

1999/39. Programme of work and priorities of the Economic Commission for Africa for the biennium 2000–2001

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 41/203 of 11 December 1986 and subsequent relevant resolutions on programme planning,

Recalling also resolution 809 (XXXI) of 8 May 1996 of the Conference of Ministers of the Economic Commission for Africa on new directions for the Commission,¹⁰⁴ and in particular the programme structure, which was characterized by congruence between substantive organizational charts and programmes to foster synergy and achieve greater efficiency and impact in the delivery of service,

Taking note of General Assembly resolution 53/207 of 18 December 1998 on programme planning, by which the Assembly adopted the proposed revisions to the medium-term plan for the period 1998–2001 submitted by the Secretary-General,¹⁰⁵ as amended by the Committee for Programme and Coordination,¹⁰⁶

Having taken note of the report on the work of the Commission, 1996–1998,¹⁰⁷ and having examined the proposed programme of work and priorities for the biennium 2000–2001,¹⁰⁸

Convinced that the proposals contained in the proposed programme of work and priorities for the biennium 2000–2001 will enhance the role of the Commission as an important contributor in the process of Africa's economic and social rebirth,

Recognizing, however, that the economic development of Africa and the reduction of poverty are severely affected by, among other factors, the socio-economic impact of conflicts and the resulting large-scale population displacements, and realizing that the challenge of post-conflict reconciliation, rehabilitation and reconstruction requires reorientation of development strategies and resource arrangements,

1. *Commends* the Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa and the staff of the Commission for the considerable work that has been undertaken in the past three years to advance institutional reforms and renewal at the Commission to enable it to remain at the forefront of policy innovations for the socio-economic development of Africa;

2. *Endorses* the programme of work and priorities of the Commission for the biennium 2000–2001,¹⁰⁸ taking into account the discussion and related recommendations made at the thirty-third session of the Commission;

3. *Requests* the Executive Secretary and member States, in collaboration with bilateral and multilateral partners, to undertake a special initiative to examine issues related to the socio-economic impact of conflicts on the region's development, based on a research project, and to organize a meeting to discuss the findings and make recommendations aimed at defining appropriate post-conflict assistance programmes and financing strategies;

4. *Also requests* the Executive Secretary and member States, in collaboration with development partners, to undertake the necessary studies that would provide a better appreciation of and response to the World Trade Organization agreements and the effects of globalization on the region's economies;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in making his proposals for the programme budget for the biennium 2000–2001, to give special consideration to the development needs of the African region by providing the Commission with adequate resources to enable it to respond adequately to the new development challenges facing Africa;

6. *Calls upon* the General Assembly and its Second and Fifth Committees to ensure that adequate resources are made available to the Commission for the implementation of its programme of work.

*44th plenary meeting
28 July 1999*

¹⁰³ *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1999, Supplement No. 19 (E/1999/39), chap. III, sect. C, paras. 43 and 44.*

¹⁰⁴ *Ibid., 1996, Supplement No. 15 (E/1996/35), chap. IV.*

¹⁰⁵ A/53/6 (Progs. 1–3, 5–8, 13/Rev.1, 14–18, 20, 23 and Corr.1, 24 and Corr.1 and 26–28).

¹⁰⁶ *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-third Session, Supplement No. 16 (A/53/16), part one, chap. II.B, and part two, chap. III.A.*

¹⁰⁷ E/ECA/CM.24/4.

¹⁰⁸ E/ECA/CM.24/7.