

RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED ON THE REPORTS OF THE SECOND COMMITTEE

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1155 (XII). Proposed Economic Commission for Africa

The General Assembly,

Recognizing the urgent need for international co-operation in the economic development of under-developed countries,

Reaffirming its responsibilities and obligations, under Articles 55 and 56 of the Charter of the United Nations, to foster the economic development of all under-developed areas,

Recognizing that the countries and territories of Africa are faced with serious economic problems affecting the welfare and progress of the peoples of that region,

Recognizing that co-operation among the African countries can be of assistance in raising both the level of economic activity and the standards of life in that continent, and that such measures would be facilitated by close co-operation with the United Nations and its subsidiary organs,

Considering that the regional economic commissions of the United Nations have performed valuable functions within their respective areas and that their work is vitally important from the point of view of the United Nations as expressed in General Assembly resolution 627 (VII) of 21 December 1952,

Noting that the work of the regional economic commissions has been extremely useful to the economies of under-developed countries in Asia and Latin America, and considering therefore that Africa should benefit from the advantages of such a system,

Noting further that the group of experts appointed by the Secretary-General, at the request of the Economic and Social Council, to study measures for the economic development of under-developed countries, recommended in 1951 that in order to assist the Governments and peoples of Africa to analyse and keep under continuous survey the development problems of that continent, the United Nations should establish an Economic Commission for Africa and provide for it an international secretariat,¹

Recommends that, for the purpose of giving effective aid to the countries and territories of Africa and in accordance with Article 68 of the Charter of the United Nations, the Economic and Social Council, at its next session, give prompt and favourable consideration to the establishment of an Economic Commission for Africa.

*723rd plenary meeting,
26 November 1957.*

¹ *Measures for the Economic Development of Under-Developed Countries*, United Nations publication, Sales No. 1951.II.B.2, p. 95.