

2. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to explore ways and means of improving ECAFE's performance in the field of agricultural development and to this end to explore the possibility of strengthening the Joint ECAFE/FAO Agriculture Division;

3. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to consider in collaboration with FAO the convening of an inter-governmental meeting on agricultural development in the region in order to consider the role ECAFE should play in this field.

477th meeting,
21 April 1973.

138 (XXIX). RATIONALIZATION OF THE CONFERENCE
STRUCTURE OF ECAFE

The Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East,

Recalling that General Assembly resolution 2626 (XXV) sets forth challenging economic and social goals for all countries as part of the International Development Strategy of the United Nations for the Second Development Decade,

Further recalling Economic and Social Council resolution 1730 (LIII) on rationalization of the Council's work and that of its subsidiary organs,

Noting that successive reviews of the scope and methods of work, the calendar of conferences and work programme of the Commission have been carried out in recent years, in particular in 1968 in connexion with Council resolution 1264 (XLIII) on implementation of the recommendations of the *Ad Hoc* Committee of Experts to Examine the Finances of the United Nations and the Specialized Agencies, and the review made by the Joint Inspection Unit in 1969,

Considering that, at the Commission's twenty-eighth session, it was declared that "the twenty-fifth anniversary year of ECAFE marks the opening of a new and dynamic phase of development and co-operation in the ECAFE region",

Having regard to the views expressed by member countries during the current session regarding the Commission's role, and the importance of enhancing its effectiveness in promoting the region's rapid economic and social development,

1. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to convene meetings of permanent representatives to ECAFE and/or other representatives designated by the members of the Commission, not later than the end of 1973, in order to undertake, in close co-operation with the secretariat and United Nations agencies concerned, a review and appraisal of the Commission's conference structure and any other matters within the competence of the Commission which are relevant to the enhancement of its effectiveness in promoting economic and social development in the region;

2. *Invites* the Executive Secretary to submit to the thirtieth session of the Commission in 1974 the findings and recommendations of the meetings, together with his recommendations.

477th meeting,
21 April 1973.

139 (XXIX). USE OF CHINESE AS ONE OF THE WORKING
LANGUAGES OF THE ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR
ASIA AND THE FAR EAST

The Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East

Noting that China is a full regional member of the Commission,

Recognizing that Chinese is one of the official languages of the United Nations,

Bearing in mind the possibility of including Chinese as a working language of the Commission,

1. *Calls* upon the Executive Secretary to study the possibilities thereof, and to make necessary arrangements; and, in view of financial and other matters, to take practical measures employing a gradual approach by providing simultaneous interpretation;

2. *Decides* to consider the question of amending the rules of procedure at its thirtieth session in 1974.

477th meeting,
21 April 1973.