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HOUSING PROBLEMS IN AFRICA

Resolution 53(IV) adopted by the Commission at its 75th Plenary Meeting
on 1 March 1962

The Economic Commission for Africa,

Conscious of the fundamental importance of better housing in Africa
for raising living standards,

Noting that housing needs, already acute, will merely become more
pronounced in both quality and quantity because of population pressure
and the present flight from the land, which will be quickened by the
desired industrial expansion,

Noting that the modernization of housing in Africa is a necessary
corollary to other social action, particularly in education and hygiene,

Convinced, further, that such modernization is one prerequisite
for the change in attitude demanded by economic and social development
policies,

Certain that a bold building policy is bound to contribute to the
expansion of the industrial sector,

Convinced that solutions to housing problems should be sought within
the general context of economic development and integrated into planning
programmes;

Requests the Executive Secretary to convene a conference of experts for the purpose of:

- (1) exchanging views on the present housing situation and the action so far taken on it;
- (2) defining as clearly as possible housing problems, their scope, and the requirements for their solution;
- (3) suggesting the general measures to be taken, with special reference to the national administrative bodies most useful and fit to facilitate the framing and implementation of housing policies;
- (4) proposing the ECA the organizational arrangements most suitable to ensure that housing problems shall be regularly and continuously studied within the Commission;

Recommends that the Executive Secretary report on this subject to the Commission at its next session.