AFRICAN COMMON MARKET

Resolution 100 (VI) adopted by the Commission at its 111th plenary meeting on 28 February 1964

The Economic Commission for Africa,

Recalling its resolution 86(V) of 2 March 1963 whereby it requested the Executive Secretary "to undertake intensive studies on the major problems of an African common market, having particular regard to the balanced integration of economic development in the various African countries";

Noting that the report submitted by the secretariat (E/CN.14/STC/20) to the Standing Committee on Trade is in the words of its foreword, merely, "a modest first response to this resolution", and that the same report states in paragraph 97 that "Information on quantitative restrictions applied by African countries is scarce and difficult to analyse";

Considering that the study of such restrictions, their raison d'etre and the possibilities of removing them is an essential part of a study of the possibilities of establishing an African common market,

Recognising that the study of the possibilities and methods of harmonising development plans is still in the exploratory stage,

Noting that the reports submitted to it do not deal fully with the effects of establishing an African common market on the revenues of African States, which for the time being are to a large extent derived from import and export duties,
1. Notes with appreciation the work already done by the Executive Secretary and his staff in the direction of the creation of an African common market;

2. Endorses the programme of action outlined in document E/CN.14/261 in respect of African common market and customs, and requests the Executive Secretary to report to the Commission at its seventh session on the progress achieved;

3. Requests the Executive Secretary to pay particular attention to:

(a) The quantitative restrictions at present imposed on the movement of goods between African States and the possibilities of removing them;

(b) The possibilities of increasing trade between African States by a fair distribution of productive activities, in particular of industries processing the particular natural resources of each State;

(c) The means of ensuring that the taxes imposed on those industries the demand for whose goods increases as a result of the African common market are fairly distributed amongst African States so as to compensate for any eventual losses in revenue suffered by States which replace imports from outside Africa by imports of African goods;

(d) The progress made in the field of monetary co-operation between African States on the basis of the results of the periodical meetings of high African monetary authorities.