

## 207 (XXXVI). International Year of Disabled Persons

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

*Recalling* General Assembly resolution 2542 (XXIV) of 11 December 1969 proclaiming the Declaration on Social Progress and Development,

*Noting* General Assembly resolution 2856 (XXVI) of 20 December 1971 proclaiming the Declaration on the Rights of Mentally Retarded Persons,

*Recalling also* General Assembly resolution 3447 (XXX) of 9 December 1975 proclaiming the Declaration on the Rights of Disabled Persons,

*Recalling further* General Assembly resolution 31/123 of 16 December 1976 proclaiming the year 1981 International Year of Disabled Persons,

*Taking into consideration* General Assembly resolution 34/154 of 17 December 1979, in which the General Assembly adopted a Plan of Action for the International Year of Disabled Persons,

1. *Urges* its members and associate members to mobilize their resources in order to accelerate the preparatory work towards the implementation of the objectives of the International Year of Disabled Persons, including the establishment of a national mechanism, where appropriate, for planning and co-ordinating at the national level all activities of the Year in the field of disability prevention and rehabilitation of disabled persons, with special emphasis on the needs of the population in the rural areas;

2. *Requests* its members and associate members to attend technical meetings of officers responsible for national programmes and the regional meeting of policy makers, preferably at the ministerial level, to be held at Bangkok under the joint auspices of the Commission and the United Nations Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs in September 1980, in order to exchange experiences and consider the most effective ways of implementing and following up the objectives of the Year at the regional level;

3. *Further requests* its members and associate members to make an effective contribution to the international symposium to be organized by the United Nations Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs in July 1981 on technical co-operation among developing countries and technical assistance for disabled persons, particularly as regards the application of science and technology to the fabrication of prototypes and the mass production of medical, educational and vocational equipment, by utilizing indigenous resources and expertise;

4. *Further requests* the Executive Secretary, in close co-operation with the specialized agencies and United Nations bodies concerned, to strengthen the

work of the Commission in the field of disability prevention and rehabilitation of disabled persons within the framework of the social development component of the programme of work and priorities, taking into consideration already existing programmes and projects and the long-term programme of action to be adopted by the General Assembly at its thirty-sixth session in this field as well as the preparatory work for the international development strategy for the 1980s.

558th meeting  
29 March 1980

## 208 (XXXVI). The Commission's activities in the South Pacific

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

*Recalling* its resolutions 173 (XXXIII) of 29 April 1977 on increased participation by the developing island countries of the Pacific in the Commission's activities and 188 (XXXIV) of 17 March 1978 on the Commission's activities in the Pacific,

*Recalling also* General Assembly resolution 3338 (XXIX) of 17 December 1974, in which the General Assembly, *inter alia*, invited the executive heads of the organizations concerned within the United Nations system to intensify their efforts with respect to developing island countries within their fields of competence,

*Recalling further* resolution 98 (IV) of 31 May 1976 of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development on the least developed among the developing countries, developing island countries and developing land-locked countries, and resolution 111 (V) of 3 June 1979 of the Conference on specific action related to the particular needs and problems of island developing countries,

*Reaffirming* the desire of the developing Pacific island countries to participate effectively in the affairs of the Commission as a whole,

*Noting* that special financial and geographic constraints have restricted the ability of Governments of the small and remote developing Pacific island countries to participate effectively in the Commission's activities,

1. *Commends* the Executive Secretary on his continuing efforts to increase the Commission's role in the development of the developing Pacific island countries and assures him of the continuing support and co-operation of all South Pacific member and associate member countries;

2. *Expresses* appreciation to those Governments, financial institutions and international organizations which have assisted in the development of the small developing Pacific island countries;