

2. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to take action to assist in the development and expansion of national, sub-regional or regional merchant marines, including pooling of shipping services and to promote related services and facilities.

427th meeting,
24 April 1970.

110 (XXVI). TRAINING IN AND USE OF COMPUTERS
WITHIN THE REGION

The Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East,

Recalling Commission resolution 98 (XXV),

Recalling the recommendation of the Conference of Asian Statisticians at its ninth session that the Executive Secretary appoint a committee of experts to study further the demand for, general viability, cost and detailed specification of the proposed regional computing centre,

Having received the report submitted by the said Committee of Experts which advocated the early establishment of a regional institute for applied data processing in order to meet training needs within the region,

Recognizing

(i) that not all the developing countries of the region are adequately equipped to participate effectively in international economic development, being hampered in countering their own internal problems by the lack of reliable and timely information from such sources as population, agricultural and industrial censuses, economic and social statistics, government accounting, etc.;

(ii) that the gathering of uniform, reliable and timely statistics on all fields of economic and social endeavour may eventually require all countries to develop their own use of computers;

(iii) that there is an acute shortage of trained personnel in the field of systems analysis and design and computer programming in the developing countries,

Noting

(i) that several countries which have data processing installations have expanded their facilities for training personnel in computer technology to meet rapidly rising needs;

(ii) that advanced training in most countries - and training at all levels in countries with limited computer capability - still has to be arranged for abroad and that some countries have difficulties in arranging such training,

Recognizing

(i) that facilities for data processing are not necessarily best combined with those needed for

training and would in any case need to be under separate financial control;

(ii) that it is in the interests of all countries that all facilities for training within the region be effectively exploited,

1. *Notes* that the present data processing needs of the secretariat are being met;

2. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to bring to the notice of the Commission in good time expected increases in demand for data processing by the secretariat;

3. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to use his good offices to help ensure that those developing countries of the region which have difficulty in obtaining training in the use of computers by Governments are enabled to make the best arrangements to suit their needs, so that the training facilities and spare computer capacity within and outside the region now or in the future may be fully utilized;

4. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to take steps to initiate training arrangements in the use of computers in the region in the light of the report of the Committee of Experts, the comments thereon contained in document E/CN.11/L.269 and Add.1 and the comments made at the twenty-sixth session of the Commission and thereafter to submit those arrangements to Governments of member countries with a view to necessary action being taken by the Commission at its twenty-seventh session.

427th meeting,
24 April 1970.

111 (XXVI). POPULATION IN RELATION TO ECONOMIC
AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

The Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East,

Noting General Assembly resolution 2211(XXI) which recognizes the sovereignty of nations in formulating and promoting their own population policies and the principle that the size of the family should be the free choice of each individual family,

Recalling its resolution 54 (XX) inviting Governments to take account of the urgency of adopting positive population policies related to their individual needs, and its resolution 74 (XXIII) calling for appropriate steps to expand the regional population programme in the light of existing priority areas and emerging needs of Governments,

Noting with satisfaction the initiation by the secretariat of an intensified programme of work that brings regional experience and co-operation to bear on national population problems through projects that include a wide range of action-oriented studies and research, provision of training and advisory services and the establishment of a regional clearing house,

Recognizing that the growing efforts to improve the quality of life through long-term economic and

social development may be frustrated by the continuance of the present high rates of population growth within the region,

1. *Calls on* member countries, in accordance with their national policies and special needs, to adopt practical and effective family planning measures on a voluntary basis aimed at the achievement of more desirable rates of population growth; and proposes that this be included among the essential aspects of the international development strategy for the Second United Nations Development Decade, looking to the eventual achievement of satisfactory *per capita* economic growth which would promote human welfare;

2. *Invites* the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme, in allocating its resources and those of the United Nations Fund for Population Activities, to attach importance to collaborative efforts in the field of population at the regional, sub-regional and national levels, through which ECAFE co-operates in the application of the combined skills and knowledge of several agencies within the United Nations system;

3. *Endorses* the Asian Population Programme as an instrument through which the Executive Secretary can take prompt action to assist Governments to achieve their development goals.

427th meeting,
24 April 1970.

112 (XXVII). ESTABLISHMENT OF REGIONAL CENTRE
FOR DEVELOPMENT ADMINISTRATION

The Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East,

Recalling its endorsement at the twenty-fifth session of the proposal to establish a regional centre for development administration and its decision to convene a special panel to prepare a plan of action,

Taking note of the report of the Panel of Experts and related documentation on the substance and structure of the regional centre,

Noting also the unanimous recommendation of the Panel of Experts as to the utmost importance of, and need for, the early establishment of a regional centre,

Considering General Assembly resolution 2561 (XXIV) on public administration and development, which implies clearly that administrative and managerial capability remains a critical factor in national programmes of economic and social development and that measures to increase that capability are fundamental in all efforts to achieve successful development,

Realizing that, while all existing facilities and resources at the national levels should be strengthened and extended, regional efforts are crucial to the generation of new thinking and action aimed at intensifying the efforts to improve the implementation capacity of the administrative systems,

Recalling the full support already conveyed to the Executive Secretary by most member and associate member countries in the ECAFE region, for the establishment and development of a regional centre,

1. *Strongly affirms* the pressing need for a regional centre to improve administrative and managerial capability and its effectiveness in economic and social development and, in this regard, to serve as a complement to various programmes and projects at the national and regional levels;

2. *Reaffirms* the opinion of the countries in the region that the establishment and activities of the centre merit the fullest co-operation and assistance of the United Nations Development Programme, the specialized agencies and other assistance sources;

3. *Notes* with appreciation the offer of UNDP to send a consultant mission to process the project for implementation and draws its attention to the report of the Panel of Experts which offers a complete basis for UNDP to assist in the establishment of the centre;

4. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to take all necessary steps to help establish the centre at the earliest possible date; and

5. *Urges* the United Nations Development Programme to give high priority to its consideration of the application by member and associate member countries in support of the project as part of its over-all institution building and pre-investment support for the Second Development Decade.

427th meeting,
24 April 1970.