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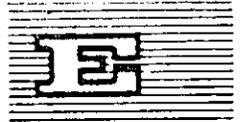


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CAIRO DECLARATION OF DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

(Document submitted by the Delegation of the UAR)

62-2357

CAIRO DECLARATION OF DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

A Conference on the Problems of Economic Development was held in Cairo from 9 - 18 July, 1962 and was sponsored by the following Countries: -

- | | |
|--------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Ceylon | 7. Libya |
| 2. Ethiopia | 8. Mali |
| 3. Ghana | 9. Sudan |
| 4. Guinea | 10. United Arab Republic |
| 5. India | 11. Yugoslavia |
| 6. Indonesia | |

In addition to Sponsoring Countries, the following countries participated in the Conference as full members: -

- | | |
|--------------------------|------------------|
| 12. Afghanistan | 22. Kuwait |
| 13. Algeria | 23. Lebanon |
| 14. Bolivia | 24. Mexico |
| 15. Brazil | 25. Morocco |
| 16. Burma | 26. Pakistan |
| 17. Cambodia | 27. Saudi Arabia |
| 18. Congo (Leopoldville) | 28. Somalia |
| 19. Cuba | 29. Tanganyika |
| 20. Cyprus | 30. Tunisia |
| 21. Federation of Malaya | 31. Yemen |

The following countries were represented by observers: -

- | | |
|---------------|---------------|
| 32. Chile | 35. Uruguay |
| 33. Ecuador | 36. Venezuela |
| 34. Singapore | |

The following International Organizations sent Observers: -

United Nations

Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations

The International Monetary Fund,
The International Bank for Reconstruction and Development,
The League of Arab States,
Organization of Afro-Asian Economic Co-operation.

After ten days of deliberations, in the course of which the Conference heard the statements of the Heads of Delegations dealing with the problems on the Agenda, the Conference decided to make the following declaration :

P R E A M B L E

1. The Conference views with concern the growing disparity in the standards of living prevailing in different parts of the world.
2. The Conference notes that despite universal acknowledgement of the necessity to accelerate the pace of development in less developed countries, adequate means of a concrete and positive nature have not been adopted to enable the developing countries to attain a reasonable rate of growth.
3. The Conference observes that the terms of trade continued to operate to the disadvantage of the developing countries, thus accentuating their unfavourable balance of payment position.
4. The Conference recognises that in order to ensure lasting peace and progress in the World, the developing countries must have the maximum opportunities and facilities to take the fullest advantage of their resources.

The developing countries have made progress in their economic development, in spite of unfavourable factors mainly inherited from a colonial past, relying primarily on their own resources, whilst making full use of such external assistance as has been made available to them, which assistance needs to be substantially increased.

5. The Conference acknowledges that as a result of the progress made by developing countries, new opportunities for international co-operation amongst the developing countries have been created and maximum advantage should be taken of those opportunities to formulate and

implement joint programmes and projects in the fields of education, research, technical assistance, trade, industry, transport and communication.

The Conference affirms that joint action by the developing countries themselves can solve many of their problems and will promote more rapid progress on a wider international basis.

6. The Conference recognises the importance of maximum mobilization of internal resources of the developing countries including the establishment of suitable institutions for this purpose.
7. The Conference recognises that the economic development of developing countries is meeting with increasing difficulties due partly to some international factors beyond their control and to tendencies which might have the result of perpetuating past structures of international economic relations.
8. The Conference recalling the United Nations Declaration on granting independence to dependent countries, urges complete decolonisation as being necessary for the economic development of the dependent peoples and the exercise of sovereign rights over their national resources.
9. The Conference affirms that the economic and social problems of developing countries could be solved effectively within a reasonably short period of time through common endeavour on the national and international plans and within the framework of United Nations Charter and of international cooperation and assistance.

INTERNAL PROBLEMS OF DEVELOPMENT

10. The Conference recognises that there are internal problems of economic development facing the developing countries, including the mobilisation of human, material and financial resources.
11. The Conference recognises that rapidly increasing per capita income through accelerated economic development should be the cardinal aim of developing countries.

12. The Conference recommends the drawing up and implementation of appropriate national development plans, as effective instruments of rapid economic growth.
13. Countries that suffer from the pressure of population on resources available should accelerate their rate of economic development, and in the meantime take appropriate legitimate measures to deal with their population problems.
14. The Conference recognises the need for developing countries to take appropriate measures of agricultural reforms for raising agricultural productivity.
15. The Conference stresses the importance of diversification and of industrialization in broadening the bases of the national economy, increasing the national income as well as in creating new job opportunities.
16. In order that this diversification and industrialisation bear fruit in the internal, inter-regional and international field, developing countries should improve the means of transportation and communication among them.
17. The Conference recognises that a deficiency, common to developing countries is the lack of adequate skilled manpower and of technically and scientifically trained personnel. It is therefore vital that all developing countries should launch more intensified programmes for imparting technical and scientific training to a much larger proportion of their population.
18. The Conference stresses the importance of the maintenance of financial and monetary stability, the encouragement of savings and the mobilisation of resources for economic development.
19. Public and institutional savings should be developed as major sources of domestic financing of development. In this respect, care should be taken to co-ordinate domestic sources of financing with the foreign resources available.
20. The mobilization of savings and formation of capital through proper utilization of human resources, in particular by community development techniques, should be given special care by the developing countries.

21. The experience gained by developing countries in their internal development is increasing continuously and it is of the greatest value for cooperation both among themselves and as between them and the developed countries.

- II -

CO-OPERATION AMONG DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

22. The Conference considers that expansion of trade between developing countries, particularly on a regional basis, can make a useful contribution to economic development and recommends that appropriate measures be taken to promote this objective.
23. The Conference calls upon the developing countries to undertake initiative for the promotion of mutual, bilateral and broader relations in the fields of trade, payments, financing, technical and scientific co-operation, industrial co-operation, transport and communications.
24. The furtherance of trade and co-operation between the developing countries necessitates the establishment of suitable means of transport and communications, between them in addition to the traditional trade routes and the provision of administrative and transit facilities.
25. The Conference took note of the concern expressed by certain landlocked countries regarding transit facilities, including access to the sea and recommends that appropriate facilities of access to the sea, the use of ports, transport and transit facilities should be extended to and from ports in the littoral countries.
26. The Conference is agreed that close co-operation should be established amongst developing countries producing primary commodities with a view to coping with marketing problems including improvement of quality, as well as other matters relating to the exchange of goods and services. Joint action should be taken to promote the study and forecasting of world market trends including fluctuation of prices, production stocks and consumption of raw materials.

27. The Conference recommends to the governments of participating countries to promote co-operation amongst themselves in all problems of common interest such as the implementation of projects of geological surveys, land reclamation, training centres, as well as in the preparation of investment projects and study of possibilities for financing them through national or international means.
28. The Conference particularly draws attention to the need of a more intensive study of problems relating to mutual trade of developing countries.

- III -

PROBLEMS OF INTERNATIONAL TRADE

29. The Conference notes that a rapid expansion in the export earnings of the developing countries is vital to their economic development.
30. The Conference is aware that the problems facing the developing countries in the field of international trade require continued action and mutual consultation on the part of developing countries and recommends that the governments of participating countries, as well as the governments of other developing countries to continue consultations in order to:
 - Exchange information and views between them on questions regarding economic relations with industrial countries.
 - Concert mutually the attitudes to be adopted by them with regard to economic questions examined by international organizations.
 - Exchange views and prepare the ground for concerted action in connection with any negative effects of integration policies of industrial countries.
31. The Conference invites the industrial countries to adopt as a matter of urgency, a programme of measures for the abolition of tariff and non-tariff and of all other discriminatory economic barriers adversely affecting the exports of developing countries.

32. The Conference urges, in the interest of producer and consumer countries alike, that concrete and resolute steps be taken within the framework of the United Nations Organization for the purpose of stabilising international primary commodity markets in short-term as well as in the long run, on a fair and remunerative basis and taking into consideration the trend of prices of manufactured goods.
33. The Conference urges the Governments of the participating countries to continue studying the problems with a view to initiating regional or world-wide programmes of stabilisation. To this end the Conference urges the industrially advanced countries to operate their stock disposal programmes without jeopardising the interests of primary commodity producing countries.
34. The Conference recommends the immediate and energetic implementation of the programme of action adopted by GATT with a view to improving the prospects of the exports of developing countries.
35. The Conference invites the participating Governments to co-operate effectively within the frame-work of GATT for the purpose of protecting their common interests.
36. At the same time, the Conference considers the establishment of an international compensatory financing system, a matter of great urgency and invites the International Monetary Fund to examine the undertaking of measures for a more effective balancing of payments of developing countries.

- IV -

REGIONAL ECONOMIC GROUPINGS

37. The Conference expresses its apprehension that regional economic groupings of industrialised countries will adversely affect the interests of the developing economies, if conceived and operated in a restrictive or discriminatory manner.

38. The Conference considers that international trade should expand on the basis of equality and non-discrimination and that actions should be taken to minimise the consequences of the various economic communities and associations of the industrialised countries on the economies of the developing countries as well as on world trade.
39. Such action should take the form of the industrialised countries adopting positive and continued measures to ensure that exports of developing countries to their markets are enabled to expand steadily on a non discriminatory basis, with a view to enable the developing countries to rectify their balance of payments position.
40. The Conference urges that where any revised tariff arrangement and non-tariff barriers adversely affect the interests of any of the developing countries, measures should be adopted in which would counteract such adverse effects.
41. The Conference considered the possible impacts of economic groupings on the economy of developing countries and agreed that in formulating their policy of economic relations with the industrial economic groupings, the developing countries should take into consideration the effects of such relations on their programme of industrialization and on their trade structure.

- V -

ECONOMIC AID FOR DEVELOPMENT

42. The Conference affirms its support for international aid based on mutual respect and common benefit, and recognises the usefulness to developing countries of all aid given on this basis.
43. The Conference notes that the present volume of international aid, although it has contributed to the development of developing countries, is not sufficient and its forms and methods are not wholly satisfactory. This results in widening the gap between developed and developing countries, and by diminishing the quantum of trade, affects adversely world economic activity and progress. Consequently, the demand for imports from and level of economic activity in the

- the industrial countries are adversely affected.
44. The distribution of international aid has also tended in the past to be uneven and the Conference urges that steps be taken to correct this situation.
 45. The Conference particularly draws attention to the necessity of ensuring the continuity of international assistance as well as the necessity of integrating international assistance with national economic development plans and programmes.
 46. The Conference emphasises that international financing must be designed to promote the economic and social development and economic emancipation of developing countries, which can be best achieved through public financing in the form of low-interest, long-term credits and other forms that do not burden unduly the balances of payments of developing countries.
 47. The Conference urges that the financing of projects through IBRD and IDA and other international institutions be further expanded.
 48. The Conference appeals that the recommendation of the General Assembly concerning the allocation of 1 % of the combined national incomes of the economically advanced countries for the economic development of developing countries be implemented as a matter of urgency.
 49. The Conference stresses that the general tasks of international financing can be achieved in the most adequate way through channelling of such assistance to a greater extent through the United Nations and urges, therefore, that SUNFED should start its work without delay in accordance with Resolution 1521/XV of the General Assembly of the United Nations.
 50. The Conference appeals to the economically developed countries to increase, in accordance with the recommendations of the General Assembly of the United Nations, the volume of international financial aid for development and to implement as soon as possible the solemn Declaration embodied in the United Nations General Assembly Resolution 724 A(VIII) on the allocation of a portion of any savings resulting from disarmament to a fund for the economic development of developing countries.

- VI -

INTERNATIONAL TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

51. The Conference recognises that the lack of adequate skilled manpower and trained personnel is one of the major obstacles to economic growth in the developing countries. Thus, all measures intended to develop scientific, technological and human resources in such countries become of vital importance.
52. In this respect, the programme of international technical co-operation conducted by the United Nations and other mutual programmes of technical assistance have been and should continue to be of great value and help to developing countries.
53. Technical, professional and managerial training in developing countries must be carried on at a rate far exceeding what would be justified by their own financial resources. The Conference urges therefore a substantial increase in the funds provided by the United Nations and advanced countries for training activities.
54. Increasing efforts should be made to adapt scientific research and technological developments to the specific conditions and requirements of the developing countries.
55. The Conference recommends that measures be taken to increase the exchange of experts and technicians between the developing countries on the one hand and among the developing and developed countries on the other hand.

- VII -

UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES

56. The Conference invites the participating countries to co-operate closely in the United Nations and other international bodies with a view to ensuring economic progress and strengthening peace among all nations.

57. In this sense, the Conference recommends to the governments of participating countries to strengthen the economic and social activities of the United Nations.
58. The Conference welcomes the initiative of the United Nations expressed in the General Assembly Resolution 1707/XVI entitled "International trade as a primary instrument for economic development."
59. The Conference declares itself resolutely in favour of the holding of an international economic Conference within the framework of the United Nations, and calls upon developing countries to work for the convening of this Conference at an early date, in 1963.
60. The Conference recommends that the agenda of the international economic conference should include all vital questions relating to international trade, primary commodity trade, economic relations between developing and developed countries.
61. The Conference welcomes the aims of the "United Nations Development Decade" and urges the taking of adequate measures for the implementation of these aims, considering that the activities of the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations should be particularly intensified in this respect, and recommends the participating countries to co-operate effectively towards the achievement of the targets set.
62. The Conference recommends that the participating countries take full advantage of the forthcoming Conference of the United Nations on the application of Science and Technology for the benefit of the developing countries, including the possibility of establishing an agency for science and technology for the promotion of the technological advancement and the building up of the scientific structure in the developing countries.
63. The Conference recommends to the United Nations that the Executive Secretaries of the regional economic commissions, meet periodically to discuss matters of common interest with a view to promoting economic co-operation between the Regions and to make available periodical reports about the same.

- VIII -

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FURTHER CO-OPERATION

64. The Conference requests its Chairman to transmit its Declaration formally to the Governments of participating and other interested countries and to the Secretary-General of the United Nations so as to be included in the agenda of the Seventeenth Session of the General Assembly of the United Nations as a separate item.
65. The Conference urges the participating countries to keep continuously in touch with each other on all matters relevant to the implementation of the conclusions of the Conference.
66. In particular consultations should be established, whenever appropriate, to ensure co-operation between the participating countries in the presentation of the conclusions reached in Cairo both in the meetings of the United Nations General Assembly and of other international agencies.
67. In order to ensure the effective continuity of their economic efforts, the participating countries agreed to call meetings, seminars, expert groups and Conferences that will further the development aims of developing countries as well as the cause of a just and equitable economic co-operation among all Nations.
68. In view of the proposed United Nations World Trade Conference, mutual consultations and studies should be initiated to ensure the proper presentation of the points of view of the developing countries in the Conference.
69. The Conference invites the developing countries to co-operate closely with a view to ensuring economic progress and strengthening Peace among Nations.

The Conference wishes to express its warmest thanks and sincere gratitude to His Excellency President Gamal Abdel Nasser for his inspiring inaugural address and for the interest that he has shown for the work and success of the Conference.

The Conference wishes to express its appreciation to the Government and people of the United Arab Republic for the warm hospitality and welcome that have been extended to it during the period of its deliberations.

The Conference wishes likewise to express sincere gratitude to His Excellency Dr. Abdel Moneim El Kaissouny for his able and wise Chairmanship of the Conference.