

(a) The expansion of national merchant fleets in the region;

(b) The exploration of possibilities of intensifying regional and interregional co-operation for the development of shipping;

(c) The promotion of the increasing and equitable participation of developing member countries in world shipping tonnage and trade; and

(d) The maintenance of fair and reasonable freight rates for the expansion of trade of the developing countries,

Conscious of the substantial contribution that the implementation of the above proposals could make towards accelerating the pace of economic development of the developing countries,

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 Inter-governmental Maritime Consultative Organization, the Economic Commission for Africa, the Economic Commission for Latin America, and the Economic Commission for West Asia,

Commending the good work done by the Staff Service for Shipping and Ports set up by the Executive Secretary,

Recalling its resolution 160 (XXXI) that there shall in principle be one forum for shipping and ports,

1. *Decides* to restructure the present Transport and Communications Committee as follows:

(a) The restructured Committee shall be redesignated as "Committee on Shipping, and Transport and Communications",

(b) The Committee shall have two separate and distinct wings, one wing attending exclusively to matters concerning shipping and ports, and the second wing dealing with all other matters pertaining to transport and communications,

(c) The restructured Committee shall meet annually and its two wings will share equally the time allotted to it for its deliberations;

2. *Decides* also that an *ad hoc* intergovernmental group shall be set up immediately to formulate the terms of reference of the restructured Committee. The group shall give its recommendations in good

time for consideration by the existing Transport and Communications Committee at its next session and subsequent submission to the Commission at its thirty-third session for approval;

3. *Requests* the United Nations Development Programme to provide increasing support to the activities of this Committee;

4. *Further requests* the developed and developing countries to continue to provide assistance to this Committee for the development of shipping and ports;

5. *Further decides* that, in the mean time, the existing arrangements on shipping and ports shall be continued.

510th meeting,
2 April 1976.

169 (XXXII). Special measures in favour of the least developed, land-locked and island countries

The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific,

Reaffirming the Kabul Declaration on Asian Economic and Development Co-operation,

Also reaffirming the New Delhi Declaration on the Regional Contribution to the Establishment of a New International Economic Order,

Recalling the Lima Declaration and Plan of Action on Industrial Development and Co-operation,

Further recalling General Assembly resolution 3362 (S-VII) on development and international economic co-operation,

Noting General Assembly resolution 3504 (XXX) on the Special Fund for Land-locked Developing Countries,

1. *Calls upon* member countries, to the extent possible:

(a) To adopt favourable treatment for the least developed, land-locked and island developing countries to assist in bringing about harmonious and balanced development;

(b) To give special attention to the trade requirements of the least developed, land-locked and island countries;

(c) To assist the least developed, land-locked and island countries of the region in the structural transformation of their economies;

2. *Further calls upon* member countries to provide the necessary assistance to land-locked countries of the region through the adoption of practical measures to facilitate their free access to and from the sea and to alleviate the transit difficulties of the land-locked countries of the region;

3. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to report on the progress in the implementation of this resolution to the Commission at its thirty-third session and to the Special Body on Land-locked Countries at its fourth session.

*510th meeting,
2 April 1976.*

170 (XXXII). Programme of work and priorities, 1976-1977, and medium-term plan, 1978-1981

The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific,

Recalling its resolution 140 (XXX) containing the Colombo Declaration, which identified the priority areas for action,

Further recalling its resolution 154 (XXXI) containing the New Delhi Declaration, which urged the maximum utilization of regional skills, capabilities and expertise in the activities of the Commission, particularly the implementation of the integrated programme of work, and defined the regional contribution to the establishment of a New International Economic Order through co-operation for self-reliance, with special attention to the improvement of the quality of life and living conditions of the common people,

Commending the contribution of the Advisory Committee of Permanent Representatives and Other Representatives Designated by Members of the Commission in examining the work programme of the Commission between sessions,

Further noting that the programme of work and priorities, 1976-1977, has been amended to reflect the discussions of the Commission at its thirty-first session and of legislative bodies of the Commission at meetings in the preceding year,

Welcoming the supplementary documentation submitted to the Commission for consideration, including an analysis of the programme of work and priorities,

1976-1977,⁸ and the annotated programme of work⁹ in certain sectors,

Having considered the programme of work and priorities, 1976-1977,¹⁰ and the medium-term plan, 1978-1981,¹¹

Recognizing with appreciation the assistance provided and being provided by some member countries to the Commission for the implementation of its activities,

Deeply concerned at the current grave financial constraints, due particularly to the curtailment of financial assistance by the United Nations Development Programme, which seriously affect the implementation of the programme of work of the Commission.

1. *Affirms* that, in carrying out the work programme, special attention must be given to essential projects in the agreed priority areas, including the field of rural development and the encouragement of technical co-operation among developing countries, which will bring immediate benefit to the peoples of the region;

2. *Requests* the Executive Secretary, in accordance with the integrated and multidisciplinary approach to development activities, to organize the existing resources of the secretariat so as to ensure effective implementation of these priority projects;

3. *Urges* the legislative committees of the Commission to be highly pragmatic and selective in considering the programme of work and priorities in their respective disciplines and, in particular, to avoid duplication of activities already under way in other international organizations, to give attention to the identification and implementation of a hard core of essential activities to be implemented, and to ensure that any additions to this hard core are matched by the corresponding deletion of activities, by according low priorities to certain activities, or by securing to the extent feasible an increase in resources;

4. *Further urges* the legislative committees of the Commission to be conscious of the activities of other international organizations, including regional and sub-regional organizations, in their disciplines with a view to avoiding duplication of effort;

5. *Requests* the Executive Secretary:

(a) To identify clearly in the programme of

⁸ E/CN.11/L.445/CONS.

⁹ E/CN.11/L.434/CONS.

¹⁰ E/CN.11/L.436/CONS.

¹¹ E/CN.11/L.432/CONS.