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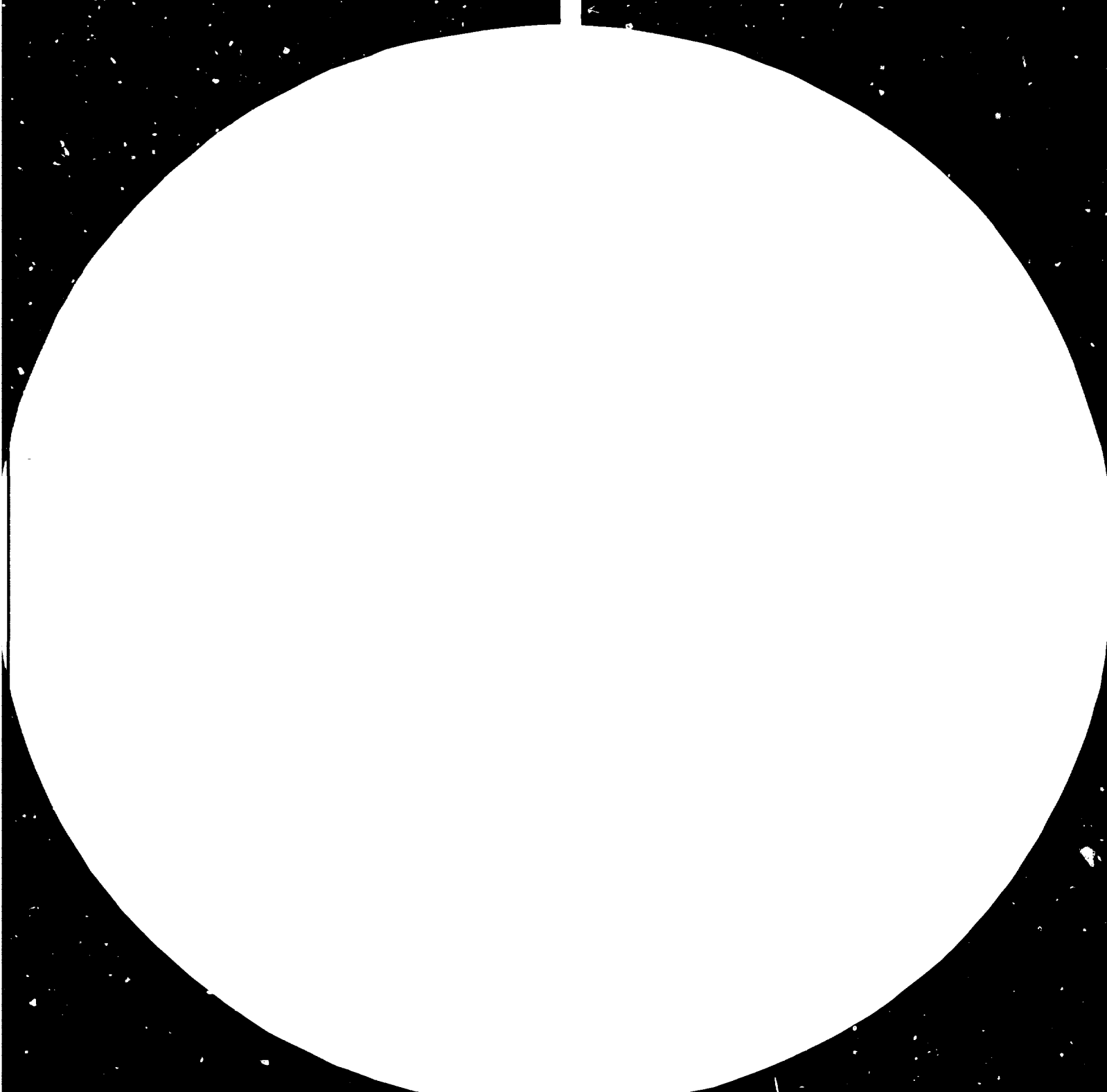
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ENGLISH

UNIDO'S PARTICIPATION IN THE 37TH ORDINARY SESSION  
OF THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS

AND THE

18TH ASSEMBLY OF HEADS OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT OF THE  
ORGANIZATION OF AFRICAN UNITY ,

90107

Mission report\*\*;

UNIDO participation, assembly of OAU.

by

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and

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\* Documents in this series formerly bore the symbol UNIDO/EX.

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## I. INTRODUCTION

### Background

At the invitation of Mr. Edem Kodjo, Secretary General of the Organization of African Unity (OAU). UNIDO participated as an observer at the Thirty-Seventh Ordinary Session of the Council of Ministers and the Eighteenth Ordinary Session of the Assembly of the Heads of State and Government of the OAU from 15 to 27 June 1981.

### UNIDO Delegation

The UNIDO representatives at the Meeting of the Council of Ministers which took place from 15 to 26 June 1981 consisted of Messrs. D.C. Ganao, Director, Division of Conference Services, Public Information and External Relations (Team Leader), K. Ahmed, Head, Personnel Service, M. Luqman, Officer-in-Charge, Governments and Intergovernmental Organizations Relations Section, G. Bekele, Senior Industrial Development Field Adviser, W. Okumu, Head, Co-ordination Unit for the Industrial Development Decade for Africa and S. Ndam, Technical Assistant to the Deputy Executive Director. The Executive Director joined the team on 25 June and led the UNIDO delegation to the Assembly of the Heads of State and Government, which took place from 24 to 27 June.

### Organization of the Meeting

The Meeting of the Council of Ministers, after its inauguration on 15 June, presentation of general statements, and election of officers, was split into three parts, the Plenary, mainly concerned with political, legal, and OAU administrative and institutional matters, and two Committees: Committee A, also dealing with some political, administrative and institutional matters referred to it by the Plenary; and Committee B, dealing with economic, scientific, social and cultural issues, as well as related administrative and institutional matters.

The Plenary was presided over by the Chairman of the Council of Ministers H E. Robert J. Ouku, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Kenya; Committee A by the First Vice-Chairman of the Council of Ministers,

H.E. Alioune Blendin Beye, Minister for Foreign Affairs and Co-operation of Mali; and Committee B by Ali Elhendu, on behalf of the Second Vice-Chairman of the Council of Ministers, H.E. Abdul Ali Al Obedi, Secretary, the Peoples Bureau for External Relations of Libya. Rwanda was elected as Rapporteur for the Plenary and Committee Meetings and was assisted by a Drafting Committee consisting of Algeria, Cameroon, Chad, Ethiopia, Ghana, Malawi, Mauritania, Morocco, Mozambique, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Somalia and Zaire. The agenda of the Meeting of the Council of Ministers, as well as of its Committees are attached as Annexes I, II and III.

The Meeting of the Assembly of the Heads of State and Government was, after the opening ceremony on 24 July and election of Officers, chaired by H.E. Daniel T. Arap Moi, President of Kenya and current Chairman of the OAU. The agenda of the Meeting is attached as Annex IV.

A complete set of the documents reproduced for the meetings of the Council of Ministers and of the Summit is available in the Governments and Intergovernmental Organizations Relations Section.

#### Participants

The Meeting of the Council of Ministers was attended by delegations from all 50 member states of the OAU. Most of the delegations were led by the respective Ministers of Foreign Affairs of each country. Over 32 UN and other international, regional and sub-regional organizations sent observers to the Meeting.

The Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the OAU was attended by 35 Heads of State or Government. The other countries were represented by either special envoys or by their respective Ministers of Foreign Affairs.

## II UNIDO PARTICIPATION

### A. Meeting of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government

The deliberations at the meeting of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government were entirely devoted to political issues. The Assembly took note of the reports of the Secretary-General of the OAU and endorsed the respective resolutions which had been adopted by the Council of Ministers at its 36th and 37th Ordinary Sessions.

The Secretary-General of the United Nations briefly addressed the Assembly during its inaugural session. The statement by the Executive Director of UNIDO was reproduced and circulated among all participants and observers. A copy of the statement is attached as Annex V. It is worth noting that the Executive Director was received by a number of Heads of State and Government and Ministers including the Presidents of Kenya, Rwanda, Mauritania, Burundi and Uganda, the Vice-President and Minister for Finance, Kenya and by the Ministers for Foreign Affairs and Industry of Kenya. Mr. Ganao also met a number of Ministers for Foreign Affairs and Heads of Delegations.

The 19th Ordinary Session of the Assembly of the Heads of State and Government of the OAU and the 39th Ordinary Session of the Council of Ministers is scheduled to take place in Libya around the same time in 1982. The venue of the 38th Ordinary Session of the Council of Ministers is not yet known and should no country offer to host it, this will take place at the seat of the OAU Secretariat in Addis Ababa. The date of these meetings has not yet been fixed.

### B. Meeting of the Council of Ministers

The UNIDO delegation to the Meeting of the Council of Ministers made contacts with various government delegations concerning various matters of interest to UNIDO. These included co-operation with and assistance to the OAU Secretariat, signature/ratification of the Constitution of UNIDO as a UN specialized agency; promotion of the UNIDF and general briefing on UNIDO's programmes and activities especially in Africa. Useful discussions were also held with several representatives of several regional, sub-regional and pan-African intergovernmental organizations and UN agencies which participated at the meetings. The UNIDO delegation was distributed to follow-up in the meetings of the Plenary, Committee A and Committee B of the

Council of Ministers.

1) Meeting of the Plenary

Discussions in the Plenary of the Council of Ministers concentrated on political issues with no direct interest to UNIDO. It is however worth noting that in the report of the Secretary General on the activities of the Organization covering the period March to June 1981, UNIDO was mentioned, as in the past, as one of the UN Agencies effectively cooperating with the OAU including direct assistance to the OAU General Secretariat.

The only economic activity considered by the Plenary concerned Afro-Arab Cooperation. In this regard, the Council of Ministers adopted Resolution CM/RES.862 (Annex VI ) (XXXVII) which, inter alia endorsed the decisions reached during the last meeting of the Secretariats of the OAU and the Arab League concerning:-

the organization of a joint Conference of African and Arab private sector representatives;

a study on the promotion of Afro-Arab trade;

the establishment of an Afro-Arab cultural fund and research centre;

the organization of a joint Afro-Arab seminar on the Amman Plan of Action and strategy;

the organization of an Afro-Arab Conference of Donors with a view of implementing a multilateral Plan of Action; and

the organization of meetings of African and Arab Specialized Agencies with similar and complementary vocations for the implementation of the Lagos Plan of Action and the Final Act of Lagos.

The resolution also requests the Secretary General of the OAU to take the necessary follow-up action for the early convening of the standing commission and the joint Afro-Arab Ministerial Conference with a view to preparing for an Afro-Arab Summit.

In the light of the above, it is recommended that the Governments and Intergovernmental Organizations Relations Section, in cooperation with the Section for Economic Co-operation among Developing Countries, should take the necessary follow-up action to ensure that UNIDO's possible involvement, in the context of UNIDO's assistance to the OAU, is realized.



2) Meetings of Committee A

Discussions in the meetings of Committee A were concentrated largely on those political issues assigned to it by the Plenary. There are however, two issues which bear more relevance to UNIDO's activities. These concern the UN Conference on the Law of the Sea and the International Conference on Assistance to Refugees in Africa. The only Declaration CM/ST.20 (XXXVII) adopted by the Council of Ministers was on the UN Conference on the Law of the Sea. The Declaration highlights, among other things, the need for each African Country to undertake measures for greater control and protection of the exploitation of the resources in its territorial waters.

Concerning the International Conference on Assistance to Refugees in Africa, the Committee noting with satisfaction the successful conclusion of the Conference, recognized the need for greater emphasis to be placed for future action on the eradication of the fundamental causes for refugees in Africa. The council of Ministers also called for action to be undertaken by the OAU, the UN and the UN High Commission for Refugees in Africa for the effective utilization of the funds pledged during the Conference.

Another point discussed by the meeting of Committee A concerned the meeting on Cooperation between the OAU and the Organizations of the UN system which took place in Geneva in April 1981. The Committee expressed its support for the conclusions of the meeting and the decision to hold a subsequent meeting in 1982. It however drew special attention on the personnel policies of the UN with the view to establish a common African position during the discussions of this matter in the UN General Assembly. Consequently, the Committee, among other things, requested the African Group in New York to take all the possible measures to ensure that Africans holding posts of responsibility at the Secretariat, were accorded authority commensurate with their status.

No specific follow-up action is necessary from UNIDO concerning the Declaration on the UN Conference on the Law of the Sea and the decisions related to the International Conference on Assistance to Refugees in Africa. With regard to the meeting on Cooperation between the OAU and the Organizations within the UN system, it is recommended that the Governments and Intergovernmental Organizations Relations Section should

co-ordinate the necessary follow-up action by UNIDO, on the decisions reached by the meeting in Geneva. In this connexion, the Section is requested to prepare a progress report on this matter by 31 October 1981. The attention of Personnel Services is drawn to the recommendations of the OAU Council of Ministers on personnel matters in the UN and is requested to follow-up developments on the matters particularly with regards to their implications in UNIDO.

3) Meetings of Committee B

UNIDO's participation in the meeting of the Council of Ministers was concentrated in Committee B which, as in the past, handles economic, social and cultural development activities of the OAU. The matters discussed by the Committee of primary importance to UNIDO were related to the implementation of the Lagos Plan of Action and the Final Act of Lagos; the Industrial Development Decade for Africa; the Development of Industrial and Technological Manpower in Africa and the Development of Telecommunications Industry in Africa. All the matters also discussed by the Committee related to the activities of UNIDO, included Transfer of Technology; Economic Cooperation among Developing Countries; the Paris Conference on the LDC's; the UN Conference on New and Renewable Sources of Energy, and the UN Transport and Communications Decade for Africa.

a) Implementation of the Lagos Plan of Action and the Final Act of Lagos

With regards to the implementation of the Lagos Plan of Action and the Final Act of Lagos, the Committee welcomed the work so far carried out by the OAU, particularly its Operational Work Programme for the period 1982-1983. The Committee once again urged all UN and International Organizations to provide the requisite assistance to all African countries on the whole as well as to Regional and Sub-regional Organizations in particular for the implementation of the Lagos Plan of Action and the Final Act of Lagos. A special appeal was made to all UN Organizations to reinforce their assistance to the OAU Secretariat for the implementation of the relevant aspects of its operational work programme.

In the light of the above, it is recommended that the Governments and Intergovernmental Organizations Relations Section should prepare, in consultation with the relative Divisions in UNIDO, a progress report on the actions taken by UNIDO in assisting the OAU, and take the necessary follow-up action to co-ordinate the input from the various UNIDO Divisions for the assistance to the OAU. The Programme Development and Evaluation

Branch is also requested to intensify this action by co-ordinating the expansion of UNIDO's assistance to the African countries, particularly the regional and sub-regional Organizations for the implementation of those aspects of the Lagos Plan of Action and the Final Act of Lagos involving Industrial Development.

b) Industrial Development Decade for Africa

The Committee noted with satisfaction the resolution adopted by the UN Assembly by which the 1980's were declared as the Industrial Development Decade for Africa. It also noted with satisfaction the actions taken by the OAU, UNIDO and the ECA for the implementation of the UN General Assembly resolution. During the discussions on this matter, UNIDO made an intervention which, inter alia, stressed the need for all African countries to urgently sign and ratify the constitution of UNIDO as a specialized agency. The deliberations of the Committee on this matter culminated with the adoption of resolution CM/RES.886 (Annex VII) (XXXVII) on Industrial Development in Africa. The Resolution in addition to reiterating the decisions of the UN General Assembly on the Industrial Development Decade for Africa, requests the OAU member states to take, with the assistance of UNIDO and the UNDP, necessary measures to draw up and implement specific programmes in the context of the Declaration at the national, regional and sub-regional levels. It invites the Conference of African Ministers of Industry scheduled to take place in Kampala to provide a common African policy guidance and to adopt a framework for the programme of the Declaration. The resolution also expresses the profound gratitude of the African countries to UNIDO for its sustained technical assistance given to the continent and consequently, strongly supports the measures recently taken by the Organization to re-orientate its policy in favour of the developing countries. It therefore urges all member states which have not done so, to ratify as a matter of urgency, the constitution of UNIDO.

In the light of the above, the Governments and Intergovernmental Organizations Relations Section and the Unit for the Industrial Development Decade for Africa, should undertake the necessary follow-up action for the implementation of this resolution. A progress report should be prepared and submitted to the Executive Director by Friday, 13 November 1981, on the status of the implementation of the resolution.

c) Development of Industrial and Technological Manpower in Africa.

During the discussion of the report of the Secretary General and the Sixth Meeting of the Scientific Council for Africa, it was noted that the development of industrial and technological manpower in Africa was adopted by the Scientific Council for Africa as a priority area of activity. The Committee thus welcomed the joint actions undertaken by UNIDO and the OAU/STFC in the preparation of a draft study on the subject and urged that follow-up action should be undertaken in the form of an African Regional Conference on the study. The Conference would in addition be adopting a framework of a programme of action and guidelines to assist the African countries in the development of their industrial and technological manpower also establish an African common position on the UNIDO Global Consultation Meeting on Industrial Training, particularly related to the necessary follow-up action. The Council of Ministers therefore adopted resolution CM/RES.880 (Annex VIII)(XXXVII) on the subject. In addition to the above, the resolution calls for the involvement of the Regional Centre for Technology for the joint actions already under way on this matter, and urges all African countries to fully participate in the UNIDO Global Consultation Meeting on Industrial Training including assistance by the UNDP and UNIDO to facilitate the participation of African countries especially the least developed ones, in the meeting. The resolution also calls upon UNDP, UNIDO, UNESCO, ECA and the ARCT to take urgent action for the production of a list of African Engineers and Scientists.

In the light of the above, the Negotiations Branch and the Training Branch should undertake, in close cooperation with the Technology Group and the Unit for the Industrial Development Decade for Africa, all the necessary follow-up action to ensure the full implementation of this resolution.

d) Development of Telecommunications Industry in Africa

During discussions of the report of the Secretary General on the Specialized Agencies of the OAU, appreciation was expressed for UNIDO's assistance to the Union of African Railways and the Pan-African Telecommunications Union. A statement was presented on behalf of UNIDO which indicated the positive cooperation which UNIDO has developed and enjoys with these Organizations. The representative of PATU expressed disappointment for the reduction of the joint programme developed by PATU and UN for the development of telecommunications industry in Africa which was presented at the UNDP Inter-Agency Meeting on the Regional Programme for the Third Programming Cycle for Africa. In view of the great importance

attached to this sector by the African countries, resolution CM/RES.902 (Annex D) (XXXVII) was adopted.

This recommended that the Programme Development and Evaluation Branch and the Engineering Industries Section should take the necessary follow-up action for the implementation of this resolution.

e) Other matters of interest to UNIDO

As indicated earlier, the Committee also discussed matters related to Transfer of Technology, Economic Co-operation among Developing Countries, Paris Conference on the LDC's, UN Conference on New and Renewable Sources of Energy and the UN Transport and Communications Decade for Africa, all of which have some relevance to UNIDO's activities. During the deliberations of the Committee on these matters, UNIDO made an intervention highlighting its contribution in these activities. In view of the importance which the African countries attach to these matters, resolution CM/RES.884 (Annex X) (XXXVII); CM/RES.900 (Annex XI)(XXXVII); CM/RES.880 (Annex VIII) (XXXVII); CM/RES.891 and 889 were adopted respectively on each of the above mentioned areas.

In the light of the above, it is recommended that each of the units in UNIDO directly involved with the above mentioned areas of activities should examine the resolutions and identify to what extent UNIDO could make a contribution as well as to utilize the information in improving UNIDO's activities in Africa.

### III. CONCLUSION

As far as UNIDO is concerned, the 37th Ordinary Session of the OAU Council of Ministers and the 18th Assembly of Heads of State and Government, revealed once more the high priority which the African Governments attach to UNIDO. The contribution of UNIDO to the African countries was not only recognized, but also greatly appreciated. Full support was given to the new policy direction being adopted to reinforce UNIDO's activities in favour of the developing countries.

The above poses a great challenge to UNIDO to respond more effectively and expeditiously to the needs and requirements of the African countries. This calls for the full cooperation of all the relevant units of UNIDO, especially those which have direct involvement in programmes of assistance to the African countries. It is worth underlining the importance of UNIDO making a success of the Industrial Development Decade for Africa. This requires more imaginative and creative approaches so that the Decade could a real contribution to African Industrial and Economic Development.

In order to maintain an effective co-ordination, it is considered necessary, as in the past, to keep the Governments and Intergovernmental Organizations Relations Section fully informed of all actions being initiated or carried out in Africa especially actions of assistance to the OAU, and regional and sub-regional Organizations. This Section will, in cooperation with the Programme Development and Evaluation Branch, the Unit for the Industrial Development Decade for Africa, prepare periodic reports on actions taken for the implementation of the decisions of the OAU meetings related to UNIDO.

AGENDA OF THE PLENARY

1. Report of the Secretary-General on the Activities of the Organization covering the period March-June 1981
  - (a) Introduction to the Report of the Secretary-General on the Activities of the Headquarters ..... CM/1120 (XXXVII) PART I
  - (b) Activities of the OAU General Secretariat CM/1120 (XXXVII) PART II  
Rev. 1
  
2. Political Matters
  - (a) Report of the Thirty-Seventh Session of the OAU Co-ordinating Committee for the Liberation of Africa .... CM/1123 (XXXVII)
  - (b) Report of the OAU Secretary-General on the Middle East .....  
CM/1125 (XXXVII)
  - (c) Report of the OAU Secretary-General on the Palestine Question ..... CM/1126 (XXXVII)
  - (d) Establishment of an OAU Political Security Council .....  
CM/1118 (XXXVI)
  - (e) Report of the OAU Secretary-General on the Indian Ocean Islands of Glorious, Juan de Nova, Europa and Bassas-da-India  
CM/1132 (XXXVII)
  
3. Economic and Co-operation Matters

Report of the Secretary-General on Afro-Arab Co-operation .....  
CM/1150 (XXXVII)
  
4. Institutional and Legal Matters

Report of the Secretary-General on Human and People Rights Charter ..... CM/1149 (XXXVII)
  
5. Financial Matters
  - (a) Application for Exemption by Central African Republic .....  
CM/1122 (XXXVII)
  
6. Items Proposed by Member States
  - (a) World Charter en Nature (Proposed by Zaire) CM/1119 (XXXVII) Add. 4
  - (b) Aggression of Israel against Iraq (7 June 1981)  
(Proposed by Algeria) ..... CM/1119 (XXXVII) Add. 7

AGENDA OF COMMITTEE A

Item I

- |   |                        |
|---|------------------------|
| (a) Fact-Finding Mission in Lesotho   | CM/1152 (XXXVII)       |
| (b) Meeting of the OAU Secretariat and the Secretariats of the United Nations Agencies                      | CM/1153 (XXXVII)       |
| (c) Report of the OAU Committee of Nineteen   | CM/1128 (XXXVII)       |
| (d) Report of the OAU Secretary-General on the Activities of the OAU Standing Committee on Sanctions        | CM/1127 (XXXVII)       |
| (e) Report of the OAU Secretary-General on the International Conference on Assistance to Refugees in Africa | CM/1130 (XXXVII) Rev.1 |
| (f) Report on the Fourteenth Session of the OAU Committee of Fifteen on Refugees in Africa                  | CM/1131 (XXXVII)       |
| (g) Report of the Seventh Ordinary Session of the Defence Commission  | CM/1151 (XXXVII)       |
| (h) Report of the Secretary-General on the Joint OAU/UN Conference on Sanctions Against South Africa        | CM/1129 (XXXVII)       |

Item II: Cultural, Scientific, Social and Educational Matters

Report of the Secretary-General on the Session of the UN Conference on the Law of the Sea

CM/1144 (XXXVII)

Item III: Legal and Institutional Matters

Progress Report of the Secretary-General on the Review of the Charter of the Organization of African Unity

CM/1148 (XXXVII)

Item IV: Items proposed by Member States

- |  |                        |
|--|------------------------|
| (a) Setting up of an OAU Boundaries Committee (item proposed by Nigeria)                                   | CM/1119 (XXXVII) Add.1 |
| (b) Application for OAU Observer Status by the Inter-African Coffee Organization (proposed by Ivory Coast) | CM/1119 (XXXVII) Add.5 |



AGENDA OF COMMITTEE B

1. Cultural, Scientific, Social and Educational Matters

- (a) Report of the Secretary-General on the 5th Ordinary Session of the OAU Labour Commission CM/1140 (XXXVII)
  - (i) Strengthening of the ILO Regional Office for Africa in Addis Ababa CM/1140 (XXXVII) Add.1
- (b) Report of the Third Conference of African Ministers of Social Affairs (for information) CM/1095 (XXXVI) AMSA/VII
- (c) Report of the Secretary General on the United Nations World Conference on the Integration of Women in Development CM/1142 (XXXVII)
- (d) Report of the Secretary-General on the Sixth Meeting of the Scientific Council for Africa CM/1145 (XXXVII)
- (e) Report of the Secretary-General on the First OAU Inter-African Soil Congress CM/1146 (XXXVII)
- (f) Report of the Secretary-General on Animal Resources in Africa: Development and Disease Control CM/1147 (XXXVII)
- (g) Report of the Secretary-General on the Competition for the selection of an OAU Anthem CM/1141 (XXXVII)
- (h) Report of the Rapporteur of the Programme Committee for the Celebration of the Tenth OAU Anniversary on the Film of the OAU CM/1141 (XXXVII) Annex
- (i) Establishment of an Inter-African Cultural Fund CM/1143 (XXXVII)

2. Economic and Co-operation Matters

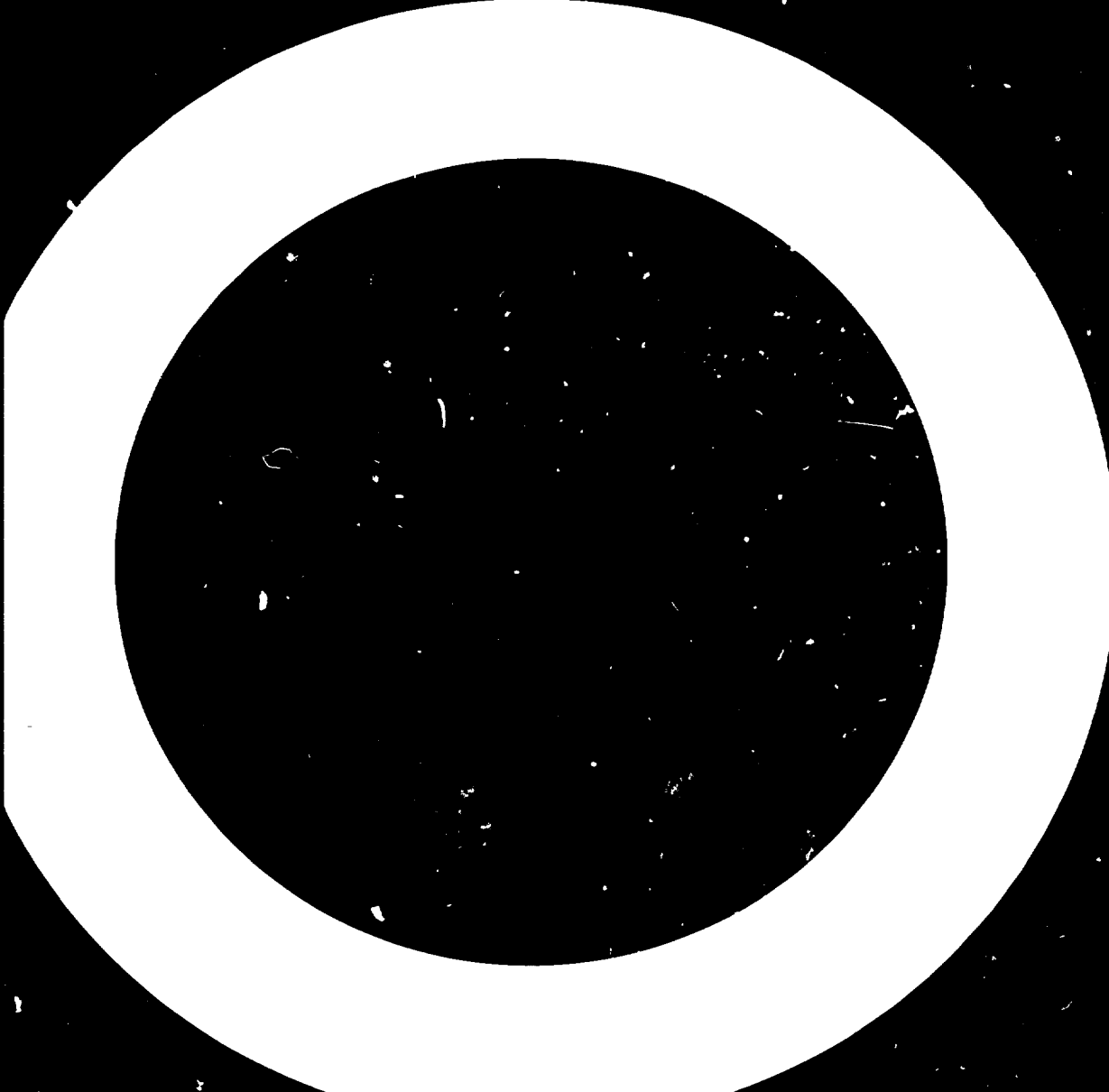
- (a) Report of the OAU Secretary-General on the Code of Conduct on the Transfer of Technology CM/1133 (XXXVII)
- (b) Progress Report of the Secretary-General on measures taken for the Implementation of the Lagos Plan of Action and Final Act CM/1134 (XXXVII)
  - i) Operational Work programme for the period 1982-1983 for the Implementation of the Lagos Plan of Action and Final Act (for information) CM/1134 (XXXVII) Annex I
  - ii) Proposed outline of a Draft Treaty establishing the African Economic Community CM/1134 (XXXVII) Annex II
  - iii) Paris Conference on the Least Developed Countries (item proposed by Mali) CM/1119 (XXXVII) Add.6

- (c) Report of the Secretary-General on the Implementation of the Programme of the Industrial Development Decade for Africa CM/1135 (XXXVII)
- (d) Report of the Secretary-General on the Ministerial Conference of the Group of 77 on Economic Co-operation among Developing Countries CM/1136 (XXXVII)
- (e) Report of the Secretary-General on the Implementation of the Programme of the UN Transport and Communications Decade for Africa CM/1137 (XXXVII)
- (f) Report of the Secretary-General on PANAFTEL Co-ordination Committee CM/1138 (XXXVII)
- (g) Report of the Secretary-General on the Third African Telecommunications Conference CM/1139 (XXXVII)
3. Report of the Secretary-General on the Activities of the Organization covering the period March-June 1981
- (a) Activities of the OAU Regional and Subregional Offices CM/1120 (XXXVII) Part III
- (b) Activities of OAU Specialized Agencies CM/1120 (XXXVII) Part IV
4. Financial Matters
- Report of the Ad Hoc Committee on the Review of the Scale of Assessment of the Organization of African Unity CM/1121 (XXXVII) Rev.1
5. Items Proposed by Member States
- (a) Regional Representation on the Administrative Council of the International Telecommunications Union (ITU) (Proposed by Botswana) CM/1119 (XXXVII) Add.2
- (b) Re-election of Mr. Mohamed Meli to the Post of Secretary-General of the International Telecommunications Union (Proposed by Tunisia) CM/1119 (XXXVII) Add.3

ASSEMBLY OF HEADS OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT  
EIGHTEENTH ORDINARY SESSION  
NAIROBI, KENYA 24-27 JUNE, 1981

A G E N D A

1. (a) Election of the Bureau  
(b) Adoption of the Agenda
2. Introductory Note of the Secretary-General AHG/102 (XVIII)
3. Adoption of the Recommendations and Resolutions of the  
Thirty-sixth Ordinary Session of the Council of Ministers CM/St.18(XXXVI)  
CM/Res.823 to 851  
(XXXVI)
4. Adoption of the Recommendations and Resolutions of the  
Thirty-seventh Ordinary Session of the Council of Ministers
5. Report of the Secretary-General on Western Sahara AHG/103(XVIII) (A)  
Report of the Fifth Session of the Ad Hoc Committee of  
Heads of State on Western Sahara AHG/103(XVIII) (B)  
Report of the Sixth Session of the Ad Hoc Committee of  
Heads of State on Western Sahara AHG/103(XVIII) (C)
6. Report of the Secretary-General on Chad AHG/104(XVIII)
7. Report on the Meeting of the Ethiopia/Somalia Good  
Offices Committee AHG/105(XVIII)
8. Report of the Secretary-General on draft of African  
Charter on Human and Peoples Rights CM/1149/371(101 IIX)
9. Items proposed by Member States  
- Candidatures to the International Court of Justice  
(a) The First President of Supreme Court of Madagascar,  
Mr. Edilbert Razafindralambo (proposed by Madagascar); AHG/101(XVIII)  
Add. 1  
(b) The First President of Supreme Court of Justice of  
Senegal, Mr. Keba Mbaye (proposed by Senegal) AHG/101(XVIII)  
Add. 2
10. Date and venue of the Nineteenth Ordinary Session of the  
Assembly of Heads of State and Government
11. Any Other Business





UNIDO

UNITED NATIONS INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION

ADDRESS BY DR. ABD-EL RAHMAN KHANE

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF UNIDO

to the

EIGHTEENTH ORDINARY SESSION OF THE ASSEMBLY OF

HEADS OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT OF THE

ORGANIZATION OF AFRICAN UNITY

Nairobi, 24 to 27 June 1981

Mr. President,  
Honourable Heads of State and Government,  
Mr. Secretary General of the Organization of African Unity,  
Excellencies,  
Distinguished Delegates,

It is a great honour for me to be given this opportunity to address this distinguished gathering. I should like at the outset to join all the distinguished speakers who preceded me to extend to you, Mr. President, and through you to the other distinguished Members of the Bureau, my sincere congratulations, upon your election to this high office. I feel certain that under your wise and able leadership the deliberations of this august assembly will be brought to a fruitful conclusion.

It is always with a renewed pleasure that I come to this prestigious capital of your great country and, on behalf of myself and the delegation of UNIDO, I wish to extend to you, Mr. President, and through you to the Government and the people of Kenya, my sincere thanks for the warm welcome and generous hospitality extended to us.

My brief remarks, Mr. President, will centre on the work of UNIDO in relation to the industrial development of Africa. The African continent is, unfortunately, the least developed region of the world. In 1980 its share of world industrial production was still estimated at less than 1 per cent, while that of Latin America is about 6.15 per cent and Asia 3.78 per cent. This is not surprising since 21 countries out of the 31 listed by the United Nations as the least developed countries of the world are located in Africa. A large number of these countries have barely commenced their industrialization process. It is against such a distressing situation that we have welcomed the decision of the Summit Meeting of the OAU that the 1980s should be proclaimed the Industrial Development Decade for Africa. Subsequently, as you are certainly aware, the concept was endorsed in a resolution which was adopted by consensus at the Third General Conference of UNIDO held in New Delhi early last year. Since then the Industrial Development Decade for Africa has gained universal recognition with its proclamation by the General Assembly in resolution 35/66B. We in UNIDO, together with the CAU and ECA have initiated preparations for the implementation of this Decade in our respective areas of concern.

In this connection, I should like to emphasize that we are fully conscious of the fact that the efforts involved in the successful implementation of the Decade must come from the African countries themselves. Nevertheless, we feel that the international organizations I mentioned and all the many subregional institutions should play an eminently positive role in assisting your countries to derive the maximum benefit from the attention and support of the international community as a result of the proclamation of the Decade.

Mr. President,

As I already had the privilege of addressing the second Session of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the OAU in April last year in Lagos, when I drew attention to the serious problems confronting African industrialization, I will not take up your time now in reiterating the tremendous obstacles which still need to be overcome. I would merely like to note with great pleasure that these problems have been addressed in a detailed and practical manner in the Lagos Plan of Action. However, I should emphasize here the crucial, not to say vital role of science and technology, which is definitely a sine qua non condition for any meaningful and self-sustaining process of industrial development. I should also mention that in this "science and technology" partnership, science should prevail. For this reason I will continue to plead for a commitment by the African countries of some 2 per cent of their GNP to science and technology infrastructure. In addition, I can see the tremendous potential for economic co-operation among developing countries, both at the level of the region and with other developing regions. UNIDO, which has been and continues to be active in this field, can bear witness to this tremendous potential and the readiness of the developing countries to enter into such a co-operative effort and develop it to the utmost.

Mr. President,  
Excellencies,

Let me assure you that UNIDO stands ready at all times to assist in these efforts. UNIDO, as you are undoubtedly aware, has succeeded in augmenting its technical assistance in the field of industrial development to African countries over the past few years, rising from US\$7 million in

1974 to US\$26 million in 1980, a figure that represents more than 33 per cent of all technical assistance delivered by UNIDO to the developing world. We would wish this trend to continue, particularly in connection with the Industrial Development Decade. I must however report that the United Nations policy of zero growth applied to an organization such as UNIDO may well impede our ability to increase further in real terms our technical assistance. Indeed, we note with great concern recent developments in the United Nations system, particularly as they affect the ability of development programmes, such as those of UNIDO, to assist the developing countries. It is in such a context, and because I am well aware of the tremendous wealth and expertise to which the developing countries can have access through UNIDO, that I appeal to you and to all developing countries, to pledge greater support to the organization in the financing of its operations.

Mr. President,

Allow me to take this opportunity of reporting to you on the efforts we have been making with a view to assisting developing countries to find more adequate resources for their industrial development. The Secretariat of UNIDO has put forward a proposal for the establishment of an international industrial development bank, with some innovative characteristics which we believe should attract the interest of all parties concerned. The proposal has been so designed that it could even be launched with the support of relatively few members of the international community. It offers the possibility, within a system of international guarantees, of mobilizing those financial resources that are available in the developing world. This proposal is now under consideration by our Industrial Development Board, and I hope that it will finally attract and gain the support of the countries gathered here at this important Summit meeting.

Mr. President,

It is also my pleasure to report to you that we enjoy excellent relations and co-operation with both the OAU and ECA Secretariats. In fact, the three organizations are co-sponsors of the biennial conferences of African Ministers of Industry. The next conference is to meet in November this year, at which time we hope to be in a position to put forward for the consideration of the Ministers of Industry detailed plans for the implementation of the Industrial Development Decade for Africa.



Finally, Mr. President, I may be allowed to take this opportunity of referring to the mechanism of regional consultations which exist within the UNIDO System of Consultations. For the first time, such a consultation meeting is being organized at the level of Africa in the field of agricultural machinery. The meeting is due to take place towards the end of this year and we are confident that it will open new avenues for industrial co-operation among the African countries. We also hope that this new development will stimulate interest in and support for such regional meetings in the other sectors already covered by the UNIDO System of Consultations, namely: fertilizers, iron and steel, petrochemicals, capital goods, food processing, training of industrial manpower, industrial financing, vegetable oils and fats, pharmaceuticals, leather and leather products.

These are, Mr. President, Distinguished Heads of State and Government, brief thoughts on, and descriptions of, the work of UNIDO, an international organization which, I am convinced, with your support can deliver much more in terms of assisting and supplementing your efforts towards the steady industrial development of the African continent, to the benefit of its vast deprived masses. Your support is also required for the rapid transformation of UNIDO into a specialized agency. In this regard, I should like to renew my appeal to those African countries who have not already done so to ratify the new Constitution of UNIDO which, as you know, was agreed to over two years ago. The transformation of UNIDO into a specialized agency will not only make UNIDO a more efficient and powerful instrument in its field of competence, but it will also provide for biennial meetings of ministers of industry from all over the world. In this way it will become an effective forum for greater international awareness of the problems connected with the industrialization of the Third World countries, hence creating better understanding and improving international co-operation as a whole.

Mr. President,

In my statement to the Second Extraordinary Session of the Heads of State and Government of the OAU in April last year, I spoke of the challenge of the 80s for Africa. I am convinced that in formulating the Lagos Plan of Action, drawing up the direction for the economic progress of this continent, you have already shown your determination to meet this

challenge. For our part, and with such encouragement you can be assured that we will do everything possible to contribute our modest share to the welfare of the people of this, our dear Africa. I wish to thank you once again for granting me the honour and the opportunity to share with you these brief remarks.

I wish your deliberations every success.

CM/Res. 862 (XXXVII)

RESOLUTION ON AFRO-ARAB CO-OPERATION

The Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity, meeting in its Thirty-seventh Ordinary Session in Nairobi, Kenya, from 15 to 26 June, 1981,

Having carefully considered the report of the Secretary-General on Afro-Arab Co-operation Doc. CM/1150 (XXXVII),

Keeping in view the objectives and guidelines laid down by the First Afro-Arab Summit Conference held in Cairo, in March 1977,

Reaffirming its determination and readiness to seek ways and means to reactivate joint Afro-Arab activities, in pursuance of the decisions taken by the First Afro-Arab Summit,

Conscious of the common struggle against zionism and apartheid and the need for a greater Afro-Arab solidarity against these systems,

Recalling Resolutions CM/Res. 721 (XXVIII) Rev.1 and CM/Res. 781 (XXXIV) adopted respectively by the Thirty-third and Thirty-fifth Ordinary Sessions of the Council,

Further recalling Resolution CM/Res. 770 (XXXIV) which reaffirms the principle according to which all OAU Member States have the right to be invited to and participate in all the meetings of Afro-Arab Co-operation:

1. TAKES NOTE of the report of the Secretary-General on Afro-Arab Co-operation;
2. APPEALS to all Member States of OAU and of the League of Arab States to give their unflinching support to the initiatives of the Co-ordinating Committee and of the two Secretariats in their efforts geared towards implementing the decisions of the First Afro-Arab Summit Conference;
3. ENDORSES the decisions and recommendations of the Co-ordinating Committee, as contained in Document CM/1150 (XXXVII) and particularly those concerning:
  - a) The organization of a joint conference of African and Arab private sectors representatives,
  - b) The projected study on the promotion of Afro-Arab trade, and requests the UNDP to offer financial and technical assistance for undertaking such study;
  - c) The projected establishment of a Cultural Fund and an Afro-Arab Cultural Research Centre,
  - d) The organization of a joint Afro-Arab Seminar on the Amman Plan of Action and Strategy,

- e) Organisation of an Afro-Arab Conference of Donors with a view to implementing the Multilateral Plan of Action,
  - f) The scheduling of meetings of African and Arab specialized agencies with similar and complementary vocation within the context of the implementation of the Lagos Plan of Action and Final Act;
4. REQUESTS the Secretaries-General of the Organisation of African Unity and of the League of Arab States to ensure the implementation of the above decisions and to find ways and means for the prompt realization of these activities;
5. REQUESTS the Secretaries-General of the Organizations to hold consultations with the Co-Chairman of the African and Arab Groups, with a view to convening as soon as possible, the Standing Commission and the Joint Afro-Arab Ministerial Conference so that the Summit Conference of Heads of State and Government may be held as provided for by the first Afro-Arab Summit of Cairo;

6. REQUESTS the League of Arab States to grant observer status to the OAU and Liberation Movements recognized by the OAU and REQUEST the Arab League to place and keep permanently on its Agenda the question of Liberation in Southern Africa;
7. DECIDES to re-elect the OAU Committee of 12 to be composed of the following Member States :
  1. Angola
  2. The Gambia
  3. Guinea Bissau
  4. Kenya
  5. Liberia
  6. Madagascar
  7. Morocco
  8. Mozambique
  9. Niger
  10. Rwanda
  11. Swaziland
  12. Tunisia

CM/Res. 306 (XXXVII)

RESOLUTION ON INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN  
AFRICA

The Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity meeting in its Thirty-seventh Ordinary Session in Nairobi, Kenya, from 15 to 26 June, 1981,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the Industrial Development Decade for Africa (Document CM/1135 (XXXVII)),

Recalling the commitment and determination of all Member States, as expressed in the Lagos Plan of Action and the Final Act of Lagos, to accord a major role to industrialization in their national development plans and for continental sectoral integration.

Recalling further the decision of the Second Extra-Ordinary Assembly of Heads of State and Government, as embodied in the Lagos Plan of Action, to declare the years 1980 to 1990 as the Industrial Development Decade for Africa,

Taking note of Resolution 35/66 (E) of the United Nations General Assembly and of the Resolution adopted by the Fifteenth Session of UNIDO Industrial Development Board on the Industrial Development Decade for Africa,

Recalling OAU Resolution CM/Res. 736 (XXXIII) on the signature and ratification of the Constitution of UNIDO as a Specialized Agency of the United Nations:

1. TAKES NOTE of the progress report of the Secretary-General on the Industrial Development Decade in Africa, contained in Document CM/1135 (XXXVII);

2. WELCOMES the proclamation of the 1980s as the Industrial Development Decade for Africa by the United Nations General Assembly Resolution and the Resolution adopted by Fifteenth Session of the UNIDO Industrial Development Board which inter alia declares the Industrial Development Decade for Africa as one of the most important programmes of the UNIDO;
3. APPEALS to developed countries and multilateral financing institutions to provide the necessary resources for the implementation of the Programme of the Decade;
4. REITERATES the call by the UN General Assembly to the Secretary-General of the UN to provide appropriate resources for the successful launching of the Decade as well as for the preparation and implementation of the Decade Programme;
5. REQUESTS all OAU Member States to take, with assistance of the UNIDO and the UNDP, the necessary measures to draw up and implement specific programmes in the context of the Decade at national, regional and sub-regional levels;
6. INVITES the Conference of African Ministers of Industry scheduled for November 1981 in Kampala, Uganda, to provide a common African policy guidance and adopt a framework for the programme of the Decade as an important step towards the implementation of the Lagos Plan of Action in the field of industry;



7. URGES all relevant international organizations, especially the UNDP in the context of the programming of its national and regional funds for Africa, to increase, in accordance with the UN General Assembly Resolution 35/66 (B), their technical and financial assistance to the African countries at the national, regional and sub-regional levels for the preparation and implementation of the Decade Programme;
8. EXPRESSES ITS PROFOUND GRATITUDE to the UNIDO for its sustained and growing technical assistance given to African countries and consequently STRONGLY SUPPORTS the measures recently taken by this organization to re-orient its policy in favour of developing countries;
9. URGES all Member States, which have not done so, to ratify, as a matter of urgency, the Constitution of UNIDO to ensure the early transformation of the Organization as a UN Specialized Agency to enable it to more effectively fulfill its mandate which is of particular relevance to the achievement of African economic development objectives as reflected in the Lagos Plan of Action and the Final Act of Lagos;
10. REQUESTS the Secretary-General to:
  - a) take, in co-operation with the Executive Director of UNIDO and the Executive Secretary of the ECA, all necessary measures for effective monitoring of all activities related to the implementation of the Decade Programme, and to present progress reports to the Council of Ministers on a regular basis;
  - b) Convey the contents of this resolution to the Secretary-General of the UN and the Administrator of the UNDP.

CM/Res. 880 (XXXVII)

RESOLUTION ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF INDUSTRIAL AND  
TECHNOLOGICAL MANPOWER IN AFRICA

The Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity meeting in its Thirty-seventh Ordinary Session in Nairobi, Kenya from 15 to 26 June 1981,

Recalling Resolution CM/569(XXIX) of the Twenty-ninth Ordinary Session of the OAU Council of Ministers held in Libreville June 1977 on the Scientific, Technological Research and Development Activities of the Executive Secretariat of OAU in Lagos OAU/STRC,

Noting the Report of the Sixth Session of the Scientific Council of Africa (SCA) Document CM/1145 (XXXVII),

Recalling further the decision of the UNIDO Industrial Development Board to hold a Global Consultation Meeting on Industrial Training in 1982:

1. NOTES WITH APPRECIATION the co-operation between OAU and UNIDO and other international organizations in the area of Industrial and Technological Research in Africa;
2. CALLS for the expansion of this co-operation to include The African Regional Centre for Technology (ARCT) and the African Association of Industrial Technology Organization (AAITO);
3. REQUESTS Member States of OAU which have not yet done so, to send their comments on the draft study on "The development of Industrial Technological Manpower in Africa : A Proposed Framework of Action" to the OAU/STRC - Lagos, and to actively participate in the UNIDO global consultation meeting on Industrial training;

Page 2

4. DIRECTS the Secretary-General of the OAU to seek the assistance of international organizations specially the UNDP and UNIDO to facilitate the participation of the African countries, particularly the least developed countries in the consultation meeting;
5. CALLS upon the OAU Secretary-General in cooperation with UNIDO, the African Regional Centre for Technology (ARCT), ECA and AAITO to organize a regional meeting on Industrial Training in 1983 to formulate proposals for follow up action on the Global Consultations Meeting on Industrial Training;
6. FURTHER CALLS UPON the OAU Secretary-General in cooperation with the African Regional Centre for Technology (ARCT), UNDP, UNESCO, ECA and UNIDO to take urgent action for the production of the list of African Scientists and Engineers;
7. REQUESTS FURTHER the Secretary-General of the OAU in co-operation with UNIDO to report on the above mentioned issues to the Forty-first Ordinary Session of the OAU Council of Ministers.

CM/Res. 902 (XXVII)

RESOLUTION ON THE PROMOTION AND  
DEVELOPMENT OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS  
INDUSTRIES IN AFRICA

The Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity, meeting in its Thirty-seventh Ordinary Session in Nairobi, Kenya, from 15 to 24 June 1981,

Guided by the Lagos Plan of Action and the Resolution EAHG/Res.1 (II) regarding the implementation of the Plan adopted by the Second Extraordinary Session of the OAU Heads of State and Government in April 1980 in Lagos,

Considering in particular paragraph 207 (f) of the Lagos Plan of Action on the promotion of industry in the field of transport and communication equipment,

Noting the efforts of UNIDO, in accordance with its terms of reference, in promoting and speeding up the industrialization of developing countries, especially the African countries, in conformity with the declaration and the Plan of Action of the Second and Third General Conferences of UNIDO, and the United Nations General Assembly Resolution 35/66-B on the Industrial Development Decade for Africa,

Recalling OAU Resolution CM/Res.813 (XXIV) on the activities of the Pan-African Telecommunications Union, approved by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government held in Freetown in July 1980,

Considering recommendations Nos. 6 and 9 of the Third African Telecommunications Conference (Monrovia, December, 1980), regarding telecommunications investments, on the one hand, and scientific research and manufacture of telecommunications materials, on the other hand,

Considering further the relevant resolution of the Second Conference of the Ministers of Transport, Communications and the Transport and Communications Decade in Africa, which emphasized the need for the local production of telecommunications equipment, spares and appliances and for research in the field of telecommunications,

Taking note with satisfaction of the consultations initiated between UNIDO and PATU on the one hand, and ITU and UNIDO on the other hand, as well as preliminary activities undertaken by ITU, UNIDO and ECA, on the promotion and development of manufacturing industries in the field of telecommunications in Africa:

1. CONGRATULATES PATU, UNIDO, ITU and ECA for the initiatives they have taken;
2. GIVES all its support to the implementation of a programme for the promotion and development of telecommunications industries in Africa;
3. CALLS UPON UNDP and other multilateral and bilateral donors to provide all the necessary financial assistance to this programme to be realized by PATU in close collaboration with UNIDO, ITU and ECA;

CM/Res. 902 (XXXVII)

Page 3

4. REQUESTS all Member States to fully and actively participate in this programme and other related activities such as the seminar on scientific research and industrialization which FATU is organizing in 1981 and appeals to UNIDO, IFSTD and UNDP to provide financing for this seminar;
  
5. REQUESTS the CAJ Secretary-General to submit a progress report on the implementation of the present resolution to the Thirty-ninth Session of the Council.

CM/RES. 684 (XXXVII)

RESOLUTION ON THE CODE OF CONDUCT  
ON THE TRANSFER OF TECHNOLOGY

The Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity meeting in its Thirty-seventh Ordinary Session in Nairobi, Kenya from 15 to 26 June 1981,

Having examined the report of the Secretary-General contained in Document CM/1133 (XXXVIII) on Code of Conduct on the transfer of technology,

Recalling Resolution CM/574 (XXXI) on Transfer of Technology adopted by the Council during its Thirty-first Ordinary Session held in Khartoum from 7 to 18 July 1978,

Guided by the decision of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government, enunciated in the Lagos Plan of Action requesting that action should be taken to ensure that technology is transferred under general conditions acceptable to the recipient country,

Noting with disappointment the unsatisfactory outcome of the last four Sessions of the United Nations Conference mandated to negotiate an international Code of Conduct on Transfer of Technology,

Cognisant of the urgent need to redress the inequitable features of the international technology market, in all its entirety:

1. CALLS UPON the developed countries to facilitate the early conclusion of a Code of Conduct on the transfer of technology as a contribution to the establishment of the New International Economic Order;
2. REAFFIRMS its firm commitment to continue to pursue the negotiations aimed at achieving an equitable international Code of Conduct on the Transfer of Technology;

CM/Res.884 (XXVII)

Page 2

3. URGES all Member States of the OAU to enact or update national legislations as well as establishing institutions to evaluate, register, monitor and appraise technology transactions;
4. FURTHER URGES OAU Member States to work relentlessly with the other members of the Group of 77 in all the negotiating force on the code and more particularly during the Thirty-sixth Session of the United Nations General Assembly, to ensure that necessary action is taken so as to enable them to obtain more acceptable terms and conditions on all aspects related to the Transfer of Technology;
5. REQUESTS the Secretary-General to take all necessary measures to continue providing technical support to the African Group during the forthcoming negotiations and submit a report to the Thirty-ninth Ordinary Session of the Council of Ministers.



RESOLUTION ON THE CARACAS CONFERENCE  
ON ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION AMONG DEVELOPING  
COUNTRIES

The Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity, meeting in its Thirty-seventh Ordinary Session in Nairobi, Kenya, from 15 - 27 June, 1981,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the Caracas Conference on Economic Co-operation among Developing Countries (Document CM/1136 (XXVII) and Annex 1,

Recalling its Resolution CM/Res.659(LXXI) of July 1978, which requested the Secretary-General to take all measures to implement the measures of the Mexico City Programme on ECDC and those of the Eleventh Extraordinary Session of the Council of Ministers,

Noting that the General Secretariat was not able to be represented at the Caracas Conference on ECDC,

Stressing that the objectives of economic co-operation at the global level and the implementation of the Caracas Programme of ECDC must be related to the objectives of the Lagos Plan of Action in terms of contributing in a complementary manner to the realization of the Lagos Plan objectives;

1. TAKES NOTE of the Report of the Secretary-General on the participation of the General Secretariat in the preparatory meetings for the Caracas Conference and the summary presented on the Report of that Conference;

CM/Res. 900 (XXXVII)

Page 2

2. WELCOMES WITH SATISFACTION the positive results of the High Level Conference on ECDC which was held in Caracas, Venezuela from 13 - 19 May, 1981;
3. EXPRESSES support for the comprehensive programme and its implementation modalities adopted by the Conference, which is designed to ensure integrated progress in all the sectors of economic co-operation;
4. REQUESTS the Secretary-General of OAU, in co-operation with Executive Secretary of ECA, to:
  - (a) take necessary action to implement the recommendations and decisions of the Caracas Conference, and assist the Member States in their implementation effort and in their preparation for and participation in the sectoral meetings that are embodied in the Caracas Programme on ECDC;
  - (b) organize in consultation with UNCTAD, a regional meeting of African State Trading Organizations to work out a system and modalities of co-operation among themselves;

CM/Res. 900 (XXXVII)

Page 3

5. URGES all United Nations Agencies especially UNDP, and other international institutions to give effective and special support to Africa's effort to implement ECDC and TCDC Programmes, especially considering that Africa is the least developed region of the Developing Countries;
6. REQUESTS FURTHER the Secretary-General to submit periodic reports on the implementation of this Resolution to the Council of Ministers.



