations Development Programme to help the Institute to survive its present financial crisis and, in particular:

(a) To set up quickly the evaluation mission announced in October 1989;

(b) To give its full backing to the short-term training programme and the research and advisory activities of the Institute;

(c) To continue its support for the activities of the Institute in 1990 and beyond;

4. *Commends* the Governing Council of the Institute on the decisions taken to rationalize the use of resources and urges the management of the Institute to persevere in that endeavour.

*37th plenary meeting
27 July 1990*

1990/73. Improving the technical facilities of the Economic Commission for Africa

The Economic and Social Council,

Recognizing the need for providing adequate equipment and training in the region in current information technology,

Concerned about the paucity of up-to-date office automation and computing equipment at the secretariat of the Economic Commission for Africa,

Also concerned about the constraints that such a situation imposes on the Commission to properly assist African member States in enhancing their planning and monitoring capacities,

Urges the Secretary-General to provide the secretariat of the Economic Commission for Africa with the office automation and computing equipment necessary to enable it to function efficiently and to provide better service to member States.

*37th plenary meeting
27 July 1990*

1990/74. Proposal for interregional co-operation in the area of trade facilitation, and in particular the phased application of the Rules for Electronic Data Interchange for Administration, Commerce and Transport (EDIFACT), whenever appropriate

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling its resolution 1989/118 of 28 July 1989 on interregional co-operation for facilitation of international trade, in which it invited the regional commissions and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to prepare jointly a project proposal in this field,

Recognizing that African countries need to co-operate effectively with the rest of the world and to participate in international trade facilitation, including the use of electronic data interchange for the transmission of trade documentation,

Conscious of the urgent need in Africa to build up, strengthen and upgrade capacities to identify problems and requirements for the facilitation of international and intra-African trade, including the analysis of practices, procedures, laws, regulations, policies and documentation governing international trade, and that such capacity-building would benefit government ministries and departments concerned with planning, trade, transport, customs administration, statistics and data processing,

Recognizing further the desirability of interregional co-operation among the regional commissions jointly with the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development in promoting the global application of agreed measures for the facilitation of international trade,

1. *Decides* fully to support the implementation by participating African States of the project proposal on interregional co-operation for the facilitation of international trade, prepared jointly by the regional commissions and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development;

2. *Recommends* the proposal for funding by donors;

3. *Invites* all States Members of the United Nations to support the project proposal;

4. *Requests* the United Nations Development Programme, the World Bank, the regional development banks and bilateral donors to provide adequate financing to ensure the full realization of the project;

5. *Also requests* the Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa to report to the Commis-

sion at its twenty-sixth session on the implementation of the present resolution;

6. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to include in his annual report on regional co-operation, to be submitted to the Economic and Social Council at its second regular session of 1991, a report on the progress made in the implementation of the present resolution, as well as on the further consideration of Council resolution 1989/118 by the regional commissions for Europe, Latin America and the Caribbean, Asia and the Pacific and Western Asia.

37th plenary meeting
27 July 1990

1990/75. Final review and appraisal of the United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development 1986-1990

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 43/27 of 18 November 1988, in which the Assembly decided that the final review and appraisal for the United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development 1986-1990 should be conducted at its forty-sixth session,

Noting with appreciation the reports of the Economic Commission for Africa on the progress in the implementation of the Programme of Action²⁶ and on the preparations for the final review and evaluation of the Programme of Action,²⁷

Also noting with appreciation the work of the United Nations Steering Committee and the United Nations Inter-Agency Task Force on the monitoring of the implementation of the Programme of Action,

Convinced that the final review and evaluation of the implementation of the Programme of Action by the General Assembly should be an occasion for an in-depth appraisal of the actions taken by all sides in the implementation of the Programme, as well as of the measures that are needed to sustain accelerated growth and development in Africa beyond 1991,

Convinced also of the need for States members of the Economic Commission for Africa to conduct a thorough assessment of the implementation of the Programme and that such an assessment should be as up-to-date as possible,

Concerned about the continuing deterioration in the economic and social conditions in Africa and the possibility of the continuation of such trends in the 1990s,

1. *Recommends* that mechanisms for the final review and appraisal of the implementation of the United Nations Programme of Action for African Recovery and

Development 1986-1990 be similar to those of the mid-term review of the Programme of Action and that for that purpose an *ad hoc* committee of the whole of the General Assembly be established to appraise the Programme of Action and propose measures for sustained development in Africa beyond 1991;

2. *Decides* that a special memorandum addressed to the proposed *ad hoc* committee of the whole of the General Assembly on the review and appraisal of the United Nations Programme of Action for African Recovery and Development 1986-1990 should be prepared by the Conference of Ministers of the Economic Commission for Africa at its seventeenth meeting, in May 1991, and that the draft of the special memorandum should be considered at an intergovernmental expert group meeting to be convened immediately before the meeting of the Technical Preparatory Committee of the Whole and the Conference of Ministers;

3. *Invites* the Executive Secretary of the Commission to send special multisectoral missions to all States members of the Commission early in the fourth quarter of 1990 to collect up-to-date information on the implementation of the Programme of Action, on the basis of which the special memorandum would be prepared;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to make available to the secretariat of the Commission the financial resources required for such special missions on the review and appraisal of the implementation of the Programme of Action;

5. *Urges* member States and their development and planning machineries to participate actively in the preparation of the special memorandum.

37th plenary meeting
27 July 1990

1990/76. Transforming and strengthening the Multinational Programming and Operational Centres of the Economic Commission for Africa

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling resolution 311 (XIII) adopted on 1 March 1977 by the Conference of Ministers of the Economic Commission for Africa establishing the Multinational Programming and Operational Centres,²⁸

Recognizing that, over the years, the Centres have played a vital role in fostering subregional economic co-operation and integration and that the objectives for which they were established are more valid today than they were thirteen years ago,

Considering the imperative need for women to participate positively and effectively in the implementation of programmes aimed at their integration in the process of development in each subregion,

²⁶ E/CA/CM.16/4.

²⁷ E/CA/CM.16/5.

²⁸ See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Sixty-third Session, Supplement No. 7 (E/5941)*, vol. I, part III.