

the regional institutions, including joint activities among them, and also decided to elect 15 members to the Council,

*Taking note* of the report of the Council on its first session,

*Appreciating* the action taken by the Executive Secretary towards the implementation of the relevant resolutions of the Commission,

*Grateful* to the United Nations Development Programme for its continued contributions to the regional institutions,

*Appreciative* of the assistance rendered by the members and associate members of the Commission and other donor countries,

*Bearing in mind* the possible changes in the quantum and nature of future financial assistance by the United Nations Development Programme,

*Realizing* the need for further steps to achieve greater collaboration among the regional institutions and effect increased co-ordination of their activities,

1 *Reiterates* its wish that the regional training and research institutions should continue to function as institutions under the auspices of the Commission and to be closely linked to the United Nations system,

2 *Resolves* that the Intergovernmental Governing Council of the Regional Training and Research Institutions shall be renamed "Governing Council of the Regional Training and Research Institutions",

3 *Requests* the Executive Secretary to continue to act on behalf of the Council and to take such measures with regard to the working of the institutions as may be required to implement the resolutions of the Commission and the decisions of the Council,

4 *Further requests* the United Nations Development Programme to continue to designate the Commission as executing agency for the regional training and research institutions that are supported by the United Nations Development Programme,

5 *Urges* the United Nations Development Programme to consider the continuation of an appropriate level of institutional support to the regional institutions it already supports with, at the same time, an expanded volume of programme support, particularly from the regional indicative planning figure for the ESCAP region,

6 *Further urges* the United Nations Development Programme to provide institutional and programme support to the Asia and Pacific Centre for Women and Development, which has so far received no assistance from that source

7 *Requests* the Executive Secretary to consult the Secretary-General of the United Nations with a

view to exploring the possibility of providing, out of the regular budget of the United Nations, institutional support to the regional training and research institutions under the auspices of the Commission, in the same manner as in the case of the Latin American Institute for Economic and Social Planning,

8 *Further requests* the Executive Secretary to explore with the Secretary-General of the United Nations, the United Nations Development Programme and members and associate members of the Commission and other potential donors the possibility of establishing an endowment fund and its modalities as a measure to solve the financial problems facing the regional training and research institutions,

9 *Appeals* to all members and associate members of the Commission, other donor countries and interested agencies, foundations and institutions to pledge urgently required additional funds for the regional training and research institutions to enable them to implement their work programmes,

10 *Resolves* that, in the event of it being considered necessary to establish an additional regional training and research institution, before a decision is made the need for such an institution should be examined by the Commission in the light of the capability of existing regional institutions, so as to avoid duplication of functions, and in terms of the availability of sufficient financial support to enable the proposed institution to operate at minimum viability levels,

11 *Requests* the Governing Council to examine the question of the possible restructuring of existing regional training and research institutions in order to achieve reduction of operational costs and the optimum use of resources as well as the goal of assisting member countries,

12 *Resolves* that the Asia and Pacific Centre for Women and Development shall be renamed "Asian and Pacific Centre for Women and Development",

13 *Requests* the Executive Secretary to bring this resolution to the attention of the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme at its next meeting for appropriate action,

14 *Further requests* the Executive Secretary to report to the Commission at its thirty fifth session on the implementation of this resolution

531st meeting  
15 March 1978

#### 184 (XXXIV) Human settlements<sup>5</sup>

*The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific,*

<sup>5</sup> See para 383 above

*Noting* the important role of human settlements in the improvement of the social and economic conditions of the peoples of the region,

*Considering* that human settlements should be viewed as an instrument of socio-economic development,

*Bearing in mind* the recommendations of Habitat: United Nations Conference on Human Settlements, held at Vancouver in June 1976,

*Recalling* that in its resolution 32/162 of 19 December 1977 the General Assembly decided, *inter alia*, that:

(a) The Economic and Social Council should transform the Committee on Housing, Building and Planning into a Commission on Human Settlements, one of whose objectives would be to strengthen co-operation and co-participation in the domain concerned among all countries and regions;

(b) A secretariat, to be named "United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat)", should be established to service the Commission on Human Settlements and, *inter alia*, supplement the resources of the regions in formulating and implementing human settlement projects when so required;

(c) There should be close links between the Centre and the United Nations Environment Programme, and for that reason the location of the Centre should be at Nairobi;

and recommended that:

(a) The responsibility for implementing regional and subregional programmes should be gradually transferred to regional organizations;

(b) The regional commissions should consider the establishment of regional intergovernmental committees on human settlements which should co-ordinate their activities with those of the Commission on Human Settlements and report to it through the appropriate regional commissions;

(c) The budgetary and personnel resources available to each regional secretariat unit should consist of those available from the regular budgetary resources and those redeployed from the aggregate posts available to the central secretariat, and those provided through voluntary contributions, including contributions to the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation,

*Noting* that in the report of the Regional Conference on Human Settlements in the ESCAP region it was emphasized that staff resources of the secretariat should be strengthened by redeployment from the global level to the regional level to accompany the decentralization of activities in the field of human settlements,

1. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to confer at an early date with the Executive Directors of the Centre for Human Settlements, when the Centre is established, and the United Nations Environment Programme and to take mutually agreed measures:

(a) To effect redeployment of adequate staff together with related costs and other appropriate resources from the global level to ESCAP;

(b) To bring about greater regionalization of programmes in the field of human settlements;

(c) To ensure the necessary co-ordination and collaboration in the formulation, execution and monitoring of regional and subregional programmes and projects in the field of human settlements;

2. *Further requests* the Executive Secretary to report to the Commission at its thirty-fifth session on the implementation of this resolution.

531st meeting  
15 March 1978

**185 (XXXIV). Strengthening the capacity of the Commission to contribute more effectively to the solution of the population problems of the region<sup>6</sup>**

*The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific,*

*Recognizing* that population is a crucial factor in the socio-economic development process, and also that population policies and programmes need to be formulated as an integral part of over-all development,

*Recalling* the Declaration of Population Strategy for Development adopted at the Second Asian Population Conference, held at Tokyo in 1972, and the principles and objectives of the World Population Plan of Action adopted by the World Population Conference, held at Bucharest in 1974,

*Noting* that the Regional Post-World Population Conference Consultation in 1975 and the ESCAP Committee on Population at its first session in 1976 requested the Commission to assign a high level of priority to the subject of population,

*Noting further* that continued efforts in implementing population policies and programmes have contributed significantly to the achievement of developmental goals in a number of countries of the region,

*Recognizing* that the problems of population growth and distribution continue to pose a serious

<sup>6</sup> See paras. 445-451 above.