

4. *Invites* members and associate members in a position to do so, as well as other interested countries, to support the implementation of the ESCAP Plan of Action through the provision of financial and/or other assistance for the implementation of regional co-operative projects in consultation with and for the mutual benefit of the countries in the region;

5. *Urges* the agencies, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, within the scope of their capabilities, to support and participate effectively in the implementation of specific activities aimed at technological human resources development in Asia and the Pacific;

6. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to:

(a) Co-ordinate ESCAP activities related to human resources development for technological development in Asia and the Pacific, taking into account the related activities of agencies, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, and of other intergovernmental organizations, in order to avoid duplication and enhance the regional dimensions of those activities;

(b) Evaluate the projects and activities in human resources development undertaken by the relevant divisions of ESCAP to assess the results achieved, and the experience gained, in order to improve the formulation and implementation of future programmes and activities in this field;

(c) Initiate action to increase the role of ESCAP-related institutions and projects, in particular the Asian and Pacific Centre for Transfer of Technology, the Regional Network for Agricultural Machinery, the Statistical Institute for Asia and the Pacific, the Asian and Pacific Development Centre and other relevant institutions in the implementation of the ESCAP Plan of Action;

(d) Utilize the expertise available in existing leading institutions in developing member countries dealing with the technical and planning aspects of technological human resources development;

(e) Prepare project proposals for co-operation and joint action on the basis of the ESCAP Plan of Action;

(f) Give special attention to the preparation of co-operative projects aimed at enhancing the national opportunities and resources of developing countries to train qualified national personnel, the improvement and popularization of technology management activities and the upgrading of human resources for technological development through:

- (i) Studies on assessment of the quantity and quality of available technological human resources by types of skill;

- (ii) Regional advisory and other assistance in building self-reliant national capabilities for technology policy formulation and planning;

- (iii) Evolving suitable mechanisms, including the infrastructural and methodological aspects, for scientific and technological manpower planning;

- (iv) The organization of roving workshops for the sharing of views and diversified experience of the region in planning techniques and methodologies for human resources development;

(g) Take appropriate action for the organization of regional training programmes in the areas of:

- (i) Formulation and implementation of human resources development policies and plans in the utilization and application of technology for development;

- (ii) Manpower forecasting and planning;

- (iii) Training of trainers and development of modern methods of technical training;

- (iv) Transfer of skills in the rural sector;

(h) Initiate measures for the technological human resources development of least developed, land-locked and Pacific island developing countries in the region;

7. *Calls upon* the Executive Secretary to report to the Commission at its forty-fourth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

646th meeting
2 May 1986

257 (XLIII). Implementation of the Substantial New Programme of Action for the 1980s for the Least Developed Countries¹²

The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific,

Recalling General Assembly resolutions 3201 (S-VI) and 3202 (S-VI) of 1 May 1974, containing the Declaration and the Programme of Action on the Establishment of a New International Economic Order,

¹² See paras. 197-206 above.

3281 (XXIX) of 12 December 1974, containing the Charter of Economic Rights and Duties of States, and 3362 (S-VII) of 16 September 1975 on development and international economic co-operation,

Reaffirming the Substantial New Programme of Action for the 1980s for the Least Developed Countries, adopted by the United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries and endorsed by the General Assembly in its resolution 36/194 of 17 December 1981,

Recalling General Assembly resolutions 37/224 of 20 December 1982, 38/195 of 20 December 1983 and 39/174 of 17 December 1984 on the implementation of the Substantial New Programme of Action,

Recalling also Commission resolution 242 (XLI) of 29 March 1985 on the implementation of the Substantial New Programme of Action,

Further recalling General Assembly resolution 40/205 of 17 December 1985 endorsing the conclusions and recommendations of the Intergovernmental Group on the Least Developed Countries on the mid-term global review of the Substantial New Programme of Action,

Expressing serious concern at the critical economic and social conditions in the least developed countries in spite of their national efforts as well as efforts made by the international community since the adoption of the Substantial New Programme of Action, and stressing the urgent need for increased support measures in order to enhance national efforts at self-reliance so that the objectives of the Programme can be fully realized,

1. *Calls upon* the international community to make special efforts towards providing increased transfer of resources and commercial policy support measures to the least developed countries of the Asian and Pacific region;

2. *Reaffirms* that the least developed countries have primary responsibility for their overall development and that, although international support measures are vitally important, the domestic policies those countries pursue will be of importance for the success of their development efforts, and urges the least developed countries to continue to make every possible effort to mobilize domestic resources to implement the provisions of the Substantial New Programme of Action for the 1980s for the Least Developed Countries at the national level;

3. *Urges* developed countries, and developing countries in a position to do so, international financial and development institutions, and the relevant organizations and bodies of the United Nations system to provide adequate financial and technical assistance to the least developed countries of the Asian and Pacific region to enable them to implement their plans and

programmes in the context of the Substantial New Programme of Action;

4. *Calls upon* donor countries to continue to make every possible effort to increase their contributions in view of the important role that official development assistance plays in assisting the least developed countries to achieve the objectives of their country programmes, keeping in view the conclusions and recommendations of the mid-term global review of the Substantial New Programme of Action;

5. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to take the necessary steps to transmit the text of this resolution to major developed countries and international organizations for their consideration at all relevant international meetings.

646th meeting
2 May 1986

258 (XLII). International Year of Shelter for the Homeless¹³

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

Recalling General Assembly resolution 37/221 of 20 December 1982 proclaiming the year 1987 as the International Year of Shelter for the Homeless,

Having examined the report of the Committee on Industry, Technology, Human Settlements and the Environment on its ninth session with regard to the International Year of Shelter for the Homeless and the strategies for action at the national and regional levels,

Noting the interrelation between the problems of human settlements and refugees and being aware of major concentrations of refugees in countries within the ESCAP region and the various problems that entails, especially in the provision of shelter for the homeless,

Alarmed by the attacks against civilian population centres in the conflicts in the region and the major problems involved in the reconstruction of residential areas and resettlement of the war-stricken population,

Reaffirming the need to protect the civilian population in armed conflicts in accordance with relevant international conventions and, in particular, the 1949 Geneva Conventions and their related protocols,

Convinced that a special effort to address this fundamental issue will strengthen overall national economic and social development, in furtherance of the goals of the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade,

¹³ See paras. 391, 393, 401 and 404-411 above.