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MARITIME TRANSPORT

Resolution 160(VIII) adopted by the Commission at its 139th plenary meeting  
on 24 February 1967

The Economic Commission for Africa,

Conscious of the particular need of the African countries to promote their exports and to raise their income from invisibles,

Bearing in mind the fact that the developing countries own only 6 per cent of the world maritime tonnage; a matter which raises serious problems for them,

Aware of the fact that the impact of the monopoly of a few shipping and maritime transportation companies, and the high freight-rates have a very adverse effect on the export earnings of African countries,

1. Recommends the Executive Secretary to prepare a report on the effects of the monopoly of a few shipping and maritime transportation companies on the foreign trade of African countries and particularly the effects of the costs of services and freight-rates which these companies impose, and the impact of this on the export earnings of the African countries, this report to deal with the policies to be taken so as to alter the old pattern of this sector;
2. Requests the Executive Secretary to convene as soon as possible, and at any rate not later than June 1968 a conference of African experts on maritime transport to examine the report and to make recommendations for its implementation and to submit its findings to the ninth session of the Commission,
3. Urges Governments of member States and Specialized Agencies of the United Nations to provide the Executive Secretary with all information and background material, he may need to prepare this report.