

226 (XXXVIII). Food supply and distribution in Asia and the Pacific: medium-term outlook and regional co-operation<sup>7</sup>

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

Considering the special study by the secretariat on food supply and distribution in Asia and the Pacific,

Recalling that the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade includes as an essential element the recommendation that hunger and malnutrition be eradicated as soon as possible and certainly by the end of this century,

Noting with concern the stalemate in the negotiations on the International Wheat Trade Agreement,

Taking note of the findings of the special study regarding inadequate food production and distribution, the increasing number of the hungry and malnourished, rising food imports and surpluses in some food exporting countries of the region,

Expressing grave concern over the unstable food supply situation in many countries of the region,

Aware of the urgent need to ensure adequate food for all in the region,

Noting the progress made towards increasing food and agricultural production by some countries of the region,

Recognizing the continuing necessity and importance of increasing food production and investment in agriculture in all developing countries of the region,

Recognizing also the importance of national efforts and subregional and regional co-operation to enhance food supply and improve food distribution systems,

Further recognizing the steps already taken by the Association of South-East Asian Nations in the establishment of a food security reserve,

Stressing the desirability of co-ordination of the efforts being made in the various international forums concerned with regard to world food security,

1. Requests the Executive Secretary, with the assistance of a high-level group of experts nominated by relevant international organizations and agencies and by participating Governments of the Commission, to undertake studies on the feasibility and viability of the proposals on:

(a) Subregional and regional food security arrangements;

(b) A trade information and management network relating to food and agricultural input;

(c) Increasing the flow of financial resources from both external and internal sources for food and agriculture;

and to submit conclusions on the possible timing, funding, functional and operational modalities and organizational framework, paying due regard to the proposal in the special study to establish an Asia-Pacific food bank, to the comments made on the study at the thirty-eighth session and to the special features of the production and distribution systems in the different countries of the region;

2. Recommends that the report of the expert group should be referred to the Committee on Agricultural Development or, if that is not feasible, to an intergovernmental meeting to be convened by the Executive Secretary after consultation with members and associate members to examine the question and advise on further action;

3. Requests the Executive Secretary to seek the co-operation of relevant international organizations and agencies, including the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the United Nations Development Programme, the World Food Council, the World Food Programme, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the World Bank, the International Fund for Agricultural Development and the Asian Development Bank, in the preparation of the above-mentioned studies with a view to ensuring a well-co-ordinated approach to food security in the region;

4. Further requests the Executive Secretary to take appropriate steps for the implementation of the present resolution and to submit a report on the progress achieved to the Commission at its thirty-ninth session.

583rd meeting  
1 April 1982

227 (XXXVIII). Early launching of global negotiations<sup>8</sup>

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

Noting General Assembly resolution 34/138 of 14 December 1979, and other resolutions referred to therein, in which the Assembly, *inter alia*, decided to launch a round of global and sustained negotiations on international economic co-operation for development, including major issues in the field of raw materials, energy, trade, development, money and

<sup>7</sup> See paras. 333-348 above.

<sup>8</sup> See paras. 312-313 above.

finance and contributing to the implementation of the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade,

*Reiterating* that such global negotiations could contribute to the solution of international economic problems in areas of critical importance to all countries, such as food, energy, development, financial flows and trade,

*Taking note* of the wishes of developing countries to restructure international economic relations,

*Noting* that the International Meeting on Co-operation and Development at Cancún, Mexico, confirmed the desirability of supporting at the United Nations, with a sense of urgency, a consensus to launch global negotiations,

*Noting with concern* that there has been little progress towards the launching of global negotiations,

*Concerned* at the need to reach agreement on a resolution at the United Nations which would deal with the issue of global negotiations,

1. *Urges* Governments to renew their efforts to reach agreement on a resolution which would provide for the early launching of global negotiations;

2. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to convey to the international community through the Secretary-General of the United Nations the concern of the countries of Asia and the Pacific as to the early convening of a conference on global negotiations.

583rd meeting  
1 April 1982

**228 (XXXVIII). Role of health in an integrated approach to accelerating development and improving the quality of life of the poor<sup>9</sup>**

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

*Recalling* General Assembly resolution 34/58 of 29 November 1979 concerning health as an integral part of development,

*Recalling further* General Assembly resolution 36/43 of 19 November 1981, in which the Assembly endorsed the Global Strategy for Health for All by the Year 2000 and urged all Member States to ensure its implementation as part of their multisectoral efforts to implement the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade, annexed to General Assembly resolution 35/56 of 5 December 1980,

*Bearing in mind* paragraphs 162-168 of the International Development Strategy, especially paragraph 165, which states, *inter alia*: "To attain an acceptable level of health for all by the year 2000, countries will establish an adequate and comprehensive system of primary health care as an integral part of a more general health system and as part of a general improvement in nutrition and living standards and basic infrastructure",

*Taking into account* the Declaration of Alma Ata, adopted by the representatives of 151 countries on 12 September 1978 at the International Conference on Primary Health Care, and World Health Assembly resolutions WHA 32.30 of 25 May 1979 launching the Global Strategy for Health for All by the Year 2000 and WHA 34.36 of 22 May 1981 on the implementation of the Global Strategy,

*Concerned* at the stagnant and low health status of the poorest and largest sections of the population of the majority of the developing countries of the region, as implied by the current nutrition, morbidity and sanitation indicators,

*Recalling* General Assembly resolution 32/197 of 20 December 1977 and Commission resolution 219 (XXXVII) of 20 March 1981 declaring the regional commissions to be the main general economic and social development centres within the United Nations system for their respective regions,

*Emphasizing* the congruence of the health dimensions of development with the priority criteria of regionality, poverty alleviation, development impact and inter-country co-operation determining the orientation and stress of the Commission's work programme,

*Recognizing* the effectiveness of the activities conducted by the Commission's programme on health and society in co-operation with the United Nations Children's Fund, the World Health Organization and the United Nations Industrial Development Organization as well as the acceptance of and demand for them by the countries of the region,

*Appreciating* the collaboration between the Commission, the World Health Organization, the United Nations Children's Fund and other related agencies and with the Governments of the region,

1. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to convene, in consultation with the Director-General of the World Health Organization and the Executive Director of the United Nations Children's Fund, an intersectoral inter-governmental meeting to advise the Commission on ways to strengthen, co-ordinate and widen the scope of the Commission's activities so that a positive impact of all development programmes on the personal health of the poorest sections of the population in the Asian and Pacific region is ensured;

2. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to strengthen collaboration with the World Health Organi-

<sup>9</sup> See para. 646 above.