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ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR AFRICA

Twelfth session
Third meeting of the Conference of Ministers
Nairobi, 24-28 February 1975

RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE CONFERENCE OF MINISTERS

280(XII). Remote Sensing Centre for Africa

The Conference of Ministers.

Recalling Commission resolutions 33(III) and 34(III) of 17 February 1961, 143(VII) of 22 February 1965, 164(VIII) of 24 February 1967, 238(XI) of 22 February 1973 and 239(XI) of 23 February 1973 noting the importance of scientific surveys of Africa's natural resources for development and of training of manpower to enable countries to exploit those resources, and expressing concern over the seriousness of environmental deterioration in Africa, especially in the Sudano-Sahelian zone as a result of drought,

Recalling further General Assembly resolution 3202(S-VI) of 1 May 1974 on the Programme of Action on the Establishment of a New International Economic Order, and particularly those of its provisions relating to the transfer of technology to developing countries for the exploration of natural resources,

Recalling further General Assembly resolutions 2915(XXVII) of 9 November 1972 and 3182(XXVIII) of 18 December 1973, which recommended international co-operation in the peaceful uses of outer space and welcomed international co-operation to bring the benefit of the new technology of remote sensing by earth satellites to all countries, especially developing countries, to help them to survey their natural resources,

Convinced that the exploration of Africa's natural resources and effective monitoring of environmental changes could be expedited through the use of remote sensing by earth resources satellites,

1. Notes with appreciation the steps already taken by the Executive Secretary towards the establishment of a Remote Sensing Centre in Africa in co-operation with international and bilateral sources;
2. Decides to establish a Regional International Remote Sensing Satellite Ground Receiving and Data Handling Centre in Africa;

3. Requests the Executive Secretary to take all necessary steps to ensure the establishment of such a Centre at an early date;

4. Further requests the Executive Secretary, in consultation with the Administrative Secretary-General of the Organization of African Unity, to invite offers from interested member States wishing to host such a centre.

183rd meeting.
28 February 1975.