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TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS

Resolution 60(IV) adopted by the Commission at its
78th Plenary Meeting, on 2 March 1962

The Economic Commission for Africa,

Realizing the extreme importance of effective transportation and communications links between all the countries of Africa for the rapid and co-ordinated economic development of the Continent as a whole,

Bearing in mind the relative state of isolation of African countries as a result of the existing transportation and communications arrangements in Africa,

Recalling

(a) The discussion at the first session of the West African Transport Conference held in Monrovia in October 1961, at which "delegations urged that the Conference should recommend to the Economic Commission for Africa that a body be established in West Africa to ensure the co-ordination of the decisions reached at the Conference"; and

(b) the discussions held at the 15th and 16th West African Public Works Conference when the need was emphasized for a permanent body to be established by the Economic Commission for Africa in the West African sub-region to process and co-ordinate the work of the development of the sub-regional transportation network,

Resolves that the projected West African sub-regional office of the Commission give special attention to sub-regional development of an integrated transportation and communications system with special reference to the provision of:

(a) the permanent liaison machinery between governments, the Economic Commission for Africa, and international financial and technical aid organizations necessary for the active development of a satisfactory sub-regional transportation and communications network;

(b) the permanent liaison between governments essential to achieve the best possible standardization of this transportation network, and the earliest possible simplification of frontier formalities;

(c) the secretarial duties for meetings of the technological experts of the governments of the West Coast sub-region to discuss the engineering and economic aspects of transportation and communications development in the sub-region;

Further resolves that, as a step in this direction, the Economic Commission for Africa convene as early as possible a meeting of Heads of Public Works, Chiefs of Highways, Heads of Telecommunications Services and Senior Officials in charge of other forms of transportation and communications in the Governments concerned to prepare the programme of work for the permanent organization.