Thirty-fourth session  
DRAFTING GROUP  
26 May-19 June 1987, New York  
Agenda item 4 (b) (iii)  

Draft decision

Strengthening UNDP's actions in sub-Saharan Africa

Recalling the United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development 1986-1990 (S-13/2), adopted by consensus by the special session of the General Assembly, and the subsequent decision (86/27) by the UNDP Governing Council authorizing and encouraging the UNDP Administrator to assist in the implementation of the United Nations Programme of Action,

Commending the Administrator's reports to the Governing Council (DP/1987/20 and DP/1987/27) and the further presentations offered to the thirty-fourth session about UNDP activities in the African region, and noting with satisfaction the active role being taken by UNDP towards implementation of the United Nations Programme of Action,

Recalling the extraordinary ECA meeting in October 1986 of African Ministers of Economic Planning and Development which endorsed the National Technical Co-operation Assessment and Programmes (NaTCAPS) and welcomed UNDP's measures to make the round-table process more responsive to the needs of developing countries and the expectations of donors,

Mindful of the fact that at their April 1987 meeting the African Ministers of Economic Planning and Development expressed concern at the lack of sufficient progress in the implementation of the United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development,

Welcoming with appreciation the Administrator's personal close involvement in UNDP's activities in the African region and his initiatives to improve UNDP's quality and performance in respect to African recovery and development,
Acknowledging the efforts taken by African Governments to adopt measures to reform and adjust their policies and economic strategies, and emphasizing the need for further action by both African Governments, UNDP, bilateral and multilateral donors and the international community,

1. Requests UNDP to continue to take concrete steps with respect to its financial resources as well as its facilitation and co-ordination responsibilities, to achieve implementation of the United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development 1986-1990, and to continue its support to follow up and monitoring of the UN-PAAERD notably in co-operation with African Governments, the United Nations development system, the World Bank, the ECA and OAU;

2. Invites the United Nations development system and the international community to support, co-operate with and make better use, as appropriate, of the catalytic, facilitative and co-ordination role and in the capacities of resident co-ordinators and UNDP, while respecting that African Governments must be at the centre of policy programming and co-ordination priorities;

3. Urges the Administrator and African Governments to give continued attention in the allocation and formulation of technical co-operation to concentration and the achievement of sustained impact with respect to the priorities and themes of the UN-PAAERD, while respecting the rights of Governments to determine their own particular plans and strategies;

4. Endorses the National Technical Co-operation Assessment and Programming process (NaTCAP) as an important new instrument (related to implementation of the UN-PAAERD objectives of improving the planning, development, and utilization of national human resources, and institution capacity in the public and private sectors, and of strengthening the planning, co-ordination and effectiveness of all technical co-operation at the country and sectoral levels); and requests the Administrator to extend this pilot initiative to other interested countries as an integrated, core UNDP activity; and to make available the resources necessary for its expansion and effective back-stopping; and related to the NaTCAP process further requests the Administrator to implement the Special Action Programme for Administration and Management (SAPAM) through UNDP and other resources;

5. Welcomes UNDP's support to interested Governments in formulating, negotiating and implementing economic plans, reforms, and structural adjustment programmes; and urges UNDP to make further efforts to provide such assistance if so requested, and, in this regard, to exercise UNDP's central role in the United Nations development system to provide more co-ordinated and effective technical co-operation; further urges UNDP to carry out an in-depth study on the possible adverse effects of structural adjustments in programmes on the economies of African countries including the social aspects thereof, and to identify specific compensatory measures that should be taken to alleviate the plight of the more vulnerable groups of the population;

6. Urges UNDP and resident representatives to take further initiatives to extend co-ordinating activities at the request of interested Governments; and in co-operation with the United Nations development system, the World Bank, and the
international community, to reinforce the dialogue between donors and African countries to make better use of existing development resources and to mobilize additional resources as required, using particularly the improved round-table process as a most suitable country-specific mechanism to follow up implementation of the United Nations Programme of Action;

7. Requests the Administrator and resident representatives to continue efforts to ensure that UNDP and its associated funds and programmes, particularly UNSO and UNCDF, provide more integrated and more efficient support to developing countries in Africa; that renewed efforts are taken to achieve more coherence and co-operation with other United Nations funding organizations; and that co-ordination and practical co-operation continues to be strengthened with the World Bank, ECA and OAU and other multilateral and intergovernmental organizations in the follow up to and implementation of the United Nations Programme of Action, as well as individual Government's plans;

8. Urges UNDP to integrate more fully into its operations TCDC at the interregional and intra-African levels.