

tries to a level commensurate with their development objectives and priorities, giving particular attention to the special needs of the least developed, land-locked and island developing countries of the region;

(b) Identifying systematically and in a comprehensive manner the problems of transport and communications in the region and working out feasible solutions;

(c) Promoting a more effective and efficient transport and communications network comprising all modes and means in an integrated way, in particular for development of intraregional and interregional transport and communications linkages as well as in the fields of the maintenance and co-ordination of networks, tariff setting and physical planning;

(d) Encouraging effective co-ordination and co-operation in the field of transport and communications in the region;

2. *Requests* the Economic and Social Council to endorse this Proclamation and to encourage relevant international organizations to provide appropriate support at the global level;

3. *Calls upon* the Executive Secretary to assist, from available resources, both budgetary and extra-budgetary, member and associate member Governments in their preparation of a practical and integrated programme of action for the Decade at the country level and to mobilize the necessary international support for the successful implementation of the programmes for the Decade;

4. *Further calls upon* the Executive Secretary to promote intergovernmental and interagency co-ordination at the regional and subregional levels;

5. *Invites* the Governments of the developing members and associate members to designate appropriate mechanisms to co-ordinate their national programme with the regional programme of action for the Decade, consistent with their development needs and objectives;

6. *Urges* the United Nations Development Programme and other international bodies and agencies to contribute effectively to the implementation of the regional action programme for the Decade;

7. *Invites* all Governments, in particular those of the developed countries and others in a position to do so, to contribute and participate effectively in the implementation of the regional action programme for achieving the objectives of the Decade;

8. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to report to the Commission at its forty-first session on the progress made in implementation of the programmes for the Decade.

237 (XL). The Commission's activities in the Pacific³

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 and 208 (XXXVI) of 29 March 1980 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 the wish of certain Pacific developing island countries to be included in the United Nations' list of least developed countries,

Bearing in mind the limited resources and special geographic problems of island developing countries which work against the development of such countries,

1. *Expresses appreciation of* the efforts made by the Executive Secretary to increase the effectiveness of the Commission's role in the economic and social development of the developing Pacific island countries;

2. *Commends* the establishment and progress of the ESCAP Pacific Liaison Office as a positive step in the Commission's activities in the Pacific subregion;

3. *Welcomes* the decision to merge the offices of the ESCAP Pacific Liaison Office and the United Nations Development Advisory Team for the Pacific and to base the new office which will be called the ESCAP Pacific Operations Centre, in Vanuatu;

4. *Expresses* its appreciation to the Governments of Nauru and Fiji of their generous contributions made over many years as host countries of these offices;

³ See paras. 769-785 above.

5. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to ensure that with the merger of the ESCAP Pacific Liaison Office and the United Nations Development Advisory Team for the Pacific there is an improved capability by the merged office to respond directly to requests from the Governments of the developing island countries of the Pacific subregion;

6. *Also requests* the Executive Secretary to assist the Governments of Kiribati and Tuvalu in the preparation of data and statistics to enable them effectively to present to the Economic and Social Council their case for inclusion in the United Nations' list of least developed countries;

7. *Calls upon* the Governments of developed member countries and multilateral financing agencies, in formulating and implementing their development assistance, to consider favourably the special problems of the Pacific island countries;

8. *Further requests* the Executive Secretary to study ways in which the Commission might be of assistance to developing island countries in overcoming their peculiar problems so as to enable them to play a full role in the Commission's activities, committees and sessions;

9. *Urges* the Executive Secretary to make every effort to increase the number of Pacific island nationals employed in the secretariat of the Commission by bringing their number closer to the quota;

10. *Further requests* the Executive Secretary to report to the Commission at its forty-first session on the implementation of the present resolution.

614th meeting
27 April 1984

238 (XL). Social aspects of rural development⁴

The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific,

Recalling the Declaration on Social Progress and Development, contained in the annex to General Assembly resolution 2542 (XXIV) of 11 December 1969,

Recalling also the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade, particularly that part of it related to social development, contained in the annex to General Assembly resolution 35/56 of 5 December 1980,

Recalling further the main conclusions and specific recommendations of the Second Asia and Pacific

Ministerial Conference on Social Welfare and Social Development related to integrated social development,

Reaffirming that the social aspects and goals of development form an integral part of the overall development process,

Stressing the need to implement comprehensive rural development programmes in the light of the specific conditions of each country, in order to raise the standard of living of rural populations,

Recalling its resolution 232 (XXXIX) of 28 April 1983 on social aspects of rural development,

1. *Takes note of* the report on the secretariat's activities with regard to the social aspects of rural development;

2. *Urges* the Governments of members and associate members to give special attention to the social impact of policies relating to integrated rural development programmes;

3. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to continue his efforts relating to the social aspects of rural development and to invite once more interested Governments of members and associate members to present to the secretariat country papers reflecting their national experiences on the social aspects of their rural development policies and programmes;

4. *Also requests* the Executive Secretary to prepare, within existing resources, and on the basis of available country papers, a report on the policies and programmes undertaken by the members and associate members and on national experience in solving different problems related to the social aspects of rural development and make it available to the Commission at its forty-second session.

614th meeting
27 April 1984

239 (XL). Prevention of oil pollution of the marine environment of the ESCAP region⁵

The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific,

Recalling the international conventions and protocols on the field of the environment,

Bearing in mind the involvement of all countries in the protection of the environment with a view to enhancing the quality of life for future generations,

Aware of the aims of the International Maritime Organization and the United Nations Environment Programme, as well as of other international and inter-

⁴ See paras. 744-745 above.

⁵ See para. 536 above.