

85 (XXIII). Preparations for the second session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development

The Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East,

Recognizing the historic importance of the first United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), which has led to universal recognition of the urgent need to find solutions to the economic problems of developing countries and to a number of agreed steps and measures being taken in that direction,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 2085 (XX) expressing serious concern at the lack of progress in solving the substantive problems with which the Conference was faced and reaffirming the continuing and urgent need for member states of the Conference, in the light of its Final Act, to take full account, in their trade and development policies, of the needs of developing countries and the need for prompt, decisive and concrete measures to solve those problems,

Bearing in mind General Assembly resolution 2209 (XXI) urging the Governments of the developed and developing member states of the Conference, each in its particular spheres of responsibility, to exercise greater political will and to do their utmost to achieve the greatest possible progress in implementing the recommendations made at the first session of UNCTAD relating to a number of matters in which progress could be expected before the second session,

Noting with grave concern the continuing generally unsatisfactory rate of economic growth of the developing countries and the small progress in the implementation of even those recommendations of the first UNCTAD session which were unanimously adopted,

Taking note of the deliberations at the tenth session of the ECAFE Committee on Trade which stressed the importance of the second session of UNCTAD and the need for effective action to ensure its success as well as the need for selecting for concentrated attention those subjects which were likely to provide a basis for concrete results,

Noting further the preparatory work in the form of consultations and studies conducted by developed as well as developing countries, individually

and as groups, with the assistance of various regional and international bodies, in order to arrive at agreed positions and proposals on various substantive issues to be considered at the forthcoming UNCTAD session,

Invites the attention of the UNCTAD Trade and Development Board to the various suggestions concerning the second session of UNCTAD and its agenda which were made at the tenth session of the ECAFE Committee on Trade, including those made by representatives of the land-locked member countries;

Urges ECAFE member and associate member countries in the region to undertake vigorous substantive preparations for the second session of UNCTAD and to consult and co-operate among themselves and with countries in other regions, before and during the Conference, in a spirit of mutual goodwill and understanding, with a view to finding a realistic and constructive approach to the formulation of proposals aimed at agreed solutions to the problems identified and at achieving the greatest possible progress in the implementation of the recommendations of the first session of UNCTAD in the light of the Final Act;

Requests the Executive Secretary of ECAFE to continue giving assistance to member and associate member countries of the region, as suggested by the ECAFE Committee on Trade at its tenth session, in the preparations for the second session of UNCTAD, with a view to ensuring its success; and

Urges all ECAFE member and associate member countries to take at the earliest possible date positive measures aimed at accelerating the trade and economic development of the developing countries, as they agreed to do at the first session of UNCTAD, and to create conditions conducive to a harmonious, conciliatory and fruitful second session.

367th meeting,
13 April 1967.

79 (XXIII). Asian international trade fair

The Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East,

Recognizing the valuable contribution that international trade fairs and exhibitions can make towards promoting international trade, attracting new investments and fostering co-operation among countries,