

Part III

RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED BY THE COMMISSION AT ITS SEVENTEENTH SESSION

33 (XVII). The Asian highway ²⁹

The Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East,

Recognizing that the linking of the countries of Asia and the Far East by international highways would promote regional and international co-operation for their economic and social development,

Appreciating the progress made by the Working Groups of Experts on International Highways in reaching agreement on the routes comprising the international highway network, including standards for roads and bridges, codes for road signs and signals, pavement markings and road traffic, and on other technical aspects,

Noting that progress is being made by some countries in constructing and improving their highways which form part of the international highway network,

Recognizing, however, that there is an urgent need to fill a number of gaps in the priority routes designated as part of the international highways,

1. *Recommends* that the countries concerned should give high priority, within their overall economic plans and highway development programmes, to the development of roads, particularly priority routes, which have been designated for inclusion in the international highway network, having regard to their immediate national benefit as well as international use;

2. *Requests* the Working Groups to collect and review data on the missing links, to make a preliminary assessment of the economic and engineering feasibility of constructing these links, to assist governments in determining the technical and financial resources required and to make recommendations on the ways and means of meeting these requirements;

3. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to explore, with the aid-giving agencies and co-operating countries, the possibilities of obtaining the required assistance;

4. *Further requests* the Executive Secretary to take such steps as may be deemed necessary, including the convening of a meeting at a high level, to review the progress made by the countries in implementing the international highway project, and to take concerted action and harmonize policies aimed at implementing the recommendations of the Working Groups and at mobilizing financial and technical resources for the completion of the international highway system.

242nd meeting,
14 March 1961.

34 (XVII). Community development and economic development ³⁰

The Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East,

Recognizing the great potentialities of community development for economic development, particularly through the generation of a co-operative self-help spirit, the spread of knowledge, the building up of institutions and the mobilization of under-employed labour for productive tasks,

Noting with interest the secretariat study entitled *Community Development and Economic Development*,³¹

1. *Recommends* that member governments should :

(a) Take full advantage of community development as an instrument for promoting economic and social progress, bearing in mind the relationship between overall national plans and locally determined needs;

(b) Relate their community development programmes to national efforts for the promotion of land reforms, co-operatives and local government;

2. *Requests* the Executive Secretary :

(a) To continue to provide assistance to member governments, on request, for strengthening national programmes of community development, including their contribution to economic development;

(b) To explore the possibilities of setting up a regional clearing house on community development and related activities, as outlined in the Executive Secretary's interim report on Regional Economic Co-operation;³²

(c) To undertake, as resources permit, studies proposed by the Executive Secretary on; (i) the utilization of under-employed labour in community development, (ii) methods of evaluating the impact of such programmes, and (iii) the role of local government bodies and voluntary agencies in community development;³³

3. *Endorses* the Executive Secretary's proposal to convene sessions of the Asian Conference on Community Development at regular intervals;

4. *Urges* governments to take advantage of, and participate actively in, the 1961 Seminar on Planning and Administration of National Community Development Programmes and the Conference on Community Development, which will examine further the study on *Community Development and Economic Development*.

245th meeting,
16 March 1961.

²⁹ See paragraph 356 above.

³⁰ See paragraph 378 above.

³¹ See paragraph 203.

³² E/CN.11/L.95.

³³ See the Executive Secretary's note on "Contribution of rural community development programmes to national economic development" (E/CN.11/L.96).