

1999/40. Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 52/187 of 18 December 1997 and resolution 53/182 of 15 December 1998, in which the Assembly decided to convene the Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries in the first semester of the year 2001 and accepted the offer of the European Union to host the Conference,

Recognizing the important role played by the Economic Commission for Africa in the preparatory process for the First and Second United Nations Conferences on the Least Developed Countries,

Noting that the mandate of the Conference is to assess the results of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s¹⁰⁹ at the country level, to review the

¹⁰⁹ See *Report of the Second United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, Paris, 3–14 September 1990* (A/CONF.147/18), part one.

implementation of international support measures, in particular in the areas of official development assistance, debt, investment and trade, and to consider the formulation and adoption of appropriate national and international policies and measures for the sustainable development of the least developed countries and their progressive integration into the world economy,

1. *Requests* the Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa to provide, in collaboration with the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development in his capacity as the Secretary-General of the Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, support to African least developed countries in their preparation for the Conference at the country, regional and global levels;

2. *Invites* the Executive Secretary to ensure that the Commission makes substantive technical contributions to the Conference and its preparatory process;

3. *Invites* the bilateral, regional and multilateral development partners of the least developed countries, the host of the Conference and the United Nations Development Programme to provide adequate technical and financial assistance to the least developed countries to ensure a substantive and effective preparatory process for the Conference at the country level;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General of the Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries to intensify his efforts to mobilize resources for the participation of representatives of the least developed countries in the envisaged regional expert-level meetings, the meetings of the Intergovernmental Preparatory Committee and the Conference itself.

*44th plenary meeting
28 July 1999*