

consultation with the host and participating countries, and in particular the least developed, land-locked and island developing countries;

2. *Invites* members and associate members to host such fairs;

3. *Calls upon* all members and associate members to participate in these fairs in order to derive the greatest benefit from them and expresses the hope that when such trade fairs are planned members and associate members will undertake consultations with all appropriate trade and industrial sections to ensure that relevant public, mixed and private sectors in all partner countries can benefit fully from participation;

4. *Calls upon* members and associate members, other donor countries, international organizations and donor agencies to assist the ESCAP secretariat in the organization of these fairs;

5. *Urges* that financial and technical assistance to be extended to host and participating countries should be co-ordinated by the Executive Secretary, giving particular attention to the needs of the least developed, land-locked and island developing countries to facilitate their participation in these fairs;

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

646th meeting
2 May 1986

249 (XLII). Participation of women in socio-economic development⁴

The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific,

Reaffirming the relevance of the objectives of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, 1976-1985 for the countries of Asia and the Pacific,

Recalling General Assembly resolutions 40/101 on the role of women in society, 40/102 on participation of women in promoting international peace and co-operation, 40/105 on incorporation of the interests of women in the work programmes of the regional commissions and 40/106 on national experience relating to the improvement of the situation of women in rural areas, which were adopted on 13 December 1985,

Bearing in mind General Assembly resolution 40/204 of 17 December 1985 on the effective

mobilization and integration of women in development and the Declaration on the Participation of Women in Promoting International Peace and Co-operation annexed to General Assembly resolution 37/63 of 3 December 1982,

Noting the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women adopted by the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, held at Nairobi from 15 to 26 July 1985,

Recognizing that the maximum participation by women in all spheres of activity is important to the attainment of socio-economic development and growth,

Taking note of the importance of the role of women in the political, economic, social and cultural life of society and in promoting international understanding,

Convinced of the need fully to implement women's rights, envisaged in the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,

Noting also that discrimination against women continues in the field of education and employment, which reduces the level of their skills and, therefore, limits their opportunities to participate actively in development,

Considering that the effective implementation of the decisions of relevant United Nations conferences, including the Third Asian and Pacific Ministerial Conference on Social Welfare and Social Development, held at Bangkok from 9 to 15 October 1985, could contribute to the elimination of all forms of inequality between women and men and to more active integration of women in socio-economic development,

1. *Calls upon* Governments of member States to take the necessary and effective measures aimed at implementing the Regional Plan of Action and the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women with a view to ensuring full integration of women in political, economic, social and cultural life;

2. *Invites* Governments, where appropriate, when preparing their national development plans, to include specific target programmes on the advancement of women;

3. *Requests* the Executive Secretary:

(a) To encourage efforts, within the framework of the Commission, to share national experience in the integration of women in socio-economic development;

⁴ See paras. 602-607 and 635 above.

(b) To prepare for the Commission at its forty-third session, within the existing regular budget, a study, on the basis of national reports and other available country data, on the status of women in the region and their role in socio-economic development as a follow-up to the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies;

(c) To take further steps to ensure that the interests of women are incorporated in the work programme of the Commission;

(d) To submit a progress report to the Commission at its forty-third session on the implementation of the present resolution.

646th meeting
2 May 1986

250 (XLII). Observance of the fortieth anniversary of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific⁵

The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 39/161 of 17 December 1984 on the observance of the fortieth anniversary of the United Nations,

Hopeful that the year 1986, observed as the International Year of Peace, will contribute to the further strengthening of global peace and justice, social and economic development and progress, and the independence of all peoples,

Bearing in mind that the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific is the unique regional intergovernmental body for co-ordinating economic, social, scientific and technical co-operation among countries of Asia and the Pacific,

Considering that the observance of the fortieth anniversary of the Commission should contribute to the strengthening and implementation of the guiding principles as enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations in the field of international economic and social co-operation and in ensuring a favourable international economic environment,

Emphasizing the need for the Commission to take an active part in co-operation in the economic and social fields and in the implementation of the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade and other relevant United Nations resolutions and decisions,

Reaffirming its support for the aspirations of developing countries for economic and social progress,

⁵ See paras. 715-720 above.

Bearing in mind the need to improve the economic situation in developing countries and to promote their development,

Reaffirming its belief that the work of the United Nations system in the economic and social fields needs to be better understood among the peoples of the region,

1. *Requests* the Executive Secretary, while preparing for and celebrating the anniversary, to take into account and make use of, as far as possible, the experience of commemorating the fortieth anniversary of the United Nations;

2. *Calls upon* members and associate members of the Commission to encourage in every possible way and participate actively in the activities marking the observance of the fortieth anniversary of the Commission;

3. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to initiate necessary measures aimed at co-ordinating the activities of the Commission in connection with the preparations for the forthcoming anniversary;

4. *Invites* the members and associate members of the Commission to assign high-level delegations to the jubilee session to be held in 1987 to commemorate the fortieth anniversary of the Commission.

646th meeting
2 May 1986

251 (XLII). International Year of Peace⁶

The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific,

Referring to General Assembly resolution 40/3 of 24 October 1985, proclaiming 1986 as the International Year of Peace, and inviting all States and all organizations within the United Nations system to co-operate with the Secretary-General in achieving the objectives of the Year,

Recognizing that peace constitutes one of the most cherished aspirations of peoples and is a prerequisite for economic and social development,

Noting that the International Year of Peace provides the international community with a timely occasion to examine the problems facing the world today, and to find new lines of thought and stimulate action aimed at resolving them,

1. *Expresses* gratitude to members and associate members for the steps already taken towards achieving the objectives of the International Year of Peace

⁶ See paras. 633 and 635 above.