

RESOLUTION OF 10 JUNE 1948 ON THE ESTABLISHMENT OF
A TRADE PROMOTION SECTION
(Document E/CN.11/109)

THE ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR ASIA AND THE FAR EAST

RECOGNIZING that the economic development of the ECAFE countries is vitally dependent on the rehabilitation and expansion of their trade with each other and with other parts of the world;

RECOGNIZING further that a permanent regional organization is needed to continue and extend the work done in this field by the Working Section in the ECAFE Secretariat and to supplement the efforts of national trade promotion agencies;

RESOLVES

I. That a Trade Promotion Section, consisting, to begin with, of a small experienced staff drawn wherever possible from countries represented on the Commission, be established at once in the Secretariat to assist the Secretariat in carrying out such functions as the Commission may assign to it from time to time in regard to trade promotion and to collaborate with other agencies of the United Nations in related activities in such manner as the Secretariat may direct;

II. That the Secretariat be charged, inter alia, with the following functions in regard to trade promotion:

- (i) to carry out research and investigation into problems relating to the trade of the ECAFE region, with special reference to their bearing on the economic development of the countries concerned, and to make recommendations;
- (ii) to promote collaboration between Governments represented on the Commission and through such Governments between businessmen in their territories by means of conferences or otherwise, for the solution of common trade problems;
- (iii) to promote through advice and recommendations to Governments represented on the Commission other measures designed to foster the trade of the ECAFE region;
- (iv) at the request of any Government in the ECAFE region
 - (a) to furnish the Government with advice and assistance in the development of its trade promotion machinery,
 - (b) to provide liaison between the Government and either any other Government represented on the Commission or any inter-governmental or non-governmental organization concerned with international trade, and

- (c) to assist the Government in making use of the commercial service facilities provided in the region by member-Governments outside the region; and
 - (v) to act as a clearing house of commercial information and other economic information bearing on trade and, in particular, to make arrangements for the collection and dissemination of information relating to trade possibilities within and outside the region;
- III. That the Secretariat shall, to begin with, exercise only such of the above-mentioned functions as are, in the opinion of the Executive Secretary, of prior importance, with a view to gradually expanding its scale of activities in this field and its organization for the purpose;
- IV. That the work and usefulness of the Trade Promotion Section be reviewed after a year to determine its future administrative and financial set up and functions; and
- V. That in carrying out the above functions the Secretariat shall have regard to the provisions of the HAVANA CHARTER for an International Trade Organization and make suitable arrangements for consultation and co-operation with that organization, when it is established, with a view to avoiding duplication of activities.