

Annex I

RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE CONFERENCE AT ITS FIRST SESSION

1/1. Environmental co-operation in Africa

I

CAIRO PROGRAMME FOR AFRICAN CO-OPERATION

The African Ministerial Conference on the Environment

A. General objective

Decides to strengthen co-operation between African Governments in economic, technical and scientific activities, with the prime objective of halting and reversing the degradation of the African environment in order to satisfy the food and energy needs of the peoples of the continent,

B. Organization of regional co-operation in respect of environment and ecodevelopment

1. Recommends that regional co-operation should be focused on the essential resources of water, soils, plant cover and forests, fauna, energy and seas, by means of a progressive reorientation of economic development strategies,

2. Decides to institutionalize the Conference, which shall normally meet once every two years, the second session of the Conference to be held in Nairobi in conjunction with the fourteenth session of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme in May/June 1987,

3. Recommends to the Conference of Ministers of the Economic Commission for Africa and the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity that they should decide to entrust to the African Ministerial Conference on the Environment the environmental functions of the Joint Intergovernmental Regional Committee on Human Settlements and Environment whose establishment was decided upon in the Lagos Plan of Action and subsequently in General Assembly resolution 32/162 and resolutions 316 (XII) and 408 (XVI) of the Economic Commission for Africa,

4. Decides that the report of its first session should be made available, inter alia, to the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme, the African Conference of Ministers of Development and Planning and the Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity,

5. Accepts with gratitude the offer of the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme to provide the permanent secretariat of the Conference in close co-operation with the Economic Commission for Africa and the Organization of African Unity, with the task of performing the functions enumerated in appendix I to the present resolution,

6. Requests the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme to make the contacts needed to set up an interagency working group composed of representatives of the principal United Nations agencies and international institutions concerned, which shall have the tasks described in appendix II to the present resolution,

7. Decides also to set up four committees on areas of priority environmental concern, namely deserts and arid lands, river and lake basins, forests and woodlands, and seas, which would function between the Conference sessions, each to be composed of a small number of African experts who are specialists in the fields enumerated in appendix III to the present resolution, to assist the bureau of the Conference to carry out its functions, and each to be chaired by one of the Vice-Presidents of the Conference, with the assistance of the permanent secretariat of the Conference,

8. Requests the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme, in consultation with the Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa and the Secretary-General of the Organization of African Unity, to prepare draft rules of procedure for the Conference for submission to it at its second session,

9. Requests the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme, in co-operation with the Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa and the Secretary-General of the Organization of African Unity, to take the necessary steps to put the above measures into effect,

C. Establishment of regional technical co-operation networks on environment and ecodevelopment

1. Decides that co-operation between the technical and research institutions of African States should be strengthened and developed through the exchange of information and the conduct of the basic studies and scientific research necessary for the environmentally sound utilization of African resources,

2. Decides to strengthen and develop technical co-operation among African countries through the development of horizontal scientific and technical links between national departments in specific areas,

3. Further decides for that purpose to establish or strengthen eight specialized regional networks, in the fields of environmental monitoring, climatology, soils and fertilizers, water resources, energy, genetic resources, science and technology, and education and training, with the terms of reference set out in appendix IV to the present resolution,

4. Also decides that the networks should concentrate their efforts in the first place on,

(a) The adoption of comprehensive soil and water development and conservation measures in irrigated and rain-fed agricultural areas in Africa,

(b) The improvement and protection of rangelands and the introduction of better rangeland, livestock and wildlife management in Africa,

(c) Protection of the existing vegetation and replanting of denuded areas in Africa;

(d) Reafforestation and the use of alternative energy sources as means of combating desertification.

D. Regional pilot projects

Decides to apply all available African skills and experience to seek economically feasible, environmentally sound and socially acceptable solutions to the complex problems of grass-roots development, in a hundred and fifty villages (three per country) and thirty semi-arid stock-raising zones (one in each of thirty countries), selected in accordance with the criteria set out in appendix V to the present resolution, with the goal of assisting those hundred and eighty communities to become self-sufficient in food and energy within five years from the start of implementation of the present decision;

E. Priority subregional activities

1. Decides to strengthen subregional co-operation in respect of environment and ecodevelopment, on the understanding that all countries concerned in each subregional will be invited to participate in the programme, giving priority to the following,

(a) Strengthening of the north Saharan green belt project, involving Algeria, Egypt, the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Mauritania, Morocco and Tunisia;

(b) Efforts to combat desertification and desert advance in the south Saharan zone and the Gum Belt through programmes of ecological rehabilitation,

(c) Strengthening of co-operation around the north-east aquifer in the Nubian sandstone zone, involving Chad, Egypt, the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya and the Sudan;

(d) Support to the Lake Chad Basin Commission for the integrated development of the Lake Chad basin, bearing in mind its relationship with the neighbouring upper Niger (Benue) and upper Ubangi basins, in order to halt the drying up of Lake Chad and use its waters and ecosystems rationally (Cameroon, the Central African Republic, Chad, the Niger and Nigeria),

(e) Support to the River Niger Basin Authority for the integrated development of the river Niger basin, in order to use its waters and ecosystems rationally, and in particular to halt the drying up of its inland delta (Benin, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Chad, Cote d'Ivoire, Guinea, Mali, Niger and Nigeria),

(f) Formulation and implementation of rational plans for the environmentally sound management of the river basins of the Manyu, the Ndian the Boumba-Ngoko, the Sangha and the Ntem;

(g) Study and implementation of an integrated development plan for the middle delta of the Cubango and Cuando rivers, in order to use its waters and ecosystem rationally, bearing in mind their relationship with the upper Zambezi basin (Angola, Botswana, Mozambique, Namibia, Zambia and Zimbabwe),

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(h) Efforts to combat the spread of the deserts of southern Africa for the promotion of food production,

(i) Study and implementation of an integrated multi-purpose development plan for the basin of the Zambezi river (irrigation, navigation and energy) in order to use its waters rationally, combat desertification, promote food production and open up land-locked areas, Angola, Botswana, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe,

(j) Improvement of co-operation for the integrated development of the basin of the Congo-Zaire river among Angola, Burundi, Cameroon, the Central African Republic, the Congo, Rwanda, the United Republic of Tanzania, Zaire and Zambia,

(k) Hydrometeorological and geological surveys of the Volta river system and measures for regional co-operation in land and water management and conservation among the basin countries — Benin, Burkina Faso, Cote d'Ivoire, Ghana and Togo,

(l) Consideration and implementation of the master development plan for the basins of the river Gambia (Gambia, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau and Senegal) and the river Senegal (Mali, Mauritania and Senegal), in order to use their waters and energy resources to combat desertification and prevent possible negative environmental effects,

(m) Consideration of the water resources development programme of the three Maghreb countries, with special emphasis on the utilization of water to protect and improve the environment,

(n) Design of a water resources development programme for the countries of Central Africa, with special emphasis on the utilization of water to protect and improve the environment,

(o) Design (at the subregional level) and implementation (at the national level) of a ten-year plan for the general reafforestation of all the member countries of the Economic Community of West African States and the Central African Economic Community,

(p) Implementation of the United Nations Environment Programme's regional seas programmes for West and Central Africa and Eastern Africa, and the African components of the Mediterranean and Red Sea and Gulf of Aden programmes, in order to contribute to the protection and development of the resources of the marine environment and coastal areas,

(q) Design and implementation of a regional co-operation programme to combat desertification in the region covered by the Permanent Inter-State Committee on Drought Control in the Sahel, the Maghreb, the member States of the Economic Community of West African States, Egypt and the Sudan, as recommended by the Dakar Conferences of July 1984 and November 1985, and in particular the implementation

of the agreed programme of twenty-nine major projects, and also in the Horn of Africa, the Kalahari region and Central Africa,

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(r) Formulation and implementation of a program of co-operation related to efforts to combat savannization in the Central African subregion,

(s) Implementation of a programme of research in forest areas which will halt deforestation and soil degradation caused by shifting agriculture in Central Africa,

(t) Promotion of eradication of the *Salvinia* weed problem from the Zambezi basin and encouragement of the use of the river for the development of all the riparian States,

(u) Assistance to the States members of the Southern African Development Co-ordination Conference with programmes to halt individually and collectively the deleterious effects of the endemic drought, in the region and to improve techniques for natural resource exploitation,

(v) Assistance to the States members of the Southern African Development Co-ordination Conference where problems of soil erosion have been on the increase with specific plans and programmes to arrest the problem,

(w) Study of the impact of shifting cultivation on crop and pastureland in southern Africa,

(x) Bearing in mind the international character of the Fouta-Djallon massif as a source of water for West Africa, support for the catchment development projects currently under way, and for the integrated development of the massif,

(y) Implementation of the integrated study of fisheries, wildlife and physical planning in the Omo-Turkana sub-basin (Ethiopia and Kenya),

(z) Design of programmes for the protection of the marine environment and the development of catchment areas, and a ten-year programme for reafforestation, in the island countries,

(aa) Strengthening of co-operation among the countries of the river Nile basin in the environmental field

(bb) Strengthening of co-operation among ecological units within the Nile basin which have institutions in operation, such as the Kagera Basin Organization (Burundi, Rwanda, Uganda and United Republic of Tanzania) and the Egyptian-Sudanese Nile Authority,

(cc) Study and implementation of an integrated multi-purpose development plan for the Lake Victoria basin, in view of the importance of Lake Victoria to the community within the basin, with a view to the rational management of the resources of the Lake Victoria catchment area (reafforestation, soil, conservation, pollution control, eutrophication, etc.) (Burundi, Kenya, Uganda and United Republic of Tanzania),

2. Calls upon all African States to make special efforts to revitalize the Subregional Environmental Groups, in accordance with the agreement reached in Lusaka,

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