

*Recognizing* the importance of the increasing demands of the highly industrialized countries who are the largest consumers of coconut products,

*Bearing in mind* in particular the need:

- (a) To ensure stable and reasonable prices for copra;
- (b) To provide for stable and expanding markets for coconut products;
- (c) To enhance the efficiency of coconut and copra production;
- (d) To control coconut pests and diseases;
- (e) To evolve and enforce better standards and grading of copra and other coconut products entering world trade channels; and
- (f) To maximize the utilization of coconut and its by-products,

*Takes note* of the activities of the FAO Group on Coconut and Coconut Products and the FAO Technical Working Party on Coconut Production, Protection and Processing, as well as the technical assistance presently available on coconut problems from the FAO Regional Office for Asia and the Far East;

*Urges* interested member governments of the Commission to participate more actively in the above-mentioned international bodies and to take full advantage of the technical assistance offered by FAO;

*Requests* the Executive Secretary, in consultation and co-operation with the Director-General of FAO, to assist, as far as possible, in promoting the attainment of the objectives listed above.

*264th meeting,  
14 March 1962.*

#### **41 (XVIII). Decentralization and the strengthening of regional economic commissions<sup>36</sup>**

*The Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East,*

*Noting with satisfaction* General Assembly resolutions 1518 (XV) and 1709 (XVI) and resolution 793 (XXX) and 823 (XXXII) of the Economic and Social Council as well as the reports by the Secretary-General to the Economic and Social Council<sup>37</sup> and to the General Assembly,<sup>38</sup>

*Considering*

(a) That the countries in the ECAFE region are increasingly benefiting from the services of the Commission in the economic and social fields and

<sup>36</sup> See para. 392 above.

<sup>37</sup> *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Thirty-second Session, Annexes*, agenda item 6 (E/3522).

<sup>38</sup> *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixteenth Session, Annexes*, agenda items 12-28-29-30 (A/4911).

from the recently decentralized procedures for the United Nations technical assistance activities,

(b) That the limited resources available for technical assistance projects in which member governments are interested must be turned to the fullest possible account and that consequently the knowledge and experience accumulated by the Commission's secretariat should be drawn upon as fully as possible in the planning, implementation and evaluation of technical assistance projects in order to ensure the maximum utilization of available resources,

1. *Expresses its gratitude* for the measures which the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council have adopted to decentralize United Nations economic and social activities and to strengthen the regional economic commissions;

2. *Expresses its appreciation* of the views of the Secretary-General on the intensified participation of the regional economic commissions in United Nations economic and social activities and on the need to increase their staff resources;

3. *Draws* the attention of the Economic and Social Council, the General Assembly and of the Secretary-General to the immediate and long-term needs of personnel and related facilities in the secretariat to enable it to discharge efficiently its increasing functions and responsibilities;

4. *Recommends* to the Secretary-General that he take necessary measures to give the Commission's secretariat the requisite authority and sufficient budget to enable it to fulfill its functions efficiently with regard to the progressive decentralization of economic and social activities, due regard being given to the need for prompt rendering of services required by member governments in connexion with the planning, implementation and evaluation of technical assistance projects.

*268th meeting,  
16 March 1962.*

#### **42 (XVIII). Activities in the social field<sup>39</sup>**

*The Committee of the Whole of the Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East,*

*Noting* the growing importance and awareness of social aspects of economic development and the mutual interdependence of economic and social development in countries of the region,

*Recalling* resolution 723 (XXVIII) of the Economic and Social Council amending the terms of reference of the Commission to include social aspects of economic development and the interrelationship of economic and social factors,

*Bearing in mind* General Assembly resolution 1674 (XVI), which recommended the regional economic commissions to "continue to pay special attention to problems of balanced economic and

<sup>39</sup> See para. 370 above.

social development, taking into account the interaction of economic growth and social development and all valuable experience of countries of various economic and social systems",

*Approves* the recommendations of the 1961 Asian Conference on Community Development for planning national community development programmes and for promoting regional co-operation in this field,<sup>40</sup>

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<sup>40</sup> See the report of the Asian Conference on Community Development (E/CN.11/569).

*Endorses* the proposals made by the Executive Secretary for strengthening the work of the secretariat in the fields of social development and policies, population and community development, as outlined in document E/CN.11/578;

*Requests* the Executive Secretary to convene at intervals of about two years a regional conference to review the social aspects of economic planning and development and to make recommendations to the Commission concerning its work in this field.

*16 March 1962.*