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**UNITED NATIONS  
ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL**

**ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR AFRICA**

**Eleventh Session,**

**Second Meeting of the Conference of Ministers**

Accra, 19-23 February 1973

**243(XI) African Participation in negotiations in the Trade,**

**Finance and Monetary Spheres**

Noting the consensus of the third session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to the effect that developing countries should participate more fully in international decision-making on monetary and trade questions;

Recalling the Declaration of the Assembly of Heads of State and of Government of the Organisation of African Unity on the third session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development,

Aware of the crucial importance for African countries of the international negotiations due to commence in 1973 on trade, monetary and financial matters, as well as those related to the enlargement of the European Economic Community,

Having noted resolution 82(III) of the third session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, particularly its paragraph 8, in which the United Nations Development Programme is invited to consider favourably requests from Governments of developing countries for technical assistance at the national, regional or interregional level to enable them to participate effectively in the multilateral trade negotiations,

Having further noted that the Trade and Development Board at its twelfth session invited the regional economic commissions and the United Nations Economic and Social Office in Beirut to give the highest priority to requests for assistance formulated by their member States with a view to enabling them to participate effectively in the multilateral trade negotiations, and its wish that the United Nations Development Programme should accord priority to requests from the economic regional commissions for assistance in this field,

Conscious of the need for African countries to prepare themselves for and co-ordinate their approach to these negotiations,

Determined to ensure the effective representation of African countries in these negotiations,

1. Urges the Executive Secretary, in close co-operation with the Administrative Secretary-General of the Organization of African Unity, to assist member States by providing all information and expert services necessary to enable African countries to participate effectively in these negotiations at all stages so that their interests would be fully taken into account;

2. Requests the Executive Secretary to prepare and forward to the United Nations Development Programme a regional project request for assistance to the Commission to enable it to carry out the tasks mentioned in operative paragraph 1 above;

3. Further requests the Executive Secretary to notify the Governments of all member States and to invite them, as soon as the request for assistance is prepared, to convey their support for the request to the United Nations Development Programme, with a view to securing its approval;

4. Invites the United Nations Development Programme, as a matter of urgency to act favourably on the above request and to provide maximum support to the Economic Commission for Africa in order to enable it to assist its member States in participating actively and effectively in the negotiations in the trade, finance and monetary spheres.

171st meeting,  
22 February 1973.