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Economic Commission for Africa
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Statutory issues

Report on the follow-up by the Economic Commission for Africa to the resolutions of the Conference of African Ministers of Finance, Planning and Economic Development

I. Introduction

- 1. The present report highlights progress in the implementation by the secretariat of the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) of the resolutions adopted by the Conference of African Ministers of Finance, Planning and Economic Development at its meeting, held on 22 and 23 March 2021 in a hybrid format in Addis Ababa during the fifty-third session of the Commission.
- 2. The Conference adopted nine resolutions, which were submitted to the Economic and Social Council for review and endorsement. The present report highlights progress made in the implementation of the resolutions, which require action to be taken by the Commission.

II. Progress made by the Commission

A. Resolution 972 (LIII): African Continental Free Trade Area

Paragraph 1

(a) Text

Calls upon the Economic Commission for Africa to continue supporting the implementation of the Agreement Establishing the African Continental Free Trade Area, including and in particular the ratification of the Agreement by those member States that have yet to do so, in close collaboration with the African Union Commission and the secretariat of the African Continental Free Trade Area;

(b) Progress

ECA has continued its support for the implementation of the Agreement Establishing the African Continental Free Trade Area through awareness-raising and advocacy; the formulation of 18 national strategies and supporting the implementation

^{*} E/ECA/COE/40/1.



of 10 of them; and assessment studies and the development of a tool to measure the impact of the Agreement. The countries that ratified the Agreement in 2021 (Algeria, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Seychelles, United Republic of Tanzania and Zambia) benefited from one or more of these types of support. In providing that support, ECA worked closely with the African Union Commission and the secretariat of the African Continental Free Trade Area, with which a memorandum of understanding is being finalized.

Paragraph 2

(a) Text

Urges the Economic Commission for Africa to provide technical support to its member States, the African Union Commission, the secretariat of the African Continental Free Trade Area, and regional economic communities, in respect of agricultural development, industrialization, high-priority continental infrastructure projects, in particular those listed in Priority Action Plan II of the Programme for Infrastructure Development in Africa, digitalization, implementation of national strategies for the African Continental Free Trade Area, and phase II and phase III negotiations under the African Continental Free Trade Area;

(b) Progress

ECA has been supporting the implementation of the national strategies by 10 countries (Cameroon, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Gambia, Guinea, Mauritania, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Togo and Zambia). In addition, ECA developed a tool called the African Continental Free Trade Area Country Business Index, which uses high-quality data collected from countries to assess the impact of the African Continental Free Trade Area on the private sector in five countries.

With a view to enhancing the capacity of member States to develop, implement and monitor policies and programmes on regional value chains and related second-phase issues, ECA is supporting member States in the preparation of national strategies, which analyse and offer recommendations on the diversification of productive capacities and production patterns, thereby contributing to efforts to accelerate industrialization and deepen regional markets. ECA also prepared flagship studies on assessing regional integration in Africa, ¹ a common investment area within the framework of the African Continental Free Trade Area, ² and governance of the interface between the African Continental Free Trade Area and the free trade areas of the regional economic communities.³

Paragraph 3

(a) Text

Requests the Economic Commission for Africa to prepare a study on how to foster investments on the continent through the African Continental Free Trade Area, to be presented to member States in 2022 at the fifty-fourth session of the Conference of African Ministers of Finance, Planning and Economic Development;

(b) Progress

ECA prepared a report on work towards a common investment area⁴ to be presented at the meeting of the Conference of African Ministers of Finance, Planning

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¹ United Nations, Economic Commission for Africa and others, *Assessing Regional Integration in Africa: Africa's Services Trade Liberalization & Integration under the AfCFTA* (Addis Ababa, 2021).

² United Nations. Economic Commission for Africa, Towards a Common Investment Area in the African Continental Free Trade Area: Levelling the Playing Field for Intra-African Investment (Addis Ababa, 2021).

³ United Nations, Economic Commission for Africa, Governing the African Continental Free Trade Area– Regional Economic Communities Interface (Addis Ababa, 2021).

⁴ United Nations. Economic Commission for Africa, Towards a Common Investment Area.

and Economic Development. The study was undertaken against the backdrop of phase-two negotiations of the Agreement Establishing the African Continental Free Trade Area (which cover protocols on investment, competition and intellectual property) and phase-three negotiations (which cover a protocol on electronic commerce). The main objective of the publication is to offer policy recommendations to member States wishing to take advantage of the economies of scope and scale offered by the envisioned investment protocol to attract productive investment. That investment can be channelled towards activities with greater value added, such as those in the knowledge economy and in technology, innovation and digitalization.

Paragraph 4

(a) Text

Also requests the Economic Commission for Africa to continue providing technical support to the secretariat of the African Continental Free Trade Area, including in developing and deploying digital trading systems and documentation.

(b) Progress

ECA is finalizing a memorandum of understanding with the secretariat of the African Continental Free Trade Area that will cover the development and deployment of digital trading systems and documentation. ECA has concluded country profiles on digital-trade regulatory integration for Cameroon, Ghana, Kenya, Malawi, Nigeria, Uganda, the United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe. The country profiles identify specific challenges and opportunities relating to trade restrictions on digital services and digital-trade integration and offer recommendations on how to improve digitalization, including in the context of the African Continental Free Trade Area.

B. Resolution 973 (LIII): Data and statistics

Paragraph 4

(a) Text

Urges that steps be taken to ensure that key targets and indicators of the 2030 Agenda and Agenda 2063 are incorporated into national development plans;

(b) Progress

ECA has developed the web-based integrated planning and reporting toolkit to support member countries in aligning continental agendas (such as Agenda 2063: the Africa We Want, of the African Union) and global agendas (such as the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development) with national development plans, assessing their progress towards the achievement of the 2030 Agenda and Agenda 2063, and reporting on their alignment and progress in terms of the two agendas. Initially conceived of as stand-alone software that could be used offline, the toolkit is now primarily web-based. The toolkit can be used not only for planning and reporting, but also as a database.

In 2021, ECA provided technical assistance in enhancing the alignment of the 2030 Agenda, Agenda 2063 and national development plans in Egypt, Kenya, Malawi and Morocco through the deployment of the toolkit framework. ECA is currently drafting reports that assess progress made towards the Sustainable Development Goals in Egypt and Somalia and that take into account national indicators to facilitate further alignment.

Paragraph 5

(a) Text

Also urges that steps be taken to ensure that the Integrated Geospatial Information Framework is incorporated into national development plans and is fully

contextualized at the regional level, with a view to extending current national data systems to new data frontiers, such as earth observation, geospatial data and big data, in support of integrated spatial planning and inclusive and sustainable growth;

(b) Progress

As part of a pilot scheme, ECA has been providing technical and financial support to help Burkina Faso and Ethiopia to design, scale up and organize national stakeholder engagement workshops to validate their country-led action plans relating to the Integrated Geospatial Information Framework. ECA is currently partnering with the World Geospatial Industry Council and the Statistics Division of the United Nations Secretariat to increase the adoption of the Framework in Africa. Under the partnership, it is establishing a project to assist five additional countries (Cameroon, Eswatini, Mozambique, Rwanda and Senegal) in developing country-specific action plans, which will help them to move towards spatially-enabled electronic services, to carry out a digital transformation and to bridge the geospatial digital divide in Africa.

Paragraph 6

(a) Text

Requests the Economic Commission for Africa, working with other key regional partners, such as the African Union Commission and the African Development Bank, to continue its support for member States in strengthening the capacity of their statistical and data systems.

(b) Progress

ECA has been playing a key role within the African Statistical Coordination Committee, which is composed of three pan-African institutions (African Union Commission, African Development Bank and ECA) and the eight regional economic communities in Africa (Arab Maghreb Union, Community of Sahelo-Saharan States, Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa, East African Community, Economic Community of Central African States, Economic Community of West African States, Intergovernmental Authority on Development and Southern African Development Community), in strengthening partnership and collaboration with the pan-African institutions and in supporting implementation of regional statistical programmes developed by the regional economic communities. A meeting of the Committee was organized in December 2021 to review the work programmes of the pan-African institutions in order to increase synergies to support efforts by member States to develop their national statistical systems.

C. Resolution 974 (LIII): Civil registration and vital statistics

Paragraph 6

(a) Text

Calls upon the Economic Commission for Africa to continue to support member States in promoting civil registration in Africa.

(b) Progress

In 2021, systems were strengthened and civil registration systems were improved in 18 countries using a business improvement framework. Following consultative meetings with registrar generals, decisions were taken on how to rebuild civil registration and vital statistics systems after the disruption caused by the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic. The meetings also provided opportunities to gather information to guide the development of the second phase of the strategic plan for the Africa Programme on Accelerated Improvement of Civil Registration and Vital Statistics Systems.

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D. Resolution 975 (LIII): Sustainable industrialization and diversification of Africa in the digital era in the context of the coronavirus disease pandemic

Paragraph 4

(a) Text

Calls upon the Economic Commission for Africa to provide technical support to member States to leverage the African Continental Free Trade Area as a framework for the vertical integration of industries and supply chains and achieving the digitalization of Africa;

(b) Progress

As highlighted under previous resolutions, ECA has prepared country profiles on digital-trade regulatory integration in order to enhance the capacity of member States to develop, implement and monitor policies and programmes on regional value chains and issues concerning the second phase of implementation of the African Continental Free Trade Area. ECA has also been supporting member States, upon request, in preparing national strategies that analyse and offer recommendations on the diversification of productive capacities and production patterns, thereby contributing to efforts to accelerate industrialization in those member States and deepen regional markets.

Geospatial data and analysis have the power to guide decision-making and reveal insights that enable a comprehensive and unbiased evaluation of potential investment at all levels of policymaking. An example of this the ECA study on economic opportunities along the Central African road corridor⁵ which has served as a basis for providing critical support for the transformation of the agricultural and livestock sectors in the subregion by linking farmers to agricultural inputs that can improve productivity and help them to meet consumer demand for agricultural products. As part of the study, it was found that the border area between the Far North region of Cameroon and Chad had some of the highest potential for wind and solar energy on the entire continent. The region is well-suited to developing an integrated regional battery value chain that connects mining at the base of the supply chain to demand from end users for renewable energy storage and smartphones.

As a result, a new comprehensive, segmented and dynamic framework was adopted in June 2021 by Central African countries to inform the formulation of subregional and national industrialization and economic diversification master plans, with the aim of turning the zone into a hub for green growth and net-zero industrialization in numerous sectors, including agro-industry, battery-powered electric vehicles, nitrogen-phosphorus-potassium fertilizers, petrochemicals, iron and steel, and livestock-leather. Engineered by ECA on the basis of the African Continental Free Trade Area and the harmonization of existing plans of the Central African Economic and Monetary Community and the Economic Community of Central African States, master plans within the industrialization and economic diversification framework provide huge opportunities for developing several high-value products on the strength of endowments in Central Africa in natural capital, including renewable energy, and anchored in the development of natural and human capital, the digital economy and regional economic zones and clusters.

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⁵ United Nations. Economic Commission for Africa. Economic Opportunities Along the Central African Road Corridor (2021).

Paragraph 5

(a) Text

Also calls upon the Economic Commission for Africa to carry out a study to explore the prospects for and merits of establishing an African expert group on gas to advise member States on how to unlock the potential of gas in industrialization and the transition to clean energy;

(b) Progress

ECA has prepared a background position paper on the role of natural gas in the continent's energy transition. It has also produced a consensus statement and points for member States to discuss with relevant stakeholders, in particular the international organization "Sustainable Energy for All". ECA and Sustainable Energy for All will convene an African ministerial roundtable on a just and equitable energy transition in Africa, which will take place during the Sustainable Energy for All Global Forum that will be held in Kigali in May 2022. The roundtable will establish a common African position on the continent's energy transition and the role that natural gas has to play in that transition.

ECA has started a process to establish an African expert group on natural gas, in collaboration with the African Energy Chamber. The expert group – consisting of experts from member States, the private sector, academia and civil society – will provide advice to support informed policymaking on natural gas and its role in the continent's energy transition and industrialization agenda.

Paragraph 6

(a) Text

Further calls upon the Economic Commission for Africa to help member States to include digital expenditures in their national budgets.

(b) Progress

ECA supported the Government of the Congo in designing a national plan and strategy to develop network connectivity for the fifth generation of mobile services. The national strategy for the Congo also includes setting up an artificial intelligence research centre linked with Denis Sassou Nguesso University. Similar national strategies and budgetary plans have been initiated in Cameroon, Kenya, Rwanda, Senegal and Zimbabwe and focus on various sectors to advance the role of digitalization in economic development. As part of the digitalization process, ECA also supported the design of national roll-out plans for the implementation of credible and reliable digital identities. It continues to support the Governments of Botswana and Ethiopia in designing costed national strategies for the implementation of digital identification systems.

ECA has supported member States in the incorporation of digital infrastructure and payments in their e-government systems through an ECA fund-tracking platform. The platform tracks how resources and money are spent in a given country, thereby providing Governments with insight into public spending through interactive tools that explore elements of the national budget. The platform can work independently and is also designed to be integrated with the systems of ECA and partners while maintaining data integrity. Along with existing ECA systems, such as the integrated planning and reporting toolkit, the platform can be used to track the use of funds in line with Goal 17 and Agenda 2063.

Digital-payment action plans will allow national Governments to monitor their progress and provide a road map towards digital payment systems that have been developed in a responsible manner and with adequate safeguards in place. The results will strengthen the transition towards new digital payment approaches, including new comprehensive solutions, with enhanced institutional coordination to shape those digital payment systems. Through a partnership between ECA and the Better Than

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Cash Alliance, a series of pan-African peer exchanges on digitizing government payments amid the COVID-19 crisis has been launched, which has facilitated the adoption of measures to digitize domestic payments from governments to citizens and vice versa, including tax payments and local government charges. The peer exchanges have focused on the opportunities for building robust digital systems at the national and continental levels and the challenges that arise. They have driven the adoption of responsible digital payments and high-level principles in digitalization initiatives. Finally, they have created opportunities for collaboration in the digitalization at the subregional and continental levels, and strengthened the capacity of decision makers to integrate digital expenditures in national budgets.

E. Resolution 976 (LIII): Coronavirus disease vaccines

Paragraph 3-6

(a) Text

Requests the Economic Commission for Africa to continue these efforts;⁶

Also requests the Economic Commission for Africa to continue to advocate the equitable distribution of and access to COVID-19 vaccines in all regions of the world, including Africa;

Further requests the Economic Commission for Africa, in collaboration with the African Union Commission and all relevant stakeholders, including the private sector, to assist African member States in putting in place continental strategies and policies to facilitate the production of vaccines on the continent, improve pooled procurement, in particular through digital technologies, as exemplified by the African Medical Supply Platform, and leverage the use of digital tools in national supply chains for improved accessibility for all, which will improve the affordability and accessibility of vaccines and assist in generating inclusive economic growth, stimulating job creation and eradicating poverty for the continent's socioeconomic development and sustainable growth;

Urges the Economic Commission for Africa to continue to support member States in vaccine procurement, including through additional funding made available from debt relief under the Group of 20 Debt Service Suspension Initiative, development finance institutions and special drawing rights.

(b) Progress

ECA, through its support for the African Vaccine Acquisition Task Team, has been providing technical assistance and operational support to member States in their efforts to pool resources to purchase COVID-19 vaccines. In doing so, it has worked closely with key multilateral and regional institutions such as the International Monetary Fund, the World Bank and the African Export-Import Bank. The Task Team serves as a platform for deeper collaboration and coordination among key stakeholders, including the World Health Organization, the Global Alliance for Vaccines and Immunization, the World Trade Organization, the Centre for International Prospective Studies and Information, vaccine manufacturers, the private

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⁶ The word "efforts" refers to paragraph 1 of the same document, which states that the Conference of Ministers "commends various initiatives undertaken by the Economic Commission for Africa to support member States in leveraging the adoption of the African Union Commission and Africa Centres for Disease Control and Prevention Africa Joint Continental Strategy for COVID-19 Outbreak in March 2020 as a blueprint and master plan for coordinating regional efforts to ensure synergy and minimize duplication, to save lives and support African social and economic development"; and to paragraph 2, which states that the Conference of Ministers "also commends various initiatives undertaken by the Economic Commission for Africa in supporting African member States in the World Trade Organization Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights on vaccines, debt relief and the issuance of special drawing rights".

sector and donors. ECA played a central role in the development of the continent's COVID-19 vaccination strategy for and in securing up to 510 million doses of the Johnson and Johnson and Moderna vaccines. These measures have had considerable health and economic implications since they are helping countries to build back better while tackling the pandemic.

Increasing vaccine manufacturing in Africa can ensure access to vaccines if global demand increases and can help to mitigate the risks associated with vaccine manufacturing being heavily concentrated in other regions of the world. To that end, ECA has both: created a platform to connect the private sector and key international organizations to pharmaceutical manufacturers and market opportunities; and distributed relevant policy reports and technical research papers at the Africa Business Forum 2021 and through other relevant subregional and continental platforms. Through the Partnership for African Vaccine Manufacturing, ECA led a work stream to develop a market-shaping and demand-certainty strategy that is commercially viable and financially sustainable for next-generation African vaccines. That work has supported and informed the development of pharmaceutical manufacturing projects in Algeria, Egypt, Morocco, Rwanda, Senegal and South Africa.

ECA coordinated the holding of a multi-stakeholder forum on COVID-19 that was attended by key players (United Nations entities, the African Union Commission, the African Development Bank, the African Export-Import Bank, member States, health experts, etc.), which has served as a means of continuous advocacy for equitable distribution of and access to COVID-19 vaccines, among other initiatives, with a view to accelerating recovery from the pandemic in Africa. The support of ECA for the African Continental Free Trade Area has contributed to the role of the latter as a platform for building resilient and inclusive health systems, with the aim of producing vaccines, medicines and medical equipment in Africa.

ECA played an instrumental role in the establishment of the Africa Medical Supplies Platform, whose strength lies in its ability to pool demand for and procurement of medical supplies, thereby reducing costs and ensuring high quality. Under the leadership of the African Union Commission, ECA, in collaboration with the Africa Centres for Disease Control and Prevention and the African Vaccine Acquisition Trust, has procured more than 40 per cent of the COVID-19 vaccines required by Africa, including the purchase of 110 million doses from Moderna, which was brokered by the Government of the United States of America. Thanks to a \$500 million donation from the Mastercard Foundation, the cost of vaccines under the African Vaccine Acquisition Trust are on a par with those procured under the COVID-19 Vaccine Global Access (COVAX) Facility.

F. Resolution 977 (LIII): Economic Commission for Africa support for least developed countries in the context of the Fifth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries

Paragraph⁷

(a) Text

Requests the Economic Commission for Africa to continue to support African least developed countries in their efforts to graduate from least developed country status and facilitate the implementation of the Programmes of Action that emanated from the Fifth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries.

(b) Progress

The Commission helped Angola, Benin, Burkina Faso, Mozambique and Senegal to estimate their respective national illicit financial flows. Through in-depth training in the use of the integrated planning and reporting toolkit, Benin, Liberia and

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⁷ There is only one operative paragraph in resolution 977 (LIII).

the Niger have aligned their national development plans with the 2030 Agenda and Agenda 2063. A customized integrated sustainable development model has been finalized for Djibouti to inform the design and development of its new national development plan. To enhance evidence-based policymaking, macroeconomic modelling forecasts have been generated for Senegal.

To improve the consultation process under the enhanced monitoring mechanism (E/RES/2021/11, para. 9), ECA worked with the Committee for Development Policy to hold an online consultation with the Government of Angola to discuss the challenges that may arise and the support that could be provided in preparing and implementing a transition strategy for Angola. Participants in the consultation exchanged information on country-specific challenges, including COVID-19, and on opportunities that would arise from the country's smooth transition and its graduation from the list of least developed countries. They generated ideas on how to further improve the monitoring framework and the support provided during crises and emergencies.

G. Resolution 978 (LIII): Vienna Programme of Action for Landlocked Developing Countries for the Decade 2014–2024

Paragraphs 6 and 7

(a) Text

Calls upon the Economic Commission for Africa, in collaboration with the Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States, other relevant United Nations system organizations, regional and international development partners and other international organizations, to support landlocked developing countries and transit countries in leveraging the opportunities provided by regional and integration initiatives, such as the African Continental Free Trade Area;

Requests the Economic Commission for Africa, in collaboration with the Office of the High Representative, other relevant United Nations system organizations and relevant international and regional organizations, to continue providing technical support to the landlocked developing countries in Africa in the priority areas of the Vienna Programme of Action, including those included in the road map for its accelerated implementation.

(b) Progress

ECA continued to provide technical support to African landlocked developing countries in the priority areas of the Vienna Programme of Action, including by ensuring that the countries are included in key interventions by ECA in its member States, such as the preparation and roll-out of national implementation strategies for the African Continental Free Trade Area and the deployment of the ECA macroeconomic model. In collaboration with the African Development Bank and the Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States, ECA conducted a training activity for landlocked developing countries during the final quarter of 2020 in the development of bankable projects, including infrastructure projects. The training activity was part of efforts to close the huge infrastructure gap in Africa.

ECA capitalized on the convening of various forums, including several interagency consultative group meetings on the follow-up to and implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action, to promote solutions to issues faced by African landlocked developing countries. With the outbreak and spread of COVID-19, ECA strove to ensure that efforts to counter the pandemic did not leave behind African landlocked developing countries. In addition, in collaboration with the African Union Commission, the African Union Development Agency, regional economic communities and other partners, ECA supported the development of guidelines on

common measures and practices to facilitate the free and timely flow of cross-border trade during pandemics. It also ensured that landlocked developing countries and other countries in Africa leveraged the Africa Medical Supplies Platform, an offshoot of the pharmaceutical initiative led by ECA and anchored in the African Continental Free Trade Area, to secure COVID-19-related technical equipment and medicines.

H. Resolution 979 (LIII): African Institute for Economic Development and Planning

Paragraph 2

(a) Text

Reiterates its call to the Economic Commission for Africa, in collaboration with the Institute, to take all steps necessary to request the General Assembly to increase the regular grant in support of the Institute's programme;

(b) Progress

No progress was made in this area. The proposed ECA budget for 2022 did not include the requested increase.

I. Resolution 980 (LIII): Special drawing rights

Paragraphs 3-5

(a) Text

Requests the Commission to continue to provide a convening platform for African policymakers and other relevant stakeholders, and to advocate a new issuance of between 500 billion and 650 billion United States dollars in special drawing rights, which would be a vital step in providing much needed liquidity and investment financing for African countries, and for low-income and middle-income countries in particular;

Also requests the Commission to support advocacy efforts by member States for the extension of the Group of 20 Debt Service Suspension Initiative until at least the end of 2021, which would free up an additional 8 billion dollars for recovery in 2021 and provide much needed liquidity to respond to the crisis;

Calls upon the Commission to mobilize support for a special drawing rights reallocation mechanism that is commensurate with the development financing needs of African countries;

(b) Progress

Since the convening of its fifty-third session, ECA has continued to support efforts by member States to stave off insolvency caused by the liquidity challenges inflicted by the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. The advocacy efforts of ECA led to the issuance of \$650 billion in special drawing rights by the International Monetary Fund in August 2021, which is expected to play a vital role in providing much-needed liquidity and investment financing for African countries. ECA has supported member States' advocacy of an extension of the Debt Service Suspension Initiative until December 2021. Set up by the Group of 20, the Initiative is estimated to have freed up an additional \$8 billion for recovery in 2021, thereby providing much-needed liquidity for the response to the crisis. In collaboration with the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, ECA has also continued to support developing countries in their advocacy of reallocating additional and unused special drawing rights from developed economies.

ECA also launched the Liquidity and Sustainability Facility on the margins of the twenty-sixth session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, held in Glasgow, United Kingdom of

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Great Britain and Northern Ireland. The Facility is designed to allow investors to use African debt issued in foreign currencies – such as United States dollars and euros – in repo markets. Given that this option is less common in developing countries, the Facility improves their sovereign access to funding on international bond markets, allowing them to exchange bonds for cash through transactions that are typically considered to be very safe. Furthermore, the \$650 billion of special drawing rights created by the International Monetary Fund is expected to form part of the funding for the implementation of the Facility.

J. Resolution 981 (LIII): 2022 programme plan and budget

Paragraph 1

(a) Text

Calls upon the Economic Commission for Africa to include performance measures in the four-year medium-term programme framework (2022–2025), to facilitate the tracking of progress in its implementation;

(b) Progress

The medium-term programme framework (2022–2025) includes a results framework outlining the outcomes in each of the five areas of African transformation. Each of the outcomes has a set of indicators to measure the progress of individual countries, subregions or the entire continent. Most of the indicators can be linked to the global indicator framework for the Sustainable Development Goals, ⁸ along with the subsequent refinements made by the Statistical Commission of the United Nations Secretariat, ⁹ and show entry points for support from ECA.

Paragraph 2

(a) Text

Urges the Economic Commission for Africa to consider working towards the consolidation of its programme plan and budget documents;

(b) Progress

The proposed programme budget approved by the General Assembly incorporates the programme plan and the programme budget into a single consolidated document. Given that the two components are prepared by two distinct divisions, ECA has endeavoured to facilitate further collaboration and alignment between those divisions to ensure optimum coherence and accountability.

Paragraph 3

(a) Text

Also urges the Economic Commission for Africa to work towards strengthening its resource mobilization efforts, with a view to improving the balance between regular budgetary allocations and extrabudgetary resources;

(b) Progress

ECA continues to strengthen its resource mobilization efforts to improve the balance between regular budget allocations and extrabudgetary resources. Extrabudgetary resources increased by 98 per cent in 2021. Resource mobilization efforts have resulted in a broader resource base for ECA, with several new development partners coming on board, including the International Islamic Trade Finance Corporation, Pfizer, Global Affairs Canada, Vital Strategies, the Bill and

⁸ Adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 71/313.

⁹ E/CN.3/2016/2/Rev.1.

Melinda Gates Foundation, the African Development Bank, the European Union, the United Nations Office for Project Services and Eurostat.

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