

158 (XXXI). Regional training institutions of the Commission supported by the United Nations Development Programme

The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific,

Recalling its resolution 148 (XXX), regarding the over-all review of the Commission's regional training institutions supported by the United Nations Development Programme, namely the Asian Institute for Economic Development and Planning, the Asian Statistical Institute, the Asian Centre for Development Administration, and the Asian Centre for Training and Research in Social Welfare and Development,

Noting with appreciation the action taken by the Executive Secretary to organize a mission to undertake an over-all review of the Commission's regional institutions,

Deeply appreciative of the financial assistance provided by the United Nations Development Programme, which enabled the Executive Secretary to field a mission to undertake the over-all review of the institutions,

Taking cognizance of the report of the Review Mission to the Executive Secretary⁴ and the findings and recommendations contained therein,

Taking note of the Executive Secretary's report⁵ on the regional institutions, and the recommendations and proposals contained therein,

1. Requests the Executive Secretary, in consultation with the Governments concerned, in particular with the Governments of host countries, the United Nations Development Programme, and the appropriate offices of the United Nations Headquarters, to take all necessary steps in line with the recommendations and proposals contained in his report to:

(a) Effect the appropriate changes in the various legal instruments or plans of operation governing the regional institutions in order that these institutions may become intergovernmental entities;

(b) Establish a single intergovernmental governing council for the four institutions, which will replace the existing separate governing/advisory bodies;

(c) Set up a co-ordinating committee at the technical level to assist the intergovernmental governing council;

(d) Establish an expert advisory committee for each of the institutions to assist them in their respective substantive programme areas;

(e) Entrust the intergovernmental governing council with the consideration of the question of budget consolidation after it has gained some experience through the implementation of the other measures provided for by this resolution;

(f) Keep under review the question of the eventual integration of the Asian Institute for Economic Development and Planning and the Asian Centre for Development Administration;

⁴ E/CN.11/1211.

⁵ E/CN.11/1209.

⁶ *Ibid.*

(g) Prepare for the gradual tapering-off of institutional support, and phasing-in of programme support provided by the United Nations Development Programme for the regional institutions, subject to the qualifications contained in the Executive Secretary's report;

(h) Take the necessary steps for the designation of the Commission as executing agency for the regional institutions supported by the United Nations Development Programme, and arrange for the allotment of the necessary funds to the Commission for this purpose;

2. Invites the United Nations Centre for Regional Development, in Nagoya, Japan, to continue its collaboration with the Executive Secretary and the regional institutions;

3. Earnestly calls upon the United Nations Development Programme and the appropriate offices of the United Nations Headquarters to assist the Executive Secretary in his efforts to implement the recommendations of this resolution and those contained in the Executive Secretary's report,⁶ and to expedite the process of delegation of executing agency functions for the regional institutions to the Commission as well as the allotment of the necessary funds to it for this purpose;

4. Requests the Executive Secretary to expedite the launching of the Asian Centre for Training and Research in Social Welfare and Development, and to take all necessary measures to ensure that, during the transition period resulting from the implementation of the foregoing recommendations, the activities, programmes and operations of all the institutions shall not be adversely affected;

5. Further requests the Executive Secretary to report to the Commission at its thirty-second session on the progress made.

500th meeting,
6 March 1975.

159 (XXXI). Regional centre for technology transfer

The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific,

Realizing that technology plays an important role in the process of the rapid industrialization of developing countries and that their industrial backwardness is a reflection of the technological backwardness,

Recognizing that technology transfer on fair terms is of crucial importance to the industrialization of developing countries,

Aware that most of the developing countries are facing serious problems in acquiring/importing technology to suit their special needs,

Bearing in mind that the mere importation of technology from developed countries is inadequate and that, more importantly, technology needs to be adapted, absorbed and innovated in an appropriate manner to service the varied needs of developing countries,

Convinced that there is need to create an appropriate institution within the ESCAP region to help the developing countries to acquire, adapt and absorb technology,

Re-affirming their conviction that there is need for co-operation among the developing countries of the ESCAP region in the field of transfer of technology with a view to promoting self-reliance,

1. *Reiterates* the conclusion of the Commission at its thirtieth session concerning the need to set up a centre for technology transfer within the region;

2. *Welcomes* with great appreciation the offer of the Government of India to provide host facilities for the proposed centre;

3. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to appoint a group of regional experts to make a feasibility study of the proposal to establish the centre for technology transfer in India, and to prepare a comprehensive project report for consideration by the Committee on Industry, Housing and Technology at its first session in 1975 and, if that is not possible, by the Advisory Committee of Permanent Representatives and, in any case, for decision by the Commission at its thirty-second session.

*500th meeting,
6 March 1975.*

160 (XXXI). Arrangements on shipping and ports

The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific,

Recalling that one of the principal objectives of the International Development Strategy for the Second United Nations Development Decade is to promote by national, regional and international action the earnings of developing countries from invisible trade, including shipping, and that the national shipping lines of developing countries should have an increasing and substantial participation in the carriage of cargoes generated by their foreign trade,

Bearing in mind that the Programme of Action on the Establishment of a New International Economic Order, adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations, provides *inter alia* that all efforts should be made:

- (a) To promote an increasing and equitable participation of developing countries in the world shipping tonnage;
- (b) To arrest and reduce the ever-increasing freight rates in order to reduce the cost

of imports to, and exports from, the developing countries,

Noting with concern that the combined fleets of the ESCAP developing countries in 1973 accounted for only 3 per cent of the world fleet (d.w.t.),

Recognizing the potential that exists for the very successful development of the shipping industry in all its aspects in the developing countries of ESCAP,

Bearing in mind also the substantial contribution the development of shipping could make to the rapid general economic development of the developing countries of ESCAP,

Noting particularly that there is no gestation period for ships, which are also internationally disposable assets,

Recognizing the inability of the developing countries of ESCAP to achieve the targets set by the Second United Nations Development Decade Strategy, unless a concentrated effort is made with assistance from bilateral and multilateral sources,

Bearing in mind the special difficulties of the developing island and land-locked countries,

Recalling resolution 143 (XXX) and taking note of the report of the Expert Group convened by the Executive Secretary and considering the proposal contained in the findings and recommendations of the Advisory Committee of Permanent Representatives and Other Representatives Designated by the Members of the Commission,

Recognizing the need for the regional economic commission to co-ordinate its activities on shipping with several other United Nations and international bodies, such as the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the Intergovernmental Maritime Consultative Organization, the Economic Commission for Africa, the Economic Commission for Latin America, and the Economic Commission for West Asia,

1. *Decides* that there shall in principle be one forum for shipping and ports;

2. *Further decides* that the decision on the establishment of the forum shall be taken by the Commission at its thirty-second session;

3. *Invites* the Executive Secretary in the meantime to take all necessary measures to ensure under his guidance the better co-ordination of all matters relating to shipping and ports.

*500th meeting,
6 March 1975.*