inter alia appropriate land reforms; and also calls upon the international community to provide all possible assistance to the developing countries to enable them to achieve this objective;

3. *Recommends* that the developing member countries accelerate the implementation of programmes for providing education, health, housing and other social services to the common people, and bring about rural development through the active participation of the people in the planning and implementation process;

4. *Invites* member countries to continue their efforts to effectively solve the continuing and critical balance-of-payments difficulties with the fullest co-operation and assistance of the developed countries and other countries which have the resources, at the same time appreciating the steps taken by the international community to find solutions to those difficulties;

5. *Recommends* that the developing countries, wherever appropriate, increasingly utilize the technologies developed by them and suited to their needs and their domestic natural resources through genuine technological co-operation;

6. *Further recommends* co-operative effort among or between the countries of the region in order to solve the fundamental problems relating to commodities and raw materials, in connexion with their trade, transit facilities and development as appropriate;

7. *Invites* member countries to explore the possibilities of intensifying regional co-operation for the development of shipping and ports;

8. *Urges* the maximum utilization of regional skills, capabilities and expertise in the activities of the Commission, particularly in the implementation of the integrated programme of work, especially in the priority areas;

9. *Declares* that the countries of the region should approach their various problems in a spirit of expanding subregional and regional understanding and growing international co-operation, and that the deliberations of the session of the Commission should constitute a contribution to the early establishment of a New International Economic Order and to a new development strategy by focusing special attention on the common people and the improvement of the quality of their life and living conditions through growth with social justice.

500th meeting,
6 March 1975.

155 (XXXI). **Change of name of the Asian Institute for Economic Development and Planning**

The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific,

Recalling Commission resolution 43 (XIX) establishing the Asian Institute for Economic Development and Planning,

Recognizing the importance of a unified approach to development,

Noting that the work programme of the Institute for 1975 and the guidelines of the work plan for phase III, 1976-1980, place equal emphasis on the economic and the social aspects of development,

Further noting the recommendation of the Governing Council of the Institute at its 24th meeting that the present name of the Institute, "Asian Institute for Economic Development and Planning", be changed to "Asian Development Institude",

Decides to change the name of the Institute from "Asian Institute for Economic Development and Planning" to "Asian Development Institute" in keeping with the integrated approach to development of its activities.

500th meeting,
6 March 1975.

156 (XXXI). **Establishment of the Asian Centre for Agricultural Machinery**

The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific,

Recalling its resolution 145 (XXX) on the establishment of the Asian Centre for Agricultural Machinery in the Philippines,

Noting with appreciation the progress made in implementing the said resolution,

Taking cognizance of the recommendations of the UNDP/UNIDO/FAO/ESCAP Preparatory Mission on Technical Assistance for the Development of Agricultural Machinery Suitable for Use and Production in Asian Countries,

1. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to take immediate appropriate measures to implement the recommendations of the UNDP/UNIDO/FAO/ESCAP Preparatory Mission, and to locate the regional centre in the Philippines;

2. *Welcomes* the decision of the United Nations Development Programme, designating the Commission as the executing agency for the preparatory assistance phase of the project;

3. *Requests* the United Nations Development Programme, in accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 1896 (LVII), to designate the Commission as the executing agency for the project;

4. *Urges* the international organizations and institutions concerned with the development and adaptation of suitable agricultural machinery and all member countries to extend their fullest assistance in order to ensure the successful implementation of the project.

500th meeting,
6 March 1975.

157 (XXXI). **Regional Plan of Action for the Enhancement of the Role of Women in Development**

The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific,

Recalling General Assembly resolutions 3010 (XXVII) proclaiming the year 1975 International Women's Year, 3275 (XXIX) calling upon Govern-

ments, specialized agencies, regional economic commissions and non-governmental organizations to implement fully the programme for the International Women's Year as approved by the Economic and Social Council, and 3342 (XXIX) on women and development, calling upon the United Nations system to provide increased assistance to those programmes, projects and activities which will encourage and promote the further integration of women into national, regional and interregional economic development activities,

Further recalling Economic and Social Council resolutions 1849 (LVI) on International Women's Year, 1850 (LVI) on the establishment of a fund for voluntary contributions for the International Women's Year, 1852 (LVI) on the implementation of the Declaration on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, and of related instruments, 1854 (LVI) on the study on the interrelationship of the status of women and family planning, 1855 (LVI) on the implementation of a programme of concerted international action to promote the advancement of women and their integration in development, and 1856 (LVI) on the status of rural women,

Also recalling Commission resolution 135 (XXIX), in pursuance of which the Regional Consultation for Asia and the Far East on the Integration of Women in Development with Special Reference to Population Factors was convened in May 1974 and produced a Plan of Action,[1] which *inter alia* recommended that the Executive Secretary undertake the development and implementation of a comprehensive regional programme for the integration of women in development,

Welcoming the emphasis placed by the World Population Plan of Action on the relationship between the role and status of women and population factors, and its recognition that socio-economic development would be inhibited without the active participation of women in planning and decision-making in all aspects of life,

Taking note of the tangible results already obtained in certain parts of the region as regards the fuller participation of women in political, economic and social life and the achievement of equal opportunities by them,

Further noting the important role of women in family and community life as well as the realities of socio-economic life situations in several developing countries of the region,

Commending the Asian Plan for the Integration of Women in the Development Process as presented by the Executive Secretary to the Commission at its thirty-first session,[2]

1. *Urges* member Governments to include in their national development plans and country programmes such goals and projects as are designed to train and equip women to make a greater contribution to, and become more fully integrated in, the economic and social development of the nation;

2. *Further urges* member Governments to establish as a priority measure and in the spirit of the International Women's Year appropriate national machinery to accelerate the integration of women in development, and also to take measures to ensure the basic rights of equal pay for equal work and non-discrimination in employment on the ground of sex;

3. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to undertake the early implementation of the Asian Plan and, concurrently, to seek adequate supportive financial and staff resources, with particular reference to the offer of the Government of Iran concerning the establishment of a centre to carry out the regional obligations of the Asian Plan,[3] including the establishment of a research and information centre, which will have the following objectives:

(a) Assisting Governments and non-governmental organizations in developing policies, strategies and programmes for strengthening the role of women in national development, especially in the weaker areas of society;

(b) Promoting action-oriented research and the collection of data as a basis for the formulation of pragmatic programmes and the evaluation and monitoring of progress made towards the effective integration of women in development;

(c) Providing a clearing-house for information between the countries of the region in respect of relevant programmes and services;

(d) Strengthening training programmes to increase women's potential for local, national and regional leadership;

(e) Helping Governments to incorporate in their country programming and in requests for technical and financial assistance, particularly those pertaining to rural and industrial development, projects to promote and facilitate the participation of women in development;

4. *Urges* the United Nations specialized agencies and other United Nations bodies, including the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Children's Fund, the United Nations Industrial Development Organization and the United Nations Environment Programme, as well as non-governmental organizations, to give due attention in their country programming to the impact of their development efforts on the status of women and to the full integration of women in the development process, and at the same time to collaborate with the Executive Secretary in his efforts to further these objectives;

5. *Endorses* with much appreciation the offer made by the Government of Iran to the Commission concerning the establishment of the centre in Iran as a regional institution of ESCAP, to be financed partly by the host Government and partly by voluntary contributions from other member States;

6. *Further requests* the Executive Secretary to negotiate this proposal with the Government of Iran, and to report to the Commission at its thirty-second session on the progress achieved in the implementation of the Asian Plan.

500th meeting,
6 March 1975.

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1 ST/ESA/SER.B/5 Add.1.

2 E/CN.11/1202, part IV. This Asian Plan is based on the Plan of Action.

3 *Ibid*, p. 34.