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ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR AFRICA
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COMMEMORATION OF THE TENTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE COMMISSION

Resolution 187(IX) adopted by the Commission at its 147th plenary meeting
on 10 February 1969

The Economic Commission for Africa,

Noting with satisfaction and appreciation the report prepared by the secretariat entitled "A Venture in Self-reliance", and the information paper "The Role of ECA in the Economic Expansion and Social Growth in Africa",

Emphasizing the importance of multinational and sub-regional co-operation in Africa as well as the need for the creation and strengthening of inter-governmental machinery to promote the undertaking of concerted action programmes,

Aware of the importance of the research undertaken by the secretariat on economic and social development in the continent, and the studies aimed at facilitating economic co-operation on a multinational and sub-regional basis,

Convinced that the problems engendered by the division of the world into affluent and indigent societies cannot be resolved except on the basis of self-reliance in Africa, the full co-operation of the more developed countries and the application of science and technology to the development of the region,

Affirms its support for the activities which the secretariat has undertaken in its first ten years of existence,

1. Urges upon member States the need to encourage a spirit of self-reliance and to take all appropriate measures for mobilizing domestic resources and for utilizing manpower;

2. Further urges member States to take all necessary steps to strengthen co-operation between countries in the same sub-region;

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3. Calls upon member States to lend their full support to the Commission and its secretariat by adopting policies and taking initiatives, individually and collectively, in order to facilitate the effective implementation of the work programme approved by the Commission;

4. Invites member States to make use increasingly of the services available in the secretariat for the identification of projects and further planning, implementation and evaluation of national, multi-national and sub-regional programmes;

5. Urges the industrialized countries to re-examine the form, content and volume of aid offered by them with a view to eliminating the effects of adverse terms of aid, tied loans and suppliers' credit on the economies of African countries, taking into account their level of economic development;

6. Strongly urges the industrialized countries to take all necessary measures in order to increase the export earnings of African countries, in particular, (i) to facilitate access to their markets of semi-manufactured and manufactured goods, including processed and semi-processed products, so as to enhance the prospects for the rapid industrialization of African countries and, (ii) to encourage co-operation in working out commodity agreements on products of particular interest in order to promote stabilization of prices in international markets for primary commodities;

7. Further calls upon the developed countries to take appropriate steps to ensure an increased share for African countries in the benefits of invisible trade, particularly shipping, other forms of transport, banking, insurance and tourism, taking care that the cost of such services are kept at a level favourable of the trade of African countries;

8. Requests member States to take steps to co-operate with the secretariat of the Economic Commission for Africa in publicizing widely the activities of the Commission;

9. Requests the Executive Secretary, as a special feature of the activities for the second United Nations Development Decade:

(a) To advise and assist the governments of member States, on request, in drawing up in a realistic manner specific targets for growth in the different sectors of the economy and in attaining them;

(b) To advise and assist the governments of member States, on request, in the planning of their manpower requirements and in drawing up programmes for training for economic and social development;

(c) To mobilize, when necessary, additional resources required for the purpose of assisting member States in their increasing efforts in the field of planning and development which will result from their active participation in the programme of the second Development Decade;

(d) In co-operation with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the World Food Programme (WFP) and the United Nations system of specialized agencies, to take steps to assist countries of the region to cope with the particular problems which confront them in the implementation of their development plans and of the work programmes approved by the Commission;

(e) To take appropriate steps to ensure consultations with the system of specialized agencies and the United Nations Development Programme in order to secure a co-ordinated approach to their activities in Africa, so that the total resources available to the Commission and these agencies may be effectively applied to the development of the countries in the region;

(f) To take specific measures to ensure the co-operation of the United Nations system of specialized agencies in the implementation of the work programmes approved by the Commission and towards this end, to seek, as far as possible, to have joint work programmes with individual agencies in their respective areas of competence;

(g) To promote, through member States, the organization of national campaigns to secure popular support for the effort which will be required for the attainment of the objectives of the second United Nations Development Decade and in this regard to take cognizance of the action required to be taken by the secretariat and member States under resolution 169(VIII);

10. Further requests the Executive Secretary to accord special emphasis in the implementation of operational programmes for the economic and social action in the priority areas indicated by the Commission, the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly;

11. Urges the Executive Secretary, in consultation with the sub-regions, to formulate programmes for economic and social action;

12. Recommends that the Executive Secretary should participate in the operation of the international machinery that might be established to evaluate planning, policies and performance under the second United Nations Development Decade and for this purpose to assist in setting the standards and criteria which are appropriate for a meaningful assessment of economic and social progress in the African region;

13. Strongly requests that adequate staff, financial and other resources be made available to the secretariat to ensure the efficient performance of its tasks, and that steps be taken to ensure fuller decentralization to the Commission of operational activities of the United Nations programmes of technical co-operation in the region.