

2. *Considers* it essential for ECAFE to intensify its long-term programming in order to concentrate efforts in the most important directions of economic and social development in the national interests of the developing countries;

3. *Calls on* all countries to promote economic and social progress in developing countries through the timely implementation of the action programmes for the Second Development Decade;

4. *Calls on* the developing countries of the region to re-dedicate themselves to intensification of mutual co-operation with a view to attaining the goals of development;

5. *Calls also on* them to make their fullest contribution to the regional strategy for the Second United Nations Development Decade and to render the utmost co-operation to the ECAFE in this regard;

6. *Requests* the member countries to continue giving immediate attention to the formulation and implementation of appropriate policies and plans for integrating the needs of social justice with those of economic development, including fair income distribution and employment for all;

7. *Appeals for* special assistance and support to the land-locked and to the least developed among the developing countries within the context of the interests and needs of all developing countries;

8. *Draws* the attention of all developed countries to the great importance of assured expectations of growth and of mutual commitments as a basis for stability and confidence in a country's progress towards full development;

9. *Requests* those countries, in the cause of world stability and mutual prosperity, to provide assurances of sustained assistance related specifically to the target of full economic and social development;

10. *Urges* the developed countries to provide, within the framework of the strategy for the Second Development Decade, in particular, (i) assurances, in terms of accessibility, non-discrimination, and non-reciprocity, of a liberal attitude to trade issuing from the developing countries, (ii) similar assurances of continuity of aid to national investment efforts the quantity, type and terms of which are related to accepted national growth targets and frameworks, and (iii) sustained joint assistance by the co-operating developed countries to ECAFE's projects and programmes;

11. *Urges* the need for the developing countries of the region to be consulted in regard to, and fully associated with, the process of finding appropriate solutions to international monetary and trade problems;

12. *Calls upon* the Governments of all member countries of ECAFE to make every effort to contribute towards the cause of securing peace in Asia as a fundamental prerequisite for developing economic co-operation among the countries of the region, for their economic and social progress in the long term;

13. *Invites* all international organizations to render assistance, making use of the wide framework for joint action and co-operation provided in ECAFE;

14. *Emphasizes* the importance of ensuring maximum utilization of regional resources and skills in all programmes for regional co-operation and development;

15. *Notes*, in this connexion, General Assembly resolution 2736 (XXV) which, *inter alia*, gives recognition to the policy of staffing the secretariats of the regional economic commissions predominantly by nationals of countries in the region and giving preference to qualified candidates of under-represented countries in the region;

16. *Calls for* full implementation of decentralization of activities to the regional commission in the spirit of all the General Assembly, Council and Commission resolutions on the subject;

17. *Hopes* strongly and confidently that this declaration will become an important foundation for steady and rapid attainment by all the countries of full development, prosperity and peace, and that it will constitute the basis for ECAFE's continuing role as the regional arm of the United Nations in Asia and the spring-board for multilateral support to the declared development aims of the countries of the region.

460th meeting,
25 March 1972.

121 (XXVIII). THE ROLE OF THE ECAFE SECRETARIAT

The Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East,

Noting with satisfaction the steady progress achieved as a result of its endeavours during the past twenty-five years and the success of the many institutions and projects it has established for the region's benefit,

Noting further the valuable service rendered and strong support given to the performance of its tasks by each of the Executive Secretaries in turn and the secretariat,

Aware of the diligence with which the Executive Secretaries have implemented its directives and of the importance of their role in fostering economic and social co-operation among the countries of the region during a period beset with grave uncertainties and tensions,

Commending the distinguished contribution made by the present Executive Secretary, U Nyun, to the cause of development and co-operation in Asia and his dedication to the task of promoting peace through regional economic and social development in the spirit of the United Nations Charter,

1. *Desires* on the occasion of its twenty-fifth anniversary, to express its warm appreciation of the service rendered by the Executive Secretaries and the ECAFE secretariat to the Commission and to the region during the past years;

2. *Calls* upon the ECAFE secretariat to continue to render service of a high order to the Commission in the furtherance of its aim of increasing development and co-operation in Asia for peace and prosperity.

459th meeting,
24 March 1972.

122 (XXVIII). THE ROLE OF NATURAL RUBBER IN THE ECONOMIES OF THE COUNTRIES OF THE ECAFE REGION

The Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East,

Aware of the vital role of the natural rubber industry in the economy of several countries of the region,

Realizing that the industry is facing difficulties which require closer and continuing study and examination with a view to determining as a matter of urgency both short-term and the long-term concerted remedial action necessary to overcome these difficulties,

Recognizing that the Association of Natural Rubber Producing Countries with the assistance of ECAFE has already taken an initiative in this direction by constituting an Expert Group for making such study and examination,

Requests (a) the Executive Secretary to provide the fullest assistance to the Expert Group in the prosecution of this work; and (b) the member countries to extend their fullest co-operation to the Expert Group in the successful completion of its task.

459th meeting,
24 March 1972.

123 (XXVIII). EXTENSION OF THE ASIAN INSTITUTE FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING INTO A THIRD PHASE (1974-1978) AND ENSURING THE PERMANENCY OF THE INSTITUTE IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF ITS GOVERNING COUNCIL

The Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East,

Considering the ever-increasing need of the Asian countries for the training of personnel concerned with planning for economic and social development and the implementation of development programmes and policies,

Recalling the decision taken at its twenty-third session in 1967, under resolution 84 (XXIII), to urge the United Nations Development Programme and the Governments of the member and associate member countries to continue to support the Asian Institute financially for the second five-year period (1969-1973), and to continue to review the performance and achievements of the Institute as set forth in the latter's annual reports with a view to considering at its twenty-eighth session in 1972 the question of giving the Institute a permanent status,

Noting with satisfaction the progress of the arrangements made by the Government of Singapore to have ready a permanent headquarters for the Institute by the end of 1973,

Taking cognizance of the report of the Governing Council on the functioning of the Institute and the proposals and recommendations contained therein on the extension of the Institute's activities into a third five-year period (1974-1978) and on measures for ensuring the Institute's permanency,

1. *Urges* the United Nations Development Programme and the Governments of the member and associate member countries of ECAFE to support the Asian Institute financially for a third five-year period (1974-1978) and to provide such support in substantially increased measure, as recommended by the Governing Council;

2. *Endorses* the Institute's decision to request the Asian Development Bank to provide it with financial and other support, and its intention to request other institutions to do the same;

3. *Decides* that the Institute shall become a permanent organization and continue to function as a regional institution supported by the United Nations.

459th meeting,
24 March 1972.

124 (XXVIII). IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROVISIONS RELATING TO LAND-LOCKED COUNTRIES OF THE KABUL DECLARATION ON ASIAN ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION AND DEVELOPMENT

The Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East,

Being aware of the importance of the economic and social advancement of the land-locked countries of the region,

Recalling its resolutions 51 (XX), 107 (XXVI) and 114 (XXVII) on special problems relating to land-locked countries,

Further recalling the principles relating to the transit trade of land-locked countries adopted by the first session of UNCTAD, and resolution 11 (II) on special problems of the land-locked countries adopted by the second session of UNCTAD,

Noting the relevant portions of General Assembly resolution 2626 (XXV) entitled "International Development Strategy for the Second United Nations Development Decade", relating to special measures in favour of the land-locked developing countries,

Noting further the creation of a unit within the ECAFE secretariat to give continued attention, in co-ordination with other divisions concerned, to the special problems of the least developed among the developing countries and the land-locked countries of the ECAFE region and the report of the First Meeting of the Special Body on Land-locked Countries,⁷

Inviting attention to relevant provisions of the Declaration of the Fourth Meeting of the Council of Ministers held at Kabul in December 1970, which,

⁷ E/CN.11/1031.