

Requests the Executive Secretary also to give consideration to requests by member countries to supplement their efforts in the survey of their mineral resources;

Requests the United Nations organs, including the United Nations Development Programme, to give continuous support to ECAFE's activities in the field of mineral resources development; and

Expresses the hope that the developed countries will continue to provide experts and other assistance to the developing countries of the region as well as to the secretariat in the above activities when required.

367th meeting,
13 April 1967.

88 (XXIII). Children and youth in national
planning and development

The Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East,

Recalling that the United Nations General Assembly, in its resolution 1773 (XVIII) adopted in December 1962 and in subsequent resolutions (resolution 1919 (XVIII) of 5 December 1963, resolution 2057 (XX) of 16 December 1965, and resolution 2214 (XXI) of 19 December 1966), emphasized the importance of national development plans and programmes for protecting children and young people and preparing them adequately to contribute to the economic and social progress of their countries.

Recognizing the complementary relationships between economic and social progress and the urgent need to invest as far as possible in the development of young human resources, as a crucial contributory factor to the future economic and social advancement of the countries of Asia,

Noting with appreciation that an Asian Conference on Children and Youth in National Planning and Development was convened at Bangkok from 8 to 15 March 1966 by the United Nations Children's Fund, the Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East, and the Asian Institute for Economic Development and Planning, in co-operation with the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs, the ILO, FAO, UNESCO, IBRD and WHO,

Taking into account the report of that conference,

Recommends that Governments of developing countries in the region consider taking such measures as are possible and appropriate to their respective circumstances:

- (i) to disseminate the findings of the Conference through the circulation of its report and selected documentation among the appropriate governmental and non-governmental agencies;
- (ii) to organize national seminars and use other appropriate means for bringing together planners, administrators, economists, social scientists and specialists on children's problems to examine the method, content and scope of planning for children and youth within the framework of national development;
- (iii) to take steps for the improved collection, analysis and use of statistical information relating to the situation and needs of young people;
- (iv) to make periodic and systematic assessments of the needs of children and youth as a necessary step in the development of suitable programmes for children and youth;
- (v) to assess existing policies and plans in order to identify better means of co-ordination and more comprehensive coverage of programmes benefiting children and youth, and establish appropriate targets for services to young people within the framework of national development plans;
- (vi) to devise, if necessary, suitable methods and mechanisms for ensuring maximum participation of local communities and non-governmental organizations in programmes benefiting children and youth; and
- (vii) to encourage national research and training bodies to carry out research into the problems of development of young people with a view to discovering new and more effective ways of dealing with such problems, and to undertake training programmes to make planning

technicians and functional specialists more fully aware of the importance of planning for the development of young human resources as an integral part of over-all national development;

Expresses the hope that the member countries currently assisting economic and social development programmes in the developing countries of the region increase, if possible, the volume of technical assistance and equipment to take more adequate account of the needs of children and youth;

Requests the Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East, the Director of the Asian Institute for Economic Development and Planning and the Executive Director of the United Nations Children's Fund to assist member and associate member countries at their request, and in collaboration with other concerned United Nations agencies, in implementing the above recommendations by:

1. Facilitating exchanges of experiences among countries in the region in handling the problems of children and youth through convening seminars and workshops at the regional level;

2. Organizing, where necessary, inter-country training programmes to orient over-all and sectoral planners, administrators and specialists to the various aspects of planning for meeting the needs of children and youth;

3. Encouraging further research in the region on a co-ordinated basis in order to promote concerted thinking and action in respect of problems of children and youth; and

4. Offering advisory and other technical services at the request of Governments on the improvement of the methods and procedures of planning so as to take more fully into account the needs of children and youth in national planning.

369th meeting,
14 April 1967.