



UNITED NATIONS
ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

Distr.
LIMITED

610707086

E/ECA/CM.8/L.14/Rev.1
22 April 1982

Original: ENGLISH

ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR AFRICA
Eighth Meeting of the Conference
of Ministers
Tripoli, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya
27-30 April 1982

CM.8/L.14 - Formulation and implementation of a programme for the Industrial
Development Decade for Africa

The Conference of Ministers,

Bearing in mind the decisions of the Heads of States and Government of the
Organization of African Unity on accelerated industrialization in Africa as
contained in the Monrovia Declaration,^{1/} the Lagos Plan of Action and the Final
Act of Lagos,^{2/}

Guided by and committed to the implementation of, the Lagos Plan of Action
which stresses the importance of the industrialization of the African region in
general and of each individual African country in particular as a fundamental
option in the total range of activities aimed at freeing Africa from under-development
and economic dependence,

Recognizing that the effective implementation of the Lagos Plan of Action will,
to a large extent, hinge on the accelerated development of the industrial sector,
as a supplier of essential inputs both to itself as well as to the other priority
sectors in the Lagos Plan, namely agriculture, transport and communications, energy,
trade and finance, and as a user of the outputs from these sectors,

Convinced of the vital significance for African countries of United Nations
General Assembly resolutions 35/66 (B) of 15 December 1980 proclaiming the 1980s
as the Industrial Development Decade for Africa and Part II of 36/182 of 17 December
1981 stressing the importance of the Decade for Africa,

1/ Conference of Ministers resolution.

2/ A/S-11/14, annexes 1 and 2.

Recalling resolution CM/Res.888 (XXXVII) of June 1981 adopted by the Organization of African Unity which, inter alia,

(a) welcomes the proclamation by the General Assembly of the 1980s as the Industrial Development Decade for Africa;

(b) requests all States members of the Organization of African Unity to take the necessary measures to draw up and implement specific programmes in the context of the Decade at the national, subregional and regional levels; and

(c) urges all relevant international organizations, especially the United Nations Development Programme, to increase, in accordance with United Nations General Assembly resolution 35/66 (B) of 15 December 1980 their technical and financial assistance to African countries for the preparation and implementation of the Decade Programme,

Recalling further resolution 1(vi) of 25 November 1981 by the sixth Conference of African Ministers of Industry on the adoption of proposals for the formulation and implementation of a programme for the Industrial Development Decade for Africa,

1. Endorses resolution 1 (vi) of the sixth Conference of African Ministers of Industry and the establishment of the joint ECA/OAU/UNIDO Inter-secretariat Committee on the Decade;

2. Calls upon all member countries individually and collectively to take steps as a matter of urgency, including the establishment of national co-ordinating committees and focal points and the organization of national workshops with the participation of all the relevant sectors and institutions to examine and adjust their development plans, with a view to incorporating, as appropriate, the concepts, guiding principles and objectives of the Industrial Development Decade Programme in their national economic perspectives and development plans;

3. Further calls upon each member country, as a matter of urgency, to identify the group of strategic and core industrial projects at both the national and the multinational levels which, by virtue of their interrelations, promote each others growth and development and which, through technical and economic linkages and complementarities, especially with priority sectors set out in the Lagos Plan of Action, would accelerate industrial and general economic development and growth;

4. Urges member countries to identify, assess and determine their industrial capacities and capabilities inter alia, for (i) the preparation and implementation of projects; (ii) the preparation, evaluation and negotiation of specifications, bids and contracts; (iii) the procurement of technology, plan, and management and consultancy services; (iv) Research and Development and training; and (v) production, marketing and distribution, which should be up-graded and integrated, to enable them individually and collectively gradually to meet their changing domestic needs for key consumer, intermediate and capital goods in accordance with the concepts, guiding principles and objectives of the Industrial Development Decade for Africa;

5. Recommends the adoption of a multinational approach and intra-African co-operation, as the most viable option in the African context, in the development of strategic and basic industries, particularly the metallurgical, chemical and engineering industries, which by virtue of their requirements for large markets and their role in providing key inputs for all economic activities, are crucial for self-reliant and self-sustaining development and economic growth;

6. Calls upon member countries to strengthen consultations among themselves with a view to facilitating collective action including consultations and negotiations with third parties and to establishing eventually an African mechanism for industrial consultations, negotiations and arbitration;

7. Calls upon member countries to provide information on arrangements for their national industrial workshops, as called upon in operative paragraph 2 above to enable the secretariats of the Commission, the Organization of African Unity and the United Nations Industrial Development Organization to programme their technical support/assistance in response to any request from countries;

8. Recommends that the closest relationship among appropriate organs of Government including those dealing with external relationships, should be established at the national level with a view to ensuring that international industrial negotiations and co-operation truly reflect the imperatives of the Decade as set out in the proposals for the Decade Programme;

9. Calls upon the Executive Secretary to take, in collaboration with the Secretary General of the Organization of African Unity, the Executive Director of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization and the Executive Secretary of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, vigorous steps to promote intra-African trade in industrial raw materials, intermediate and finished products in recognition of the crucial role of industrial trade in facilitating the implementation, at the national and multinational levels, of programmes and projects for the Industrial Development Decade for Africa;

10. Requests the Executive Secretary, the Executive Director of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization and the Secretary-General of the Organization of African Unity and the Executive heads of other international and African organizations to adjust their work programmes with a view to providing greater support to the member countries in their efforts to implement the Industrial Development Decade Programme and, in particular to:

(a) Assist member countries in undertaking appropriate realignment of their national development plans in the light of the Decade Programme, by providing of guide-lines, organizing national, subregional and regional workshops, assessing natural resources and national, capacities and capabilities, and identifying core projects as provided in operative paragraph 3 above, that can be implemented at the national and/or multinational level;

(b) Assist governments to strengthen existing, and develop new, capacities and capabilities in areas including those identified in operative paragraph 4 above for self-reliant and self-sustaining industrialization;

11. Urges the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme to increase, in accordance with the resolutions adopted by the General Assembly and the Organization of African Unity on the Decade, the amount of funds allocated to the industrial sector in its national and regional programme in Africa with a view to expanding the scope and volume of its assistance in the programming and implementation of the Decade programme at the national, subregional and regional levels;

12. Requests the Secretary-General of the United Nations to make available, in accordance with the relevant resolutions on the Decade, the necessary resources required to strengthen the secretariats of the Commission and the United Nations Industrial Development Organization and thus enable them to play their expected roles in assisting member countries to implement the industrial Development Decade for Africa; and

13. Calls upon the Executive Secretary to report regularly, in consultation with the Secretary-General of the Organization of African Unity and the Executive Director of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization to the meetings of the Commission through the Conference of African Ministers of Industry on the progress achieved in the implementation of the Industrial Development Decade for Africa.