

promote human resources development through the provision of financial and other assistance in consultation with and for the benefit of countries of the Asian and Pacific region;

5. Requests relevant agencies, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, and intergovernmental bodies, to extend early and effective support to the preparation of an ESCAP integrated plan of action on human resources development and participate actively in the implementation of specific programmes included in the plan;

6. Also requests the Executive Secretary, upon the availability of the necessary extrabudgetary resources:

(a) To convene an expert group meeting to formulate guidelines for an ESCAP integrated plan of action on human resources development;

(b) To formulate a draft ESCAP integrated plan of action on human resources development, in pursuance of the decisions and recommendations of the Commission at its forty-second and forty-third sessions and in the light of the report of the above-mentioned expert group meeting;

7. Further requests the Executive Secretary to consult members and associate members for the purpose of obtaining their suggestions on the formulation of the draft ESCAP integrated plan of action on human resources development and to report to the Commission at its forty-fourth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

661st meeting
30 April 1987

261 (XLIII). Implementation of the Substantial New Programme of Action for the 1980s for the Least Developed Countries^{3/}

The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific,

Recalling the Substantial New Programme of Action for the 1980s for the Least Developed Countries, adopted by the

^{3/} See paras. 209-217 above.

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,

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,

Recalling also Commission resolutions 242 (XLI) of 29 March 1985 and 257 (XLII) of 2 May 1986 on the implementation of the Substantial New Programme of Action,

Recognizing that the seventh session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development will provide an opportunity for the international community to discuss the problems of least developed countries in enhancing the implementation of the Programme during the rest of the 1980s,

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, as well as enhanced national efforts, towards self-reliance so that the objectives of the Programme can be fully realized during the remaining period of the decade,

1. Calls upon the international community to exert every effort towards providing increased transfer of resources and commercial policy support measures to the least developed countries of the Asian and Pacific region;

2. Urges those donor countries whose official development assistance contributions have not yet reached 0.15 per cent of their gross national product, or which have not yet doubled their official development assistance to least developed countries, to make every possible effort to attain those targets as contained in the Substantial New Programme of Action;

3. Requests the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development at its seventh session to urge all Governments, intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental organizations to renew their efforts to implement the Programme, so as to enable each least developed country to achieve a minimum standard of performance in socio-economic development;

4. Invites the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development at its seventh session to discuss a possible follow-up in the 1990s on the Substantial New Programme of Action;

5. Requests the Executive Secretary to report to the Commission at its forty-fourth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

661st meeting
30 April 1987

262 (XLIII). In-depth study of the United Nations intergovernmental structure and functions in the economic and social fields^{4/}

The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific,

Noting General Assembly resolution 41/213 of 19 December 1986 on review of the efficiency of the administrative and financial functioning of the United Nations, and Economic and Social Council decision 1987/112 of 6 February 1987 on an in-depth study of the United Nations intergovernmental structure and functions in the economic and social fields,

Noting the views of the Fifth Committee of the General Assembly at its forty-first session in response to recommendation 27 of the Group of High-level Intergovernmental Experts to Review the Efficiency of the Administrative and Financial Functioning of the United Nations that "the suitability of the activities of the regional commissions is a matter to be determined primarily by the Member States concerned and that the regional commissions should be consulted on any action to be taken in this regard",

Recalling in this respect General Assembly resolution 32/197 of 20 December 1977 on the restructuring of the economic

and social sectors of the United Nations system, and in particular section IV of the annex to that resolution, which addressed the role and functions of regional commissions as the main general economic and social centres within the United Nations system, exercising team leadership and responsibility for co-ordination and co-operation at the regional level, thereby having due regard to the responsibilities of the specialized agencies and other United Nations bodies in specific sectoral fields and the co-ordinating role of the United Nations Development Programme in respect of technical co-operation activities,

Recalling also General Assembly resolution 33/202 of 29 January 1979 affirming the status of the regional commissions as executing agencies in their own right for projects as specified in paragraph 23 of the annex to General Assembly resolution 32/197,

Noting that necessary measures aimed at decentralization of the economic and social activities of the United Nations system as envisaged in General Assembly resolutions 32/197, 33/202, and 34/206 of 19 December 1979 are not fully implemented,

Bearing in mind Commission resolutions 143 (XXX) of 5 April 1974, 193 (XXXV) of 14 March 1979, 210 (XXXVI) of 29 March 1980, 219 (XXXVII) of 20 March 1981 and 222 (XXXVIII) of 1 April 1982 with regard to streamlining the structure of the Commission, the effectiveness of its work and its subsidiary machinery, and conscious that further measures to that end are necessary,

1. Requests the Executive Secretary to prepare his report to the Special Commission of the Economic and Social Council, within thirty days, covering the extent of co-operation with other intergovernmental organs in the region, and making suggestions, as appropriate, which would facilitate the Special Commission's work with respect to United Nations activities in Asia and the Pacific;

2. Requests the Special Commission to:

(a) Examine the implementation of General Assembly resolutions 32/197, 33/202 and 34/206 and work out proposals aimed at further implementation of those resolutions;

^{4/} See paras. 796-805 above.